

TOWN and AROUND

ISSUE 163 MAY 2019

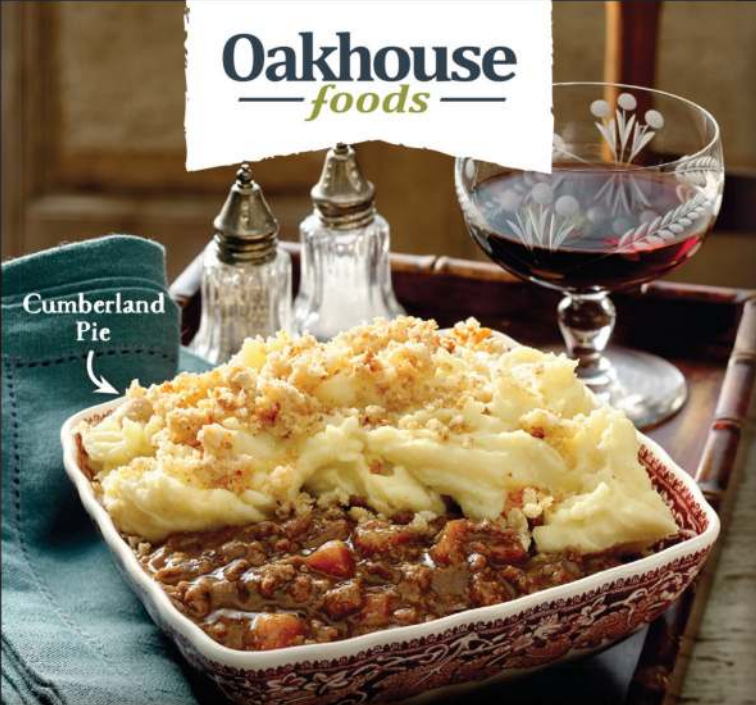
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EVENTS & ACTIVITIES: Your calendar for the month ahead
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First word



A month with two Bank Holidays, half-term, light evenings and, hopefully, warm sunny days has much to commend it. That reminds me of the quote from the Miss Congeniality film when a contestant is asked what's your idea of a perfect date and she responds with a date in May, completely misunderstanding the question!

This May issue includes some new writers and you can see the piece from Sophie (right) who has joined our team. This month she has reported on several events and has written the AE Wallis story that can be found on the centre pages.

And for gardeners, both active and armchair, 'Old Muckspreader' appears for the first time on page 32 with tales from the allotments.

On page 60 you can find details of how to win tickets to the Back to Bacharach show at the Princess Theatre.

With so much to include I had to leave out my husband Richard's article this month. He did prepare something but it isn't time-critical so it can go in the June issue.

As I write this my postal vote card has just dropped through the door for the EU Elections on 23rd May. Apparently the postal vote itself will arrive about 7th May.

Those dates aside, you'll see the diary pages are very full; even more detail about these events can be found on our website.

My thanks as always to our wonderful delivery team, our writers, photographers and advertisers. There are new advertisers again this month; please tell them you saw their advert here when buying goods and services.

With best wishes for a wonderful May

Elaine

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12,000 copies distributed in this corner of NW Norfolk
Front cover: Lambs at Park Farm, Snettisham - Ian Burt

Introducing Sophie



I was born at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn and have lived in Dersingham my entire life, save for my three years studying at university. I have strong family ties to the area and many of you will likely recognise my name from my family's roofing business. I completed both my GCSEs and A levels in English, Media Studies and Sociology at Smithdon High School in Hunstanton. Having such a profound love for reading and writing I then went on to study and graduate with a first class honours degree in English Literature at the University of Chester. In my spare time I enjoy reading, socialising, cooking and walking my Labrador named Edie around the scenic countryside and beaches that we are so fortunately surrounded by.

I have always had a keen interest in my local community, and living quite rurally, writing for an esteemed local magazine seemed the natural first step into a career in journalism. I am very aware of the key issues and interests of the area through my presence on social media, and I am eager to attend more events and talk to residents and businesses to discover firsthand more about the wonderful community that we live in. I am also keen to discover and promote many of the amazing charities that exist within the local area.

Photo: Ian Burt

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Bikers support the Air Ambulance

Over forty Goldwings bikes and trikes were displayed on Hunstanton Green by Norfolk Goldwing Motorcycle Club prior to the annual charity Light Parade around the town when members were accompanied by the Borough Mayor and Mayoress Cllr Nick Daubney and Mrs Cheryl Daubney.

This year the event raised £1211 for the East Anglian Air Ambulance and at the static light display that concluded the event £3060 was presented to the charity from monies raised at the 2018 event.

A spokesman said: "We depend on the public supporting us to raise as much as possible for this essential emergency service and we would like to thank everyone who came and supported us."

Mayoress Mrs Cheryl Daubney aboard the Goldwing with Spiderman and Borough Mayor Cllr Nick Daubney.

Photo: Kevin Elfleet



Beach Clean and Litter Pick raises £710 for Hunstanton Lifeboats

Seventy people spent Saturday 23rd March cleaning up Hunstanton and the beach.

Meeting at the Lighthouse Café on the clifftop where the management kindly donated free tea and coffee the volunteers were split into three groups to litter pick in the town centre of Hunstanton, Old Hunstanton and the beach. The picture shows some of the volunteers with a pile of rubbish collected from the beach.

£710 was raised for the local RNLI Lifeboat Station through sponsorship of £10 for each litter picker by Eric's who also supplied them with cod nuggets and chips.



A FITTING FAREWELL FOR HERITAGE RAIL PIONEER

Picture and story by Kevin Elfleet

In a rare appearance so far south, 1945-built steam loco 35018 British India Line hauled a very special train from King's Lynn on Sunday, 17th of March at 9.45am, with grateful help from Graeme Pratt of Thameslink Railway (GOVIA) and signalling staff.

The steam special was arranged as a fitting farewell to Nigel Dobbing a local man from Dersingham and a leading figure in the heritage rail industry, who sadly died in October 2018.

Organised by King's Lynn-based The Railway Touring Company as a tribute to Nigel, who established the company in the town 22 years ago. The private train took around 80 members of Nigel's family, his friends, colleagues and people who supported him over the years, for a steam journey to celebrate his life and achievements.

The eight hour journey included a brief stop at Melton Mowbray where Nigel spent his much of his childhood. The stop also included time for The Railway Touring Company's MD Kelly Osborne to unveil a memorial plaque to Nigel in the station's waiting room by kind permission of Network Rail and East Midlands Trains.

Guests onboard the train were amazed by the thousands of onlookers and steam enthusiasts lining up at the stations and crossing points to get a glimpse of this magnificent piece of our engineering history. Thanks to Nigel's entrepreneurial vision to organise mainline steam excursions, both in the UK and worldwide, at a time when steam on the mainline was almost a thing of the past, is now being enjoyed by everyone who fancies that special steam train journey.

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Easter egg fun for Ingoldisthorpe pupils

Sophie Hooker

Friday 5th April saw excited Ingoldisthorpe Primary School pupils take part in their annual Easter egg hunt before finishing school for the holidays.

Thankfully the sun was shining as the children searched the playground for their hidden treats planted by staff. No child went home empty handed and around 130 eggs were donated by the PTA (Parent Teacher Association), an organisation that raises funds for the school. The school in return held an Easter raffle with items donated by staff and parents that raised £200 for the PTA fund.

Headteacher Sean Wright said of the PTA and the traditional egg hunt, "they're very supportive and they raise all kinds of funds for the school over the year. It's just a fun way to end a busy term."

Photos of KS1 students by Ian Burt



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Continuing centenary celebrations for Stanhoe & Barwick WI

Sophie Hooker

Marking 100 years since the inception of Stanhoe and Barwick's Women's Institute, one of the last six remaining Norfolk WIs still in operation today, they are urging its members to express their own personal identities in a bid to break away from the "Jam and Jerusalem" stereotype.

Though the first British WI movement started in Anglesey in 1915 as a way to encourage women to get involved in growing and preserving food in war-torn Britain, the founding of this Norfolk WI has rather royal roots. In 1919, Mrs Seymour of Barwick House and several other local gentry ladies were summoned to Sandringham House and were told of a revolutionary new idea, "The Women's Institute." They were told to go home and set up movements in their villages and thus, Stanhoe and Barwick WI was born.

Membership continued to grow particularly throughout the late 1920s and 1930s and peaked in 1962 when forty-two members were listed. However, numbers have fluctuated over the years, down to a critically low sixteen members in 2013. Now, Stanhoe and Barwick is a thriving branch with around thirty members that travel from up to ten miles away and represent thirteen different communities. This diversity is being encouraged by president Pamela Austin who is planning on showcasing the members' backgrounds and experiences on a centerpiece, to show that they "are not just stereotypical WI members," with secretary Valerie Robson asking for anything that "portrays [them] as anything other than a jam-maker and cake-maker." This attempt to break away from stereotypes harkens back to the WI's revolutionary roots of giving women a voice in a post-suffragette Britain.

Though speakers have traditionally been used for educational purposes, today the group focuses more on the entertainment aspect. Both aspects were explored on Thursday 4th April which saw them open their doors to this month's speaker Peter Lawrence, a retired policeman who worked in London whose career spanned from the rise of the Krays to working for the Crown. Lawrence's career journey as a young apprentice to diplomatic and royal protection officer proved an inspiring listen and a trip down memory lane for the members. Lawrence delivered a fascinating insight into his role behind the scenes of major events, from royal weddings to the 1980 siege of the Iranian embassy.

The WI has consistently worked toward bettering their communities: traditionally by organising children's parties and outings for the older generation, fetes, jumble sales, supporting local soldiers at war and organising an annual Flower Show. On a national scale, the WI are currently voting on two resolutions that they will campaign nationally for, these being the issue of the lack of rural bus services and "don't fear the smear," a campaign for women to attend regular smear tests as Britain faces a record low for attendance rates.



Demonstrating the WI's positive impact on the local community, this month they presented a cheque of £366.55 to Maggie Anderson and Wendy Leedham who were representing charity Baby Basics, a small group of

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Stanhoe and Barwick WI will continue celebrating this momentous year with a centenary birthday tea at Morston Hall in June and a visit to Houses of Parliament and an audience with Henry Bellingham MP later this summer.



Pictured is the centenary plaque donated by Terry Ashwell and Wendy Leedham (left) and Maggie Anderson from Baby Basics (right)

Allen Tomas & Co employee Leah Bartlett shines

Leah Bartlett joined Allen Tomas & Co in 2018 under the Skills Edge Financial Services Administrator Advanced Apprenticeship scheme. She has made a fantastic start to 2019, she was presented on the 3rd of January with a Norfolk County Scholar award created by the County Council for exceptional performance at A levels and in the same evening was the recipient of the Mark Griffiths award for Endeavour and a subject award in Business sponsored by Stephenson Smart Accountancy.



Leah, has been working extremely hard to pass her first Chartered Insurance Institute exam (R01) Financial Services, Regulation and Ethics, which she did in March 2019. To top things off, Leah won the Skills Edge Apprenticeship Awards "Recognition of Outstanding Achievement and Contributions to the Organisation". Skills Edge commented "We are absolutely delighted to announce that Leah has won this award. Leah's dedication to the apprenticeship and to Allen

Tomas & Co Financial Management Ltd has shone through".
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The Team picture from left to right is Ben Allen (Managing Director), Leah Bartlett (Financial Administrator), Michael Crisp (Director) and Tracey Caney (Financial Administration Manager)



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Stepping into spring with Allez Chic

Sophie Hooker

Wednesday 3rd April saw Castle Rising boutique Allez Chic and florist Dulcie Lofting join forces once again at London Road Methodist Church in King's Lynn for a fashion show in aid of the Royal Osteoporosis Society.

Allez Chic owner and Mayoress Cheryl Daubney curated a versatile collection of pieces that showcased the boutique's best new seasonal pieces from brands such as Micha, Pomodoro and Lily & Me. The theme of the season being red, white and blue and standout trends being monochrome, stripes, floral, bright colours and animal print, presented in sections from grand days out to casual holiday attire, all inclusive to a range sizes and appealing to all ages.



Dulcie Lofting created show stopping floral arrangements based on the works of designers Charles Worth, Valentino Garavani and Christian Dior whilst expertly talking the crowd through their lives and achievements, an inspiring and informative interval between the clothes informing the history of the trends that still inspire today. The appealing artistic elements of both the fashion and flowers on display proving an exquisitely cohesive pairing, and, as Cheryl summarised, "the combination of fashion and flowers, well, what more can a girl ask for?"

With around 140 people in attendance they helped raise an extraordinary £1750 toward the Royal Osteoporosis Society. This money will fund the research needed to develop treatments and one day a cure and will support patients suffering with the debilitating bone condition. The charity has recently been granted a rare royal title largely thanks to its president HRH The Duchess of Cornwall and they recently launched the Osteoporosis and Bone Research Academy. The King's Lynn & District of the Royal Osteoporosis Society hold fundraising meetings on the fourth Thursday of the month at 19:30 and hold exercise classes three times a week at London Road Methodist Church Hall, County Court Road, King's Lynn, PE30 5EJ. For more information on how to get involved please visit www.theros.org.uk/information-and-support/support-in-your-area/find-your-local-support-group/kings-lynn-district/.

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OLD HUNSTANTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN



It had been hoped to deliver questionnaires to all Old Hunstanton households over Easter, to find out what issues were important to residents. The findings would then be used to determine what goes into the Neighbourhood Plan. Unfortunately, there have been delays in obtaining funding for this, as the government funding available through Locality was not in place at the start of April. As Locality will not fund retrospectively, all we can do is wait until the monies are in place. This is a frustrating delay for the Neighbourhood Plan Working Party, but it is hoped to be able to produce the questionnaire in May.

If you would like more information or would like to contribute to the development of the Plan, please contact Lynne Butters at neighbourhoodplan.oh@gmail.com

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Heacham History Group

In March Stephen Pope returned to talk to us about Village Craftsmen. As before, his talk was entertaining and informative, illustrated with wonderful old photographs. In days gone by, the village was dependant on its saddle makers, cobblers or shoe makers, coopers, basket makers, rope makers, thatchers, wheelwrights and many other skilled craftsmen. In Heacham we have evidence of a blacksmith with "The Forge" and of brick makers with Heacham bricks and tiles seen all over the village. Stephen gave us an insight into the various crafts. I had always thought that Constable's painting "The Haywain" was illustrating the horses having a drink. Now I know that over time the wood of the wheels of the cart would have dried out and shrunk away from the metal rim. By soaking the wheels the wood swells and fits the rim again. The river was the easiest way to soak the wheels!

May 20th will be our AGM. In the four years since the group started we have hosted some really good speakers, taken part in Local History Fairs, put up displays in Hunstanton's Heritage Centre, carried out research into various aspects of Heacham history, including the war graves in St Mary's Churchyard, the Hatchments inside the church and Paddy Hadley. We are now researching the history of High House, The Heacham Declaration and the Parish Registers. We would welcome more people on the committee, so if you would like to put your name forward, you would be very welcome. If you don't wish to be on the committee but would like to assist in our research or help in any way, please contact me.

We will also be renewing the membership this month. We will not be increasing the membership fee or the admission fee, so that our meetings continue to be accessible to all.

We ask people to arrive by 7.15pm and we will endeavour to get through the business side of the meeting swiftly. Following the AGM will be a talk by Dr. Sally Francis, owner of Norfolk Saffron, a small bespoke business near Burnham Market producing premium grade Saffron. You may not associate Saffron with Norfolk, but Sally has discovered that it was once an important crop in our local area. She will be talking to us about its history, its local connections, its production and uses. She will also be bringing some of her saffron and flour for sale.

As usual the venue is the Old Friends Hall, Sunnyside Close, Heacham, PE31 7DU. But starting at 7.15pm. Everyone is welcome. Admission £3 (Members £2)

Linda Nudds Tel: 01485 571794

RINGSTEAD VILLAGE HALL

Ringstead Village Club meet once a month (except August) on the first Thursday of the month, at 2pm, in the Village Hall, High Street (next to the Gin Trap inn). You don't have to live in the village to come along to our meetings, everyone is welcome. We invite a variety of speakers throughout the year to come and give talks on a wide variety of subjects, there will be something to interest everyone.

There will be the annual plant sale and coffee morning in May, please note that this will be on Saturday 4th May in the village hall from 10am till midday.

On Thursday 6th June Steve Collin from the Norfolk Wildlife Trust will be speaking about Ancient Woodlands

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Borough Council News

Good May to you all. This may be the last BC News, at least from me. I am writing it on the 7th April, almost a month before the elections.

Cabinet ratified the Single Use Plastic report by accepting 12 of the 13 recommendations. The 13th is left to the (new) leader to decide. I will follow the report up one way or another.

An extraordinary meeting of the full Council agreed a motion for an independent enquiry into the KLIC building. The motion was proposed by the leader of the independent group. The King's Lynn Innovation Centre undoubtedly does good work promoting skills and jobs. Whether financial matters regarding it could have been better managed remains to be seen.

I went to a presentation about 'West Norfolk Wins', the lottery run by the Borough Council. It has been running for about a year and is raising significant funds for some local organisations – over £33,000 in total so far. For every pound ticket sold, 60p goes to useful causes, 20p provides the prizes, 17p is administration fees of the lottery operator. The rest is VAT; none goes to the Borough Council. I would encourage anyone who runs something dedicated to helping the community to look into participating. Instructions on how to register and what you need to do is found via the website.

You may have heard of self-build houses and have a picture of hard-working people doing a day's work and then rushing to their plot to dig holes and raise roofs. Well, not any more. Government sponsored self-build is: buy a plot from a land owner/ developer; look at the coloured brochure and pick and mix cladding, kitchen tiles etc; pay developer to build it. Nothing wrong with that you might say and that is probably true for an individual house or a very small group of them.

However, it has the potential to create a pig's ear of a larger development particularly if it is in a prominent position like one recently agreed at Ingoldisthorpe. And 'self-build' properties have the bonus of not

paying the Community Infrastructure Levy, a tax to pay for improvements to the community infrastructure. So, a village gets houses (it may not want) but no money to help pay for the problems they may cause. Self-build becomes a tax avoidance scheme supported by both government and the local authority. Developers and site purchasers' benefit.

Consultation between Parish Councils and proposed changes to speed limits on the A149 have begun and will be over when you read this. Depending upon the outcome of that, you will soon get your chance to have your say. A controversial issue that has already been raised is the proposed closure of several road junctions in Snettisham and beyond. In addition, the proposed speed reductions do not go far enough towards Knights Hill and none are proposed between Heacham and Hunstanton.

The proposed improvements to Lamsey Lane junction seem little more than a lick of paint.

Anyway, I will sign off with two lines. Delete whichever is appropriate.

Thank you and my column will continue next month.

So long and thanks for all the fish.

Terry Parish (at the time of writing) Independent Borough Councillor

Terry Parish, 1, Woodside Avenue, Heacham PE31 7EW.

This is not an advert but one of a regular series of informative articles.

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MAY 2nd

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A Page from the Sage

Well here we are another Page from the Sage for Hunstanton Town and Around, issue no 163 for the month of May 2019.

It looks like spring has sprung now and winter is over, the only thing I like about winter is that there are always plenty of pheasants and partridges; they make a good meal and they do not cost much, so I thought I would write a bit about the game shooting on the Sandringham Estate.

Game shooting

Sandringham has been a shooting estate since it was bought in October 1862 just a month before the Prince of Wales' twenty-first birthday for a figure of £220,000. The estate then covered about 7,000 acres and it now covers over 20,000 acres. The Prince of Wales famously introduced Sandringham time under which all the clocks in the house were kept 30 minutes fast in order to maximise the amount of winter daylight for shooting.

The years from 1862 to 1936 when first King Edward VII and then King George V owned Sandringham were times when sportsmen expected enormous bags, and shoots were run accordingly. Up to 1888 there were between 6,000 and 8,000 pheasants and partridges and duck shot each season, but after 1888 the bags have been from 10,000 to 20,000 of which no less than two thirds were pheasants.

Big shooting days were quite important affairs and there were only a few during the season. On these days soon after daylight, farm hands with blue and red flags, wearing smocks and red bands round their hats, were taken to their places by the keepers and the head keeper would ride over the ground to make sure they were properly posted; everyone in the party would work with two loaders and from two to four guns.

On these big shooting days in November and December, the Queen, the Princess of Wales and any other lady visitors would invariably grace the shooters luncheon tent with their presence. Luncheon, which was always hot, and always of plain and simple dishes took place at one o'clock, there was Irish stew, roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, or boiled beef and batter pudding, then after lunch the Queen and other ladies would walk the remaining hours of daylight with the guns.

The shooting party sometimes had lunch in a room at Wolferton Station, but their favourite place for lunch was the Folly near to the Wolferton cross roads; if the weather was fine and there were no buildings within easy reach a tent would be erected and the lunch would be sent out from the house.

At the end of the shooting party the game room at Sandringham would be filled with pheasants, partridges, hares, rabbits and wild fowl, which were dispatched to charitable institutions, workers on the estate, Royal households, to the rich and the poor, neighbours of the King, no one was forgotten, but not a single head of shot game from the Estate was allowed

by
Dick Melton



to be sold.

The style and scale of the shooting at Sandringham changed decisively in 1936 after the death of King George V, King George VI considerably reduced expenditure on the estate in general, and on game in particular, when he took on the Estate, he noticed that, the game department had been allowed to take first place and the head keeper had been encouraged to be extravagant; everyone knew that shooting was the late King's one relaxation, but the pheasant had become public enemy number one, hatching and rearing pheasants was stopped at once, and the number of game keepers reduced from 48 to 22. Today, Sandringham is one of the few wild shoots in the country,

neither pheasants or English partridge are reared, so the number of days shooting and the size of the bags depend entirely on the success of each year's breeding season. This makes for smaller bags but more challenging shooting; wild game birds are lighter and faster than reared ones and do not fly in straight lines. The challenge for the head game keeper is to maintain a self-sustaining wild population by, for example, regulating the days shooting and by controlling whether cocks only or both cocks and hens are shot.

The Duke of Edinburgh brought to the Estate a new focus on wildlife and conservation, and the land is managed accordingly. Since 1952 over two million trees, 45 new woodlands and 20 wetland areas have been created, 25 miles of new hedges have been planted and 125 miles of field margins have been established. The Estate supports a varied population of wild game, but also provides an important habitat for a wide variety of wildlife, including the pink footed geese that since the 1960s have overwintered on the shores of the Wash. One of winter's most breathtaking sights must be the sky over the Estate filled with skeins of thousands of pink-foots as they head inland to feed on the sugar beet tops in the morning and return to the coastal mud flats at sunset.

Now to bring you up to date with the shooting on the Estate. There are still many members of the Royal Family that go out game shooting and as autumn moves on into October and the days shorten the shooting season gets well under way, and the partridge shooting begins. Sandringham has had a great success in encouraging a large and stable breeding population of English or grey legged partridge as well as

French or red-legged partridge. Grey partridge numbers have fallen dramatically since the 1950s, partly because of the trend towards larger field sizes meant that there were fewer grassy headlands to provide nesting cover. The work completed on the Estate to maintain hedges headlands and wildlife strips at the edge of each field has helped all kinds of birds and animals, but has had particularly dramatic effects on the numbers of English partridge and hares. I would like to thank Helen Walch who gave me permission to write this article from her book, 'Sandringham a Royal Estate for 150 Years'.

Road and Street names

In the March issue of Hunstanton Town and Around I wrote an article about some of the roads and streets in Hunstanton; I missed out Chiltern Crescent and Willow Road as I could not find any reason why they should be named such. Up 'till 1948 this area was all fields right over as far as Heacham, then in 1948 when they started to build the Waveney Road estate they started with Melton Drive; this was named after Albert Melton who had been the Parish Clerk of Old Hunstanton Council from 1908 till 1925 and who also kept a boarding house in Old Hunstanton.

After they had built fifty houses including some in Waveney Road they stopped building for about two years, then when the council bought some more of the land they started again. Initially you could not get from Waveney Road on to Park Road except by a foot path that had bramble bushes either side of it. To get to and from the Waveney Road estate you had to come along Hill Street or up Crescent Road. Then the land that is now Nene Road was built on; this had been F W Shanks Builder's Yard, they then made the rest of Waveney road up so you could get out on to Park Road.

As most of you know I now live on the new Butterfields Estate (Hopkins Homes) near Redgate Hill and as far as I know, at the time being there are only two roads named on the estate and they are Kingfisher Lane and the cul-de-sac at the top of the estate with just 11 properties where I live called Butterfield Rise. There will, of course, be many new roads on the estate when it is finished.

Rabbits

Just one more thing before I finish this month's Town and Around. I will go back to the subject of shooting. You don't see many rabbits about now; I was brought up on rabbit stew, I was looking through an old book and I saw a bit about the Elveden Estate near Brandon which covers over 20,000 acres, some in Suffolk and some in Norfolk. In the year 1908, 77,021 rabbits were caught or shot on that estate in one year, that's a lot of rabbit stew ain't it! Well keep on a troshin', there will soon be some crabs and cockles about - it will make a change from mussels.

All the best, The Boy Dick, Sunny Hunny



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Hunstanton & District Civic Society News

Civic Voice

Civic Voice is the national organisation to which the Hunstanton & District Civic Society is affiliated. On Saturday 30 March, Civic Voice together with the Ipswich Society organised a forum meeting in the Museum Street Methodist Church entitled 'Building Better: Putting Public participation in the heart of the planning system.'

Civic Societies are about more than just planning, they promote and encourage good design. Some 70 of the larger societies organise design awards relating to new build, restoration and the environment. At the national level, Civic Voice has given awards for good design to Gloucester Service Station, Alderhay Hospital in Liverpool,

Winton Chapel in Winchester, and Storeyhouse library in Chester.

The latest version of the National Planning Policy Framework recognises that good design is a key aspect of sustainable development and includes further emphasis on the role of tools such as design review panels; community engagement; charettes; workshops and building for life 12. The government has appointed Sir Roger Scruton to lead a Building Better, Building Beautiful Commission to tackle the challenge of poor quality design and build of homes and places, across the country and help ensure as we build for the future, we do so with popular consent. Recently a planning inspector dismissed an appeal for a large development at Great Witley, Worcestershire because he had sympathy with the local residents who described the proposals as mundane, monotonous and mediocre.

Heritage Centre

There have been delays in getting the planning applications submitted so that we do not expect to be able to open until towards the end of May. The Centre is very much a building site at present. A blocked sewer necessitated the digging of a deep trench inside the rear room and across the rear car park to install a new drain. Meanwhile several volunteers have been installing new partitioning, electrical circuits, repairing the defect in the wall at the site of the ATM machine and preparing the walls for decoration.

If you would like to see inside the building site, please ring the door

bell on the left of the main entrance and we will be pleased to show you around. If you feel able to help with the transformation there are several jobs to be done and any financial contributions would be gratefully received – you can specify what the contributions should be spent on (e.g. carpet tiles, paint etc). Contact Treasurer, Stephen Kent on 01485 534200.

Talks Programme

In March, Kevin Mackie who has spent 20 years as a nursing professional in the armed forces explained how as the medical needs have evolved, cottage type hospitals have been closed and training is now concentrated on large trauma units in the NHS. The last of this season's talks will be given on Wednesday 15 May at 7.30 pm. The title is the 'History of King's Lynn Waites' and given by the chief wait Mr Chris Gutteridge. The waites are part of the international guild of town pipers and aim to recreate the atmosphere of music making in the middle ages using contemporary instruments.

Entrance fee Members - £1, Non-Members - £4 (includes refreshments).

Visit to Ely Cathedral

On 27 March, 31 members of the Society including a number of friends took a coach to Ely Cathedral for a visit arranged with the archivist and guides of the Cathedral. A full day of tours began with a visit to the Stained Glass Museum where we learnt a tremendous amount about the history of this fascinating subject. After some lunch, there followed some tours of the Octagon tower (the wooden structure suspended over the central part of the cathedral), the body of the Cathedral itself, the Archives and an interesting collection of material concerning Henry Le Strange of Hunstanton Hall who painted much of the ceiling of the nave. One member finally tackled the 288 steps up the West Tower. She was rewarded with a fantastic view of the surrounding area which she described as 'awe inspiring'; later on, she and her colleague attended Evensong. The coach returned with everybody saying they had enjoyed a wonderful day.



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Independents

John Maiden

The Lynn News on April 9th reported on the increasing number of candidates in local elections who are declaring themselves to be Independent of any party political allegiance. The article also listed some of the better known west Norfolk councillors who will not be standing for election this year. Amongst these was Richard Bird who has served Hunstanton as a town and county councillor, in addition to representing the Hunstanton Ward on West Norfolk Council since 2011.

As an Independent, Richard has argued the case for this far flung corner of the county to receive local government investment, which would be proportionate to the income generated from council tax, business rates and car parking revenue.

His message to the decision makers in Lynn and Norwich has always been clear and concise, but Richard would probably be the first to admit that even on those occasions when our MP is onside, the Hunstanton area still fails to get its fair share in terms of expenditure on infrastructure, education or employment.

This situation was highlighted at a consultation event in Hunstanton Town Hall as long ago as June 9 1997, at which west Norfolk council was supposed to be giving 'local folk' a chance to have their say on "a major £1 million project to improve Hunstanton as a resort for the community and visitors."

It was here that I heard Richard's wife, Elaine suggesting that Hunstanton could benefit from this modest investment by following the example set by a Victorian seashore resort on the east coast of the USA called Cape May. In the 1960's many of Cape May's buildings had been destroyed by fire. Instead of replacing them with modern buildings, the decision was taken to retain the resort's character in the rebuild.

It came as no surprise when Elaine's suggestion fell on deaf ears. Five years later, when a fire destroyed a tasteless building on The Green, where our elegant Victorian Pier once stretched out towards the setting sun, another opportunity was missed to follow the Cape May example. Undaunted by the indifference shown towards imaginative proposals put forward by 'local folk', Richard became a town councillor in 2005 and put forward an idea for a monthly newsletter.

When he told Elaine that his proposal had been rejected, she simply took on the project herself, and soon recruited volunteers to write articles and to deliver what is now widely known as "Hunstanton Town & Around", with 12,000 copies being printed every month. Needless to say, Richard has used this publication to inform readers on a range of matters relating to local government. He will be a hard act to follow, but it is to be hoped that at least one of the newly elected councillors will keep readers informed and be as interested in their feedback as councillor Richard Bird.

Next month, with the Editor's permission I would like to tell readers about one of Richard's finest hours, when he was Town Mayor in 2008...

Thank you Maria

Eddie Rix

I write to show a little appreciation of the work which Maria has done for the benefit of the town during the past year. She would not seek praise or reward for her efforts and I do realise that many people do a lot for the town. Recently Maria suggested to the Mayor that the small flower laying ceremony at the flood memorial really ought to be a civic event and as such an annual Town Council responsibility. I believe that she started the laying of flowers at the memorial on 31st January after the row over attempts to move the memorial.

Every year she travels to Spalding to buy the best flowers available and spends quite freely in order to ensure that only the best is good enough.

Sadly, she seems to become invisible and does not get the praise which I think she deserves. Maria does not welcome praise easily and finds it embarrassing. I think that occasional acknowledgment would be welcome. During the Remembrance event last November Maria bought several hundred poppies to decorate the Town Hall and the bandstand. She does the job because she enjoys doing it and thinks that it is worth doing. I rather hope that the effort is appreciated.

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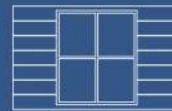
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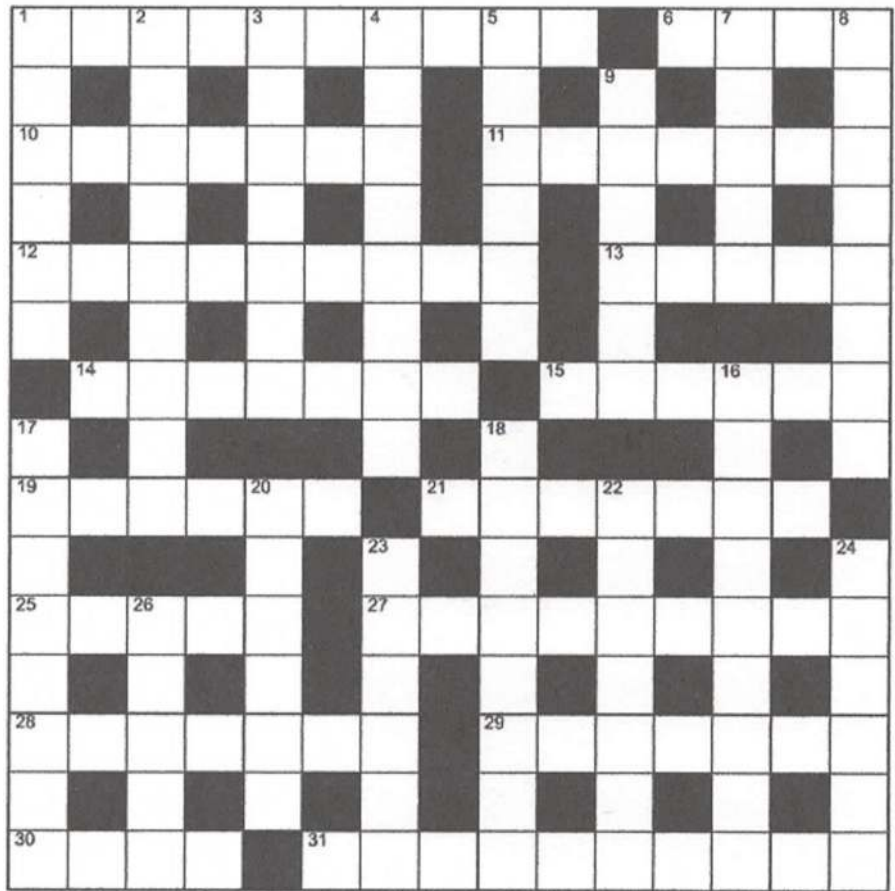
Crossword Clues Across

1. Does one work shifts? (10)
6. Get back some of allowance that went missing (4)
10. Finish off main course by request (7)
11. Can be bubbly, except around delays (7)
12. Meal disrupted by storm moving right across like a vortex (9)
13. Committed to see you, informally, at length (5)
14. At church clean altar, as told - or near it (7)
15. Lovers can be weirdos (6)
19. Review definitive word list, initially banned (6)
21. Limit wild animals to last section of bridge.... (7)
25. is mystical hare in charge? (5)
27. Love teddy, faithfully restored (9)
28. At first, relief assistants mainly fiddle with small food parcels (7)
29. It's not nice to put one's foot in it (3,4)
30. Unknown character lived around streets (4)
31. Two grains is a really small measure (10)

Crossword Clues Down

1. Looks attractive, but is miles away (6)
2. Chapter 10 is about dance move (9)
3. Relative effect of forming a union, perhaps? (7)
4. Reach hill, longing for a lift from this person (8)
5. Dig out letter to hospital you said I attended (6)
7. Underdeveloped and covered in wild plants (5)
8. Missing heel causes limp (8)
9. Better remove top from stroller (6)
16. Protected animal, fleet for the most part, is off colour, needing love (9)
17. See red regarding reverse charge (8)
18. Place to learn singing part can't be seen any other way (8)
20. Wrecking crew's about - ring for security (6)
22. Expressing scepticism at take off (3,4)
23. Guy gets a sex change (6)
24. Starts to yell, making pretty awful noise for eardrum! (6)
26. Dated labourer who is against wearing a dark colour (5)

David Elsey's Cryptic Crossword



Crossword solution on page 21

Ray Butchers Su Doku

Easy first...

...then the more challenging

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

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

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HUNSTANTON FUN DOG SHOW AT GLEBE HOUSE SCHOOL, Saturday, 11th May

I always get that excited feeling inside my tummy when the month of May comes around because I know that our annual Barking Bugle - Hunstanton Fun Dog Show will soon be upon us. This is one of the most important days on our doggy calendar and we always look forward to welcoming all breeds of doggie, pedigree or crossbreed. If you're not too sure about your parentage then have no fear, we won't ask you about it!

As usual, as well as the 12 fun classes including Best-In-Show, there will be lots going on during the day. There will be several trade stands, a bouncy castle and on-site parking. Before the Show begins 'Active Pupz' will be doing a doggy dancing display in the main ring and there will be opportunities for you to try your luck in our Fastest Recall Competition, Have-a-Go-Flyball and our Dachshund racing event which is becoming increasingly popular.

This year is a very special year for us here at the Barking Bugle because, as many of you already know, we sadly lost our brother Gizmo, our Deputy Editor in March. We would like to host this year's Show in memory of Gizmo, who had a very colourful past but was professional to the end, by helping us produce our second edition of the Barking Bugle magazine in time for the summer season.

We look forward to seeing many of our canine friends at our Show this year. As we always say at the Bugle, it really doesn't matter what happens on the day, you all go home with the best dog in any case! Further Dog Show dates in Hunstanton are as follows:-

4th May - Blossom Day, The Community Centre

29th June - Hunstanton Carnival, The Green

28th July - Old Hunstanton Flower Festival, Old Hunstanton

Woofs, Pupstar

Fun Dog Show Enquiries: newsdesk@thebarkingbugle.co.uk

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An evening with Pen Farthing & JebBear

In November 2006 the Royal Marines Kilo Company arrived in Helmand Province Afghanistan. Pen Farthing broke up a dog fighting ring and befriended one of the dogs. The dog, named Nowzad, helped Pen through his tour of duty and so when he came home Nowzad came too. Pen set up the Nowzad charity and has a veterinary clinic and animal shelter in Afghanistan and helps other military personnel rescue animals that helped them during their tours. **Pen is coming to Hunstanton.**

On the 12th September Nowzad founder Pen Farthing will be in Norfolk presenting the 'tale' of the Nowzad charity ably assisted by JebBear, a 3 legged Nowzad rescue.

With refreshments and Nowzad merchandise available to purchase the evening will answer all your questions about what it is like to rescue dogs, cats and donkeys from the streets of Kabul, Afghanistan.

The presentation will start at 7.30pm at Hunstanton Town Hall, (Post Code PE36 6BQ) and tickets are just £10 with all profits going to the Nowzad charity.

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Breaking the impasse... resolving conflict using mediation techniques

Amanda Nudds, Solicitor & Mediator, Hayes + Storr

The seemingly interminable failure of MPs to agree Britain's withdrawal agreement from the EU is typical of many intractable disputes. At some point in our lives, most of us will find ourselves at odds with someone over something. Each person will have their own ideas about what's right (usually based on what's most important to them) but that can result in both parties being totally unable to agree an outcome – and a stalemate ensues.

Breaking that impasse can seem difficult, if not impossible. And that's where mediation comes in. A form of dispute resolution used to prevent (or conclude) court proceedings. Here are ten useful techniques used in mediation to help find a settlement:

1. **PARTICIPATION** It's important that both parties are willing to engage in the process, can put forward proposals as well as consider any proposals received.

2. **EVIDENCE** Both parties must be upfront and make available all key documentary evidence – so each side can understand the other's position.

3. **STATE YOUR POSITION** Make your position clear at the outset, as it may be that one party has misinterpreted the other's position. Explain what you believe to be right and what you hope to achieve.

4. **WORK TOWARDS A SETTLEMENT** Initially, each party's aim will be to win, but it's important to realise that resolution isn't going to be a 'win' for one and a 'loss' for another – it will be a compromise that enables both parties to move on.

5. **BE RESPECTFUL** Whatever your feelings, it's important to treat the other party with respect. Being insulting only creates more barriers and makes it more difficult for any resolution to be achieved.

6. **BE PERSUASIVE** Highlight the merits of your position so the other party can see that their point of view may not be as strong as they originally believed. This can also bring the other party's attention to the mutual benefits of a deal.

7. **INTERESTS** Identifying the other party's interests can be difficult – but once you've asked questions and gleaned more information on what they want to achieve, you'll have a much better

understanding of what can be done.

8. **BRAINSTORMING** Neither party is going to leave with a settlement that includes everything they want. Explore and identify options which will satisfy both parties.

9. **EMOTION** Although all conflict gives rise to anger and frustration, it's important to keep your emotions in check so you are able to think clearly and practically.

10. **PATIENCE** A fully-informed overview can take time before a final settlement is reached, so try and remain patient – it will pay off eventually!

If you're currently locked in a dispute and would like to find a way out, call Hayes + Storr on 01328 863231 and ask to speak to Amanda Nudds. If you require advice on any other legal matter call 01485 524166 or email law@hayes-storr.com.

This article aims to supply general information, but it is not intended to constitute advice. Every effort is made to ensure that the law referred to is correct at the date of publication and to avoid any statement which may mislead. However no duty of care is assumed to any person and no liability is accepted for any omis-



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Round the bend with Dean Baker

The glorious 12th or listen for the drip....



The deadline for this publication, as the sharp eyed will know, is the 12th of the month. And believe me it comes round before you know it. At the time of writing it's the Easter holidays, we're in a 'swanky' barn conversion on the other side of Norfolk. The dogs are loving the underfloor heating, one of the litters has earache and Mrs B is catching up on holiday ZZZZ's

I think as Spring has undoubtedly sprung, this is a good time to look

at saving on water bills (do you see what I did there?) This month I'm going to concentrate on leaks and dripping taps in your home.

Number 1 - Listen for dripping sounds. As simple as this may seem, it's easy to overlook in a noisy house. Even a dripping tap can over a period of time waste water.

Number 2 - keep your eyes peeled. If your pipes are leaking water, there will be evidence. You are looking for mildew or mould, darkened surfaces or even bubbles. All signs that a pipe is leaking.

Number 3 - Look under vanity units and sinks for drips. Run your fingertips along these pipes to feel for wetness. You may, also, smell damp.

Number 4, listen for noises from your bathroom. If you hear water running long after you've flushed the loo then you should check the cistern. You may have a problem with your ball valve, if so it's time to call a plumber. Leaking seals in toilets, like dripping taps, creating a small but continuous flow of wasted water can quickly become a

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Finally - Check your water meter. Read the meter and then turn everything off. Wait an hour or two and reread it to see if water has gone through when none is being used in your home. However, small leaks will not appear to move the meter over a short period of time.

If you do find a leak, don't ignore it. It will cost you money and could be damaging your most expensive possession - your home ...

It's our last night and a 'chippy' tea is on the menu. Tomorrow back to Hunstanton. It's been a lovely break, but time, tide and leaking pipes wait for no-one ...

All the best, Dean Baker, 07973 131 906,
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On the turf with Charles Joyce

Tiger Roll became the first back to back winner of the Grand National for 45 years. Now 5 of the 6 multiple winners won as both eight and nine year-olds. There was no respite for the bookmakers as Auxerre won the Lincoln at 5/2.

May brings the first UK classics with 2,000 Guineas and 1,000 Guineas run over the first weekend in the month. In the 2,000 Guineas Aidan O'Brien needs one more winner to hold the outright record for training most winners of the race since it was first run in 1809. He has Ten Sovereigns, but his breeding suggests sprint distances are more to his forte. Another is Japan who is a full brother (sire and dam the same) to Secret Gesture who ran 2nd in the Epsom Oaks and German Derby. So the Newmarket mile of the 2,000 Guineas maybe a bit sharp for him. The favourite is Too Darn Hot. He was hugely impressive as a juvenile last year, but again his breeding suggests this maybe a bit sharp. Charlie Appleby who did Town and Around proud when Cross Counter won the race that stops a nation in early November, and won again in Dubai on World Cup night. The Newmarket trainer has the unbeaten Quorto. He also has Breeder's Cup Turf winner Line Of Duty. I'm inclined to side with one of these two.

The first Saturday in the May brings the Run for the Roses in the Kentucky Derby, at Churchill Downs with the beginning of the American Triple Crown.

May also brings Chester's first meeting where throughout the year a trainer to keep an eye on is, Andrew Baldwin, the brother of TV presenter Clare, and son of Ian who trained the great Mill Reef to win the Derby in 1971. He is a trainer who does well with his clean winded (no tongue tie worn) three year-olds in handicaps, especially those who are single figure prices. Another trainer who does well around the Roodee in the month of May, is Aidan O'Brien, when he teams up with Ryan Moore on progeny of super stallion Galileo. The prices are not outstanding, but the sharp track is where the Ballydoyle maestro brings some of his classic hopefuls. Treasure Beach won here before finishing 2nd in the Epsom Derby and winning the Irish Derby in 2011; Magician won here in 2013 before winning the Irish 2,000 Guineas; Ruler of the World won in 2013 before taking that year's Epsom Derby; Orchestra won in 2014 before running 3rd in the Irish Oaks; US Army Ranger won in 2016 and finished 2nd in the Epsom Derby; In 2017, Cliffs of Moher won before being 2nd in the Epsom Derby; are just some of those he has won with at Chester before going onto better things.

The big sporting event in May is the French Open at Roland Garros in Paris. In the men's event Rafa Nadal is likely to win if he's fit and well. He has won 11 times since 2005. The king of clay withdrew from a third round tie in 2016, and has only been beaten on the Roland Garros clay by Robin Soderling in 2009, and Novak Djokovic in 2015. When watching Rafa Nadal ask yourself if any woman would get away without comment on social media if she had the same routine as Rafa at the start of each point. The women's event can be tricky, but Simona Halep won here last year being beaten finalist in 2017 and 2014. The twenty eight year old has been voted fans most popular women's tennis player in the past 2 years. Before her grand slam win she is perhaps most famous for what she called her biggest single sacrifice for tennis when, in 2009, she underwent surgery due to discomfort during play. The surgery resulted in her going from 34DD to 34C, and saw her rapidly rise up the tennis rankings, ultimately making World Number One.

Just as it is possible to profile a horse race so it can be done with the women's event at Roland Garros. 19 of the last 22 winners reached at least one final in her last 4 events; 21 of the last 22 winners had reached 1 semi finals in their last 3 events with 17 of them reaching at least 2 semi finals, and 14 of the last 19 champions had won at least one of their last 4 events. Much of this is down to Roland Garros coming at the end of the clay season, and shows the Roland Garros winners are in good form. Rome is where the winner gets 900 ranking points (grand slam winners get 2,000 ranking points). The tournament takes place on clay the week before the French Open. Elina Svitolina has won for the last 2 years, and will be a serious contender this year. She will also be a major contender at Roland Garros. The twenty four year old from Ukraine should be a double figure price, and along with Simona Halep could go a long way deep into the tournament.

On the horse racing front, there are several features to watch for dur-

ing May and a few months later. It is always good to catch the bookmaker slightly off guard. Most often their defences are weakest with lightly raced horses having their first or second run. Mark Johnston used to be the master of three year old long distance races training numerous winners for his owners. In recent years he has switched to training two year-olds with great success for the same owners. He does particularly well from May through to July with his fillies having their first run on a turf track, especially in smaller fields with less than 10 runners. Betting an odds-on chance for any trainer with a horse having its first run is not for me. On the other hand there are usually some signs of support for these Mark Johnston debutantes, and I'd be inclined to avoid any of his first time out two year old fillies above 20/1. Avoiding his runners on tracks such as Ayr, Brighton, Carlisle and Haydock could also be considered. Another Yorkshire based trainer who has done well with his two year-olds throughout the summer, and up until the end of September, is Karl Burke. Although, not always with his debutantes, nor, those who perform well on their first run. I'd be looking for his two year-olds that finished 4th to 9th on their first run who are running on turf in their second outing to the track, and again avoiding Haydock and Yorkshire tracks with the exception of Ripon and Pontefract. Some of these runners tend to be heavily backed, often from mid morning onwards. He is not afraid to put up a jockey claiming an allowance, and several do win, but I'm wary of very inexperienced jockeys who are those claiming an allowance of seven pounds or more.

Hopefully, Elina Svitolina will grab her first grand slam. If not, Simona Halep wins again at Roland Garros. And we can help keep on the right side of some two year-olds in May and later in the year.

Always remember the golden rule of punting. Pay the bills first and under no circumstances bet if you can not afford to lose, because even the best professional punters lose more often than they win.



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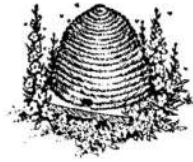
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West Norfolk and King's Lynn Beekeepers' Association

THIS 'SWEET' WORLD

Recent reports have confirmed the steady and worrying decline of insect pollinators. We have probably all noticed the decline in the numbers of butterflies, bees, wasps and insects such as hoverflies. Whilst this may make life easier in the home during the summer, it also threatens the effective production of many crops and of the natural spread of many plants in the countryside.



Locally the West Norfolk and King's Lynn Beekeepers Association (wnklba.co.uk) is doing its best to help with this growing problem. Membership has doubled over the last 10 years and each year we are helping a new batch of aspiring apiarists to start keeping honeybees in the best possible way. The number of hives in the local area have expanded proportionately as has the amount of pure honey being produced. Last year, the average hive produced 31lbs of honey but some were able to produce up to 100lb given good strong colonies and some good weather and a good variety of plants in the locality, from which the bees can collect nectar.

It has also been reported recently that some of the honey which we see on supermarket shelves is not as pure as it is advertised. Adulteration with sweeteners and the addition of colourants appears to be widespread. What people see with honey from our local beekeepers is pure honey as extracted from the hive with nothing added and nothing taken away! Because it is just as it comes from the hive, many jars will vary in appearance and flavour, depending on the plants from which the bees have been collecting the nectar. It is also a fact that such honey will granulate over time, the rate of which will depend on the plants from which the nectar has come. If runny honey is wanted, the granulation can be easily corrected by gentle warming.

This year presents a new and growing threat to all our honey bees in the shape of the Asian Hornet. This voracious bee predator has become established on the continent where it has devastated local honey bee populations to the point where honey production in France has halved in the last 5 years. There were a number of sightings in England last year, all of which were destroyed, but there is an increased risk that this year will see more examples of this nasty invader. We ask all members of the public, particularly, gardeners, countryside walkers, caravan and mobile home users to keep a special watch for this insect, particularly if they have been on the Continent recently. It should not be confused with our European Hornet. If in doubt, please consult the web site <http://www.nonnativespecies.org> which is also the best way to report your sighting.

Asian hornets:

- have a dark brown or black velvety body
- have a yellow or orange band on fourth segment of abdomen

- have yellow tipped legs
- are smaller than the native European hornet
- are not active at night



Stuart Grant
President, West Norfolk and King's Lynn
Beekeepers Association
7 Staithe Rd, Heacham, PE31 7EE
01485 570040 / 07931316061

A short note to all readers who are garden/allotment lovers

Our garden in Old Hunstanton between the A149 and the sea seems to be over inhabited by Munt-Jac deer.

They have broken through the hedges to get in and crashed through the fencing to get out. They have eaten all the bluebells, new geranium shoots, what would have been this autumn's raspberry growth and most of what else is green and succulent to their taste and costly to replace.

We have tried the most obvious deterrents including electronic lights with high pitched sounds, but nothing seems to deter them. The Borough Council pest control says there is nothing they can do. However, they say with no elaboration that they are not 'protected' and I assumed that humane shooting (official cull) would be acceptable.

Do any readers have any success and suggestions for keeping them out.?

Sincerely, a disgruntled and Munt-Jacked time consuming garden lover.(Name & address supplied)

Sunday 26th May 2019 Open Gardens at Sedgeford

Now in its 32nd year Sedgeford continues this annual event, with a dozen or so village gardens all with varying features open for viewing by garden and plant lovers.

Visitors often start their trip with a homemade lunch at the church, where there will be a flower display together with craft and produce stalls, all accompanied by the live music of 'All that Jazz'.

Alternatively, one can first view the gardens taking in the plant & ice cream stalls and children's events etc on the way round before finishing off with tea.

There will be a village shuttle bus to help if the legs get weary. Gardens are open from 12.00 until 5.00pm, with entrance at £5.00 and children free.

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Nature Notes with Joanna

Glory of three days out!

It's been a mixed few weeks with warm spells and bitter cold winds! Even so I have had some great days around!

Lets start with today as No 1 Its best titled lunch by a puddle! It was around 12 noon when I finally braved the cold wind and piled into the car. I'd put some food into my bag and headed up through High Ringstead and across to the Choseley area. I decided to see if there were any Yellow Hammers at the barns. I pulled up by a large muddy puddle, facing the puddle and a couple of car lengths away, so started an interesting hour, the first birds were 2 Pied Wagtails, both males

but as there are usually several Wagtails around maybe they had females tucked away on nests! After the interference of another car things settled down and the first of many Yellowhammers appeared to peck around the edges of the puddle, three Chaffinches soon joined them, two cars drove past and all was quiet for a few minutes then 2 blue Tits decided to investigate and one had a quick bathe! It made my eyes water cos the wind was bitter cold! Several more Yellowhammers flew in, whether they were the same as earlier on loop it was impossible to decide then I noticed what I first thought was a female Yellowhammer, but it walked and didn't hop and when it turned its head it had a long thin beak of an insect eater not the stubby beak of a seed eater, luckily it turned round and showed its pale cream chest with plenty of brown spots and I realised it was a Meadow Pipit, over next 15 minutes 4 or 5 more appeared to drink or to bathe and some hung around until several cars drove them away. I also saw a bathing Robin and several drinking Wood Pigeons. It all made for an interesting lunch break and goes to show why patience is a necessary tool in the bird watching world. As I started the engine a Swallow flew over and a highly amusing female Peasant appeared. It had its back to the strong wind and was one of the smaller slight females, its tail was sticking straight up and the feathers on the top of its head were also erect as it shot across

the road it reminded me of those crazy loony birds the Road Runners! A drive round and back up the parallel road produced 16 Hares, the seemingly resident Chinese Water Deer a flock of wind blown Curlews, 2 Sky Larks and small flock of Golden Plover circling over head. Not bad lunch break!

Trip number 2 was on 4th April and was a short one, which mainly focused on vegetation, not birds and mammals. In places the big trees are relaxing their winter grip on the leaf buds. There is surely a change in the over all colour of the copses and woods. In sheltered places there are tender leaves showing on Beech Trees and even some of the old Oaks are showing colour around their leaf buds. The verges are becoming lush with young growth; White Dead Nettle, Alexanders, Red Dead Nettle Dandelions and Jack By The Hedge are in flower and the early leaves of Wild Arum cloth the darker woodland floors along with Dogs Mercury, young Nettles and shoots of Cleavers are weaving their way through the grass along with the spreading vines of the fast growing Black Berries.

The third day out was on March 29th. the view from my bedroom as I got dressed gave me a fabulous start with 7 Hares chasing around the backfield. After quick breakfast I started out at Snettisham and enjoyed the expanse of mud with the numerous white splodges of Shelduck dotted all over and the occasional slim black and white Avocet, a squawk overhead announced the arrival of the all white Little Egret. It always makes me laugh as I watch those elegant white birds and then hear the raucous calls they make! I also picked up a Chiff Chaff and Reed Bunting along with the usual flock of Linnets. Surprisingly there was a flock of some 300 Brent Geese on the reserve plus a dozen Curlews and a flock of Golden Plover. No doubt the plover will be heading off to breeding grounds, as will the Brent Geese.

After watching several Brimstone Yellow Butterflies I



headed round to the fishing lakes area and watched the tumbling act of several Lapwings I have long loved the sound of their wings as they tumble through the sky to claim their patch of real estate. I just wish there were many more, even in the Dales the number has fallen and seeing and hearing the drumming of Snipe gets harder and harder!

I drove around some of my favourite roads and managed to count 66 Hares, 2 Muntjak and 7 Roe Deer. With sun in and out of the clouds the fields of Rape looked startling and nearly out did the yellow of the Yellowhammers that were in and out of the hedges.

I also added 4 Red Kite, 5 Buzzards and 2 Marsh Harriers along with the occasional Kestrel to my day list!

All in all three days that helped to deal with my annual spring itchy feet. When I watch a

soaring Buzzard my heart wants to be with it, reminding me of the early days of gliding from the top of Sutton Bank! Oh well I can always dream and then get on with life!

As the year moves on try not to dwell too much in the past and look forward to what is to come in the future!!

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Thaxters Plant of the Month –Fuchsias

As we move from Spring into Summer, one of the best plants to invest in to give months of continuous colour is the Fuchsia. Their pendant, bell-like flowers open from bulbous buds (which as a child I loved to squeeze and pop, much to my mum's annoyance!) and come in a wealth of different colours and combinations. There are simple, small, single-petalled varieties through to large blousy doubles in shades of red, purple, pink, white and even blue. The Fuchsia has even given its name to a pinky-purple colour.

Fuchsias are divided into three main groups. Bush fuchsias are bushy, upright plants and can be grown in pots or in the garden. Trailing fuchsias have long trailing stems and are ideal for growing in hanging baskets, around the edges of pots or in window boxes. Both of these types are half-hardy, not tolerating temperatures below about 4°C and would need to be overwintered in frost-free conditions if you intend to keep them from year to year. The third group are Hardy fuchsias and as their name suggests are regarded as frost-hardy and can be left in the garden all year round. Generally the flowers on hardy fuchsias are slightly less flamboyant than the tender varieties. Some fuchsias also have coloured or variegated foliage such as "Tom West" with green, cream and pink leaves or "Genii" with lime-yellow leaves.

Bush fuchsias can be grown on their own in pots or used as the centrepiece for a display with other low-growing or trailing bedding plants around them. In hanging baskets stunning displays can be achieved either by using a single variety or by combining three different trailing fuchsias in a single basket, or again they can be mixed with other trailing plants. Bush fuchsias can also be trained into a standard where the leaves are where a single stem is allowed to grow and all side shoots removed and then the plant creates a lollipop at the top. This takes some years to produce. Hardy fuchsias can be grown in pots or in the border and can even be used to create a colourful small hedge. Fuchsias are one of the few summer bedding plants that can

grow quite happily in shade, so can bring some bright colour to a dull area of the garden.

When buying your plants in the Spring, they will have come from a protected environment so it is important to harden them off by putting them out during the day and bringing them in at night if there is any likelihood of frosts or cold winds. Use good-quality compost when planting them in containers and add water gel crystals and a slow release fertiliser as they will be using up a lot of energy in a short amount of time to grow into mature, flowering plants. They will reward you with more flowers if you feed them weekly with a high Potash (tomato) fertiliser. Faded flowers will generally fall off naturally and then a seed pod will develop – remove this to help the plant continue flowering.

Visit the Garden Centre in May to buy your fuchsias and watch them perform for you right through the summer to the first frosts.



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Hedgehogs May 2019

I write this column infrequently and it usually about feeding, fencing, or rescuing hedgehogs at the start of winter. I have been appalled in recent weeks at the number of dead bodies on the roads - hedgehogs, deer, pheasant, the odd hare, rabbit, and unidentified other



Cars travelling too fast and drivers inattentive and not looking out for animals likely cause most road kills. Neither will headlights alone illuminate the edge of the road adequately; most front fog lights will and they do not dazzle oncoming traffic.

The health of the hedgehog population used to be determined by the number of road kills – the more dead, the more there must be. I always saw something wrong with this logic and so have researchers; the hedgehog population is in serious decline. They have to travel to search for food and mates and, in

urban areas, providing hedgehog highways by leaving gaps at the base of barriers such as walls and fences provides additional and safer routes for movement.



Internet



Internet

Weather this spring has not been kind to wildlife, early warmth in February brought things out and subsequent cold and dry conditions either killed food sources or kept them deep in the ground. Providing supplementary food and water for hedgehogs needs to be considered at all times of the year now, not just in autumn and winter.

Terry Parish



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HUNSTANTON GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION

In the absence of chairman Canny Jones on holiday, Pat Richardson kindly chaired the meeting, but before introducing the speaker he encouraged members to enter this year's Front Garden Competition, and amusingly commented that having been fortunate enough to win the competition for the last three years running he would not be entering it again this year. The competition is part of Hunstanton's Britain in Bloom entry, and the organisers Mark and Maureen Dryble were once again organising the competition and further details would be published later in the Town and Around magazine.

The more scientifically-minded members of the Hunstanton Gardeners' Association were in their element when Jim Payne from the Walnut Tree Nursery near Attleborough, gave a talk on garden plants suitable for shade. The speaker departed from the usual format of such talks by describing the physical properties of light and its reaction on plants to their structure and appearance. Leaf colour was influenced by the absorption of different frequencies of light, and leaf size and structure by the amount of light received by the plant. Several examples of plants were shown which had evolved large leaves in order to capture as much light as possible in shady positions, hostas being a particularly good example.

Jim went on to describe the botanical structure of plants and intrigued the audience by showing a video of the microscopic transfer

of nutrients within a plant by the rapid movement of chloroplasts throughout its cellular structure. The glazed eyes of several non-scientific members lit up as the speaker went on to show many examples of plants which would flourish in shady conditions, and he made the point several times that so often gardeners regarded the shade or semi-shaded parts of their garden as being problem areas, whereas with careful plant selection these areas can be regarded as an asset.

The last part of the talk was given over to showing the audience a large selection of plants which would do well in shade and semi-shade providing soil conditions were not too dry, and these included bergenia, astilbe, hemerocallis, hosta, primula, and thalictrum. Hardy bulbous plants such as cyclamen were fine and, given time, euonymus makes a good climbing wall plant. Finally, the speaker discussed what he called the "hell hole" of gardens...dry shade; but even here he listed plants which would flourish including varieties of acanthus, anemone, aquilegia, dicentra, digitalis, some geraniums, vinca and some violas.

Jim had brought along to the meeting a number of interesting plants with which to illustrate his talk, and these were quickly snapped up by members for very reasonable prices at the conclusion of the meeting. The next meeting of the Association will be on Thursday 18th April at 7.30pm in the Hunstanton Community Centre, when Mrs McDonald will talk about House Plants.

Here we hoe again...

Ever wondered what goes on down at Northfields Allotments? We're joined for the first time this issue by Old Muckspreader, who'll be keeping us informed of all the latest from his potting shed

That was certainly a dry old summer last year. And they reckon we're in for another one this year according to Little Mick.

So that's something the committee is going to be looking at over the course of 2019, with particular regard to how much water we use.

Unlike a lot of sites, we have water on tap which is paid for from members' rents. But being an environmentally-friendly bunch on the whole, we want to see how we can reduce the amount we use.

Can mulches help, along with using direct watering from sunken pop bottles. Or could we increase the amount of water we harvest from the skies during rainier seasons, with bigger butts or poly cubes?

Some of our members, like Bill already go down this route. If the trend for drier summers continues, it's something we're going to have to grapple with.

You can't beat some of our members when it comes to ingenuity. Take Hammy, who's building a greenhouse out of pop bottles. The reaction to start with was how long will it take him to drink enough pop to fill a swimming pool? But a dustbin placed near the gate was filled in less than a day. And now he's already got more than 100. So Hammy Towers might not be so far off as first thought.

Ingenuity comes in many forms when it comes to recycling, judging by the impressive hot house another member built from old window units or the amount of sheds and other structures made from timber scrounged from building sites and skips.

Richard, another member, made an impressive poly tunnel-esque extension to his shed out of bits and pieces for his cucumbers. We also recycle countless other things, ranging from old tyres to milk containers.

Our AGM heard how our 70-odd members hail from around 10 nationalities from Essex to West Africa. We also have members from eastern European nations, Scotland, Greece, Italy, Ireland.

We are proud of our diversity, which includes young and old, straight and gay and occupations (current and former...) ranging from a champion boxer, police officers, journalists, builders, lorry drivers, teachers, firefighters, shop workers, nurses, craftspeople, farmers,

accountants and bloke who used to service oil tankers.

When you have an allotment, you soon learn you don't just grow vegetables. You cultivate friendships too. The community is as important as the produce to many of our members, while newcomers find us a welcoming and friendly - if slightly eccentric bunch.

You can find out more about us by coming to our open day on Sunday, July 28 (10am - 3pm). You can tour plots, buy produce, cakes and other goodies; and find out more about how to join and even add yourself to our waiting list.

Hope to see you there,

Old Muck



*The produce stall is always busy on the allotments open day
Picture: Chris Bishop*



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RSPB Titchwell Marsh's Big Weekend on Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 May 2019

Get up close and personal with nature and pop along to the Binocular and Telescope Open Weekend at RSPB Titchwell Marsh, Main Road, Titchwell, King's Lynn PE31 8BB on Saturday and Sunday 4 and 5 May.

Between 10am – 3pm on that Saturday and Sunday, a variety of binoculars and telescopes will be on display for visitors to try out, as well as friendly, impartial advice from the knowledgeable team of staff and volunteers.

Not just for wildlife experts, RSPB reserve shops stock a wide range of equipment suitable for different skill levels. The range includes RSPB and Viking binoculars and telescopes as well as other premium brands such as Swarovski and Leica.

Money raised through purchases at these events helps the RSPB reserve teams to continue to deliver their wildlife conservation work, advocacy and allows thousands of people every year to get closer to nature.

With over 100 species of birds regularly recorded in one day at RSPB Titchwell Marsh; why not also participate in Titchwell Marsh's race to find the most birds in one day? Collect a £2 checklist from the visitor centre and work your way around the reserve recording all the species that you see and hear. Volunteers and staff will be on hand to help you reach the magic 100 species. Completed checklists will be entered into a raffle to win a pair of RSPB 8x32 WPG binoculars.

Nicky Austin-Price, Retail Manager at RSPB Titchwell Marsh said: "Here at Titchwell Marsh we're privileged to showcase some amazing natural wonders including breeding avocets, a large colony of black-headed gulls and Mediterranean gulls plus the charismatic bearded tits, pinging their way through the reedbed.

"Our Binocular and Telescope Open Weekends are very popular and take place across many RSPB sites. If you haven't been before, they're

fun, friendly and interactive events designed to help you select the very best kit for your needs – whether you're new to wildlife watching or an experienced birder.

"Instead of trying out the equipment in a store where you may not spot anything of interest, testing the kit out surrounded by natural sights and sounds really helps you identify the best investment for your needs.

"If you fancy a pair of binoculars or a telescope for the family to spot nature in your own garden, or something to make your summer hikes or cycle rides that little bit extra special – pop along, our visitor experience team would love to welcome you to our wonderful site. You don't need to book, just drop-in."

The event is suitable for all levels of bird and wildlife watchers.

Nicky added: "Extra staff and volunteers will be on hand during the Titchwell Marsh's Big Weekend. They'll be on-hand to offer advice and tips, so feel free to drop in with any questions!

"Of course, our shop is open all year round, so don't forget your local reserve team is always around if you have a question about your kit or want to upgrade."

For more information visit rspb.org.uk/titchwellmarsh



Photo: Nicky and Trevor

The Story of the Fens..

By Robin Limb, agricultural consultant

The area we call the 'Fens' did not come about by some accident of nature. The entire region many of us live in today is totally man-made, due to drainage expertise, mainly down to one man - Cornelius Vermuyden. He was a Dutch engineer who introduced land reclamation methods to East Anglia. Commissioned by the Crown to drain Hatfield Chase in the Isle of Axholme in Lincolnshire, Vermuyden was knighted in 1629 for his work and became an English citizen in 1633. In the 1650s, he directed major projects to drain the fenland region, introducing the innovation of constructing washes, to allow periodic flooding of the area by excess waters.



Cornelius Vermuyden

Most of the drainage channels we have today are the result of careful planning and engineering. At the height of these works, in the 18th century, there were over 11,000 men digging out the drains by hand. But Vermuyden realised that even his project could not cope fully with excess water flows during exceptionally wet seasons. Hence, he devised the concept of the Bedford levels.

If you try to cross the Welney Washes during the winter, your car may become rapidly submerged. In the summer cattle graze freely on the marshes, but when the 'tide' turns it becomes an inland sea, attracting numerous wildfowl species. Running for over 20 miles, the Bedford levels provide a safety valve to avoid flooding in the surrounding

area, capable of holding up to 50 million tonnes of water.



The funding for much of the drainage work came from wealthy individuals – many of them German – who became known as the 'Adventurers', due to the high financial risks involved. But they were incentivised by the fact that they would inherit one third of all the land they helped to recover. This explains why there are so many large farms in this region occupied by wealthy landowners today.

“The Fen soil is lovely black peat, much the same as you would buy in a grow-bag”

But it was not all straightforward. On many occasions the sea defences and water courses failed to contain the pressure of the rising levels. In 1947 and 1953, despite the local population working day and night to hold back the forces of nature with sandbags, the land became inundated. It was impossible to plant crops the following spring, with many people having their houses washed away, and came close to starvation that year.

The rich, fertile peat soil of the Fens is rapidly disappearing however. Derived from an ancient forest that blew down thousands of years ago, rotting into the land, the soil is rapidly oxidising and leaving only the heavy clay subsoil to be farmed. 'Bog Oaks' – as they are known – become ever more exposed as the fen shrinks, requiring some to be blown up with dynamite. Add to this the notorious 'Fen Blows', that normally occur in the springtime when the land has been cultivated, but there is no crop to hold it down, and resembles the 'dustbowl' conditions of the Mid-West of the USA in the 19th Century. One farmer said that when the Fen blows you could hardly breathe or see your hand in front of your face, it was that bad.



A Fen Blow

The Fen region is possibly the most productive agricultural area in the UK. Many well-known large farming companies owe their success to its valuable resources, and should continue to do so in the future. Their high quality vegetable and cereal crops are some of the finest in the country, and supply both local and national supermarkets. Fen farmers have learned, over many years, to work with the soil rather than against it.

In the 13th century, Kings Lynn was the most important sea port on the east coast of Britain, having established major trading links with continental countries, creating what is known as the Hanseatic League. Even to this day these historic ties remain. The types of soils around Lynn allow farmers to grow a variety of crops – including sugar beet. The land is ideal for arable and horticultural use.

The Fen soil is lovely black peat, much the same as you would buy in a 'grow bag' at your local garden centre. But natural oxidation processes mean that this valuable resource will not last forever. In much the same way that the Fens were created, they will ultimately disappear, leaving behind only unworkable heavy clay subsoil that could take years to cultivate.

The drainage of the Fens was, at the time, hugely resented by the wildfowling and fisherman as they realised it would put their livelihoods in danger. The inhabitants rapidly gained the name of 'Fen Tigers', due to their opposition of these drainage projects.

Many visitors to the Fen region say: "It's just so flat and boring". The converse is actually the fact. The history of the Fens is remarkable and worthy of consideration and respect. Generations of farmers have worked the Fen area under frequently gruelling and difficult conditions, but the landscape has ultimately been fashioned by agriculture, and we should not forget that...



DERSINGHAM OPEN GARDENS AND ART TRAIL MAY 26TH AND 27TH 2019

Spring is nearly here and time for planning for the next DOG to begin. This year the team are planning an addition to garden and art trail visits and will be organizing a Gardeners' Forum on Sunday 26th. Take your seats at 2pm to hear advice from experts on a myriad of garden related topics such as Garden Design, Tree Surgery, Ponds, Lawn Care, Bird Life in the Garden, Natural Pest Control amongst other things. Each talk will be about 10 minutes in length with an opportunity for Q&A afterwards. The "experts" will also be around during the course of the afternoon to answer any further queries. On Monday afternoon we are planning a Floral demonstration. All this is possible now we have the use of the new Dersingham Village Centre which will be fully utilized with refreshments throughout the day as well as the activities outlined above.

In addition, garden visits will be enlivened by quizzes for young and old so as they go round the gardens visitors will have to keep a keen eye open for clues.

All in all Dersingham Open Gardens 2019 promises to be a lively, refreshed and reinvigorated offering for all visitors to our village.

Not too late to offer to open your own garden if you feel inclined to do so. Contact Judy Colingham: 01485 540271 or email: jcairnscol@gmail.com

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Heritage Gardens

EASTER ACTIVITIES

Activities started with a cold and windy day for Multi-Sport on The Green which perhaps accounted for the low turnout. But thanks go to the coaches from King's Lynn Community Football who gave the eight young people who did come along a fun few hours of kwik cricket and crazy golf. Nature Rangers a few days later faired a little better and RSPB staff catered for 17 children with their fun based nature activities.

WOMEN ON THE RUN!

23 ladies started the Beginners' Running course in April and should finish their course with a 3k run in May. The Hunstanton Honeybees are helping with the course and it is hoped all the beginners will be joining the Honeybees to run regularly in the town afterwards. Thanks go to the Lynnsport Ladybirds for running the course.

PEACE POLES COME TO HUNSTANTON!

The Bank Holiday week at the end of May will see Nature Rangers returning plus a new take on an Art Workshop. The ever popular Pebble Painting will be on offer plus the new activity of Peace Pole Painting. We're hoping to get some parental involvement with the Peace Poles. Wooden poles will be designed and painted and then remain on display to enhance the Gardens for Hunstanton in Bloom. Local artist Kate Dunbar will be guiding everyone in the workshop.

BANK HOLIDAY HEALTH WALK

Please come and join in again with another Health Walk: on Monday 27th May at 10.30am starting from the St Edmunds Ruins. These are sociable occasions. It's only a short distance, gentle walk which everyone does at their own pace so no one should feel pressure to 'keep up'; and marshals are on hand so no one ever gets left on their own. Everyone welcome.

ANYONE FOR BUSKING?

Busker's Corner returns to the Gardens on Bank Holiday Monday 27th May from 11.00am. If you fancy joining in then please call Ian Wells on 07766 561993 to book your slot. Whether you are a novice or whether you're an old hand, we encourage you to come along. And we want an audience too so please come along and support the performers. It all takes place next to the Victorian Pavilion (the Crazy Golf Hut).

CASH PRIZE AT FOLK IN THE TOWN FEEDER EVENT

On 22nd June, in the Bandstand, will be a Folk in the Town Showcase event giving local folk acts the chance to perform and win a cash prize plus a slot at King's Lynn's Folk in the Town on the Tuesday Market

Place on 27/28 July. Limited spaces are available so to book your spot and find out further details go to www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/folkinthetown.

NEW MUSIC EVENT FOR HUNSTANTON

The Hunstanton Music Festival is now confirmed for Saturday 7th September, to take place on a large stage on The Green. This will be the Hunstanton & District Festival of Arts and the Borough Council working in partnership and organiser Ian Wells is aiming at providing a wide variety of music to cover all tastes. Already SJP Solicitors have pledged to support the event. We are looking for one more major supporter so if there is another business out there wanting to help the town's events then we would like to hear from you.

WHO WANTS A HUNSTANTON PARKRUN?

Details of a possible parkrun for Hunstanton are elsewhere in this month's Town & Around but please note the Public Meeting on 23rd May at 7.00pm at the Sailing Club. We want everyone who may be interested in this activity taking place in the town to come and join us and find out more information on 23rd.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Heritage Gardens Calendar is building up and will include:

23rd May- parkrun public meeting
27th May- Bank Holiday Health Walk
27th May – Busker's Corner
25-30th May- Half Term Activities
22nd June Folk in the Town Showcase
27th July- Outdoor Cinema on the Green
3rd August- Outdoor Theatre in the Gardens
17th August – Outdoor Cinema on the Green
30th August- Sunset Health Walk
7th September- Hunstanton Music Festival
22nd September- Searles Soap Box Derby

Further details available at the website address below.

Roger Partridge

Activities Coordinator-Hunstanton Heritage Gardens

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Heacham and Hunstanton at Night

Terry Parish

Mayflowers, mayflies, PM May (possibly), and you may see some meteors if you look East at 4am on the 6th – the Eta Aquarids. There will be no Moon.

A visit to the North Norfolk Astronomy Society's site in April was rewarded by an observation of the Whirlpool Galaxy, Messier 51. At 30 million light years away, even in a telescope with a 12-inch aperture, it was a fuzzy blob in my eye but the spiral arms were evident when the image was captured by a camera (raw image shown)



Terry Parish NNAS

The blob at the end of the spiral is another galaxy, New General Catalogue 5195. This has been passing M51 for hundreds of millions of years and has, gravitationally, tugged on the arms of the larger galaxy. The small, regular, blobs are beads of dew – it was cold. More of galaxies later. (The NGC was compiled 131 years ago, about 100 years after Messier's work).

Jupiter, Mars, Saturn, Venus and Mercury are all visible this month albeit sometimes fleetingly and at awkward times.

Whilst Mars is setting in the WNW at about 10pm, Jupiter rises in the SE about midnight. At the end of the month look due S and low down, Jupiter will be to the right, Saturn to the left.

Right at the start of the month look East at 4.30am, Venus will be low in the sky and joined by Mercury at 5am when the Sun will blank both out. Take care if you are looking for them as the sunlight will dazzle you. You will also have to be standing somewhere like the top of Cromer cliffs to get a low easterly horizon.

It will be a little easier to see Mercury from about the 29th when the planet will be low in the NW at around 9pm. Mars will be in the same general direction but a little further west and a little higher. The evenings will be longer by now and Mars will be vanishing into the twilight. Mercury will be brighter.

Through the month, at around 1am, Saturn will rise and, if you wait until it gets higher in the sky, you may as well hang around to see Venus (see previous note).

On May 6th, look at the thin crescent Moon at 9pm. The star Aldebaran (red giant 65light

years away) will be close and on the left. About a fist width to the right will be the Pleiades star cluster. About two fists above the Moon find the red dot of Mars. On the 7th, Mars is much closer to the Moon.

At the beginning of April, I was at the Kelling Heath star party (grey and cold) and, whilst huddled over a warming drink consuming cake, I overheard a conversation about life out in the universe somewhere. The chat started out OK with conditions needed, the number of stars, time for things to happen etc, but then degenerated into myth and fancy. The more sensible debate gelled with recent comments from scientists about the number of things that had to happen to create the abundant life we have on Earth. It appears the surfeit of water now found in space almost everywhere is not enough to do the job and extra efforts are being made to determine conditions existing, or which likely existed, at exoplanet systems.



Internet

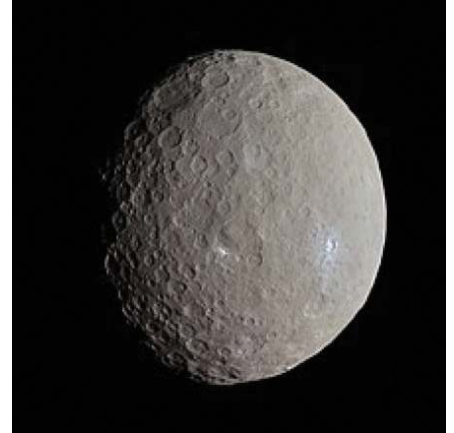
Recent articles about the prospect of simple life elsewhere in our Solar System have suggested that the salty water present on Mars will have sterilised it pretty well and future missions should worry less about contaminating the surface. Meanwhile the old, discredited, stories of super-hot Venus once having a large water ocean have been given a lift by a theory that a very large ocean with big tides may have led to the planet now having a very slow rotation, 243 Earth days – the tides braked the planet.

Last month I wrote a little about the minor planet Pallas. This month, Ceres comes into opposition (closest approach to Earth) on the 28th. It is the largest minor planet and was called a planet between its discovery in 1801 and the 1850's. It orbits in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter and can be seen through mounted binoculars as a faint point of light. Stellarium or a phone app will help you locate its position.

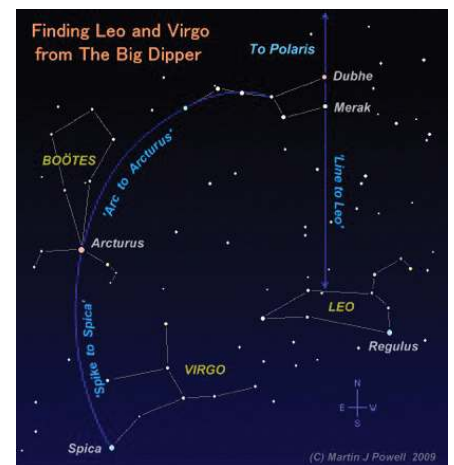
NASA's Dawn spacecraft orbited Ceres from the beginning of 2015 until October 2018. It has a diameter of nearly 1000km, and has a rocky core and an icy mantle with a lot of water ice.

Back to galaxies. Look due South this month and find Y shaped constellation Virgo. The bright star Spica is in the middle of this

pattern and, above it, a view of the Virgo super cluster of at least 100 galaxies. Fuzzy blobs galore in telescopes. The central blob is M87 which has a black hole in the middle of it 5 billion times as massive as our Sun.

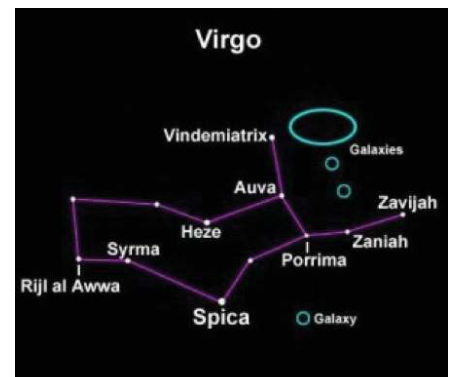


NASA



Internet

Our galaxy, the Milky Way, is part of the Virgo supercluster. Our galaxy contains several hundred billion stars, so how many are there in this local cluster?



Internet

The super cluster is 110 million light years across and is part of a filament consisting of

more such clusters which, in turn, is part of a greater structure influenced by The Great Attractor.

There are around 10 million superclusters of galaxies in what we can see of the universe. Between the filaments that link them are great voids.

Mind boggling isn't it?

Back down to Earth or, at least, to within 50 miles of its surface. Clouds of tiny ice particles can form at this high altitude and, in the summer months, can be illuminated by the Sun after it has gone below the horizon. They then become noctilucent clouds, ethereal ripples of light high in the sky.

Look for them and through them for thousands of millions of light years over voids in space and past millions of galaxies of billions of stars. And then think of the universes beyond ours. Makes a change from listening to the news.

LAVENDER LACE DAY ARE YOU CRAFTY?

Lavender lace makers are having a lace and craft day on Saturday June 1st 2019 10.00am - 4.00pm at Hunstanton Community Centre, Avenue Road Hunstanton PE36 SBW.

Come along and have a go at lace making. Bring your own craft making, to show and share your expertise. Tatting, crochet, knitting, patchwork, quilting or other crafts are all welcome.

Tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits included. Bring a packed lunch.

There will be demonstrations, exhibition and trade stands. Tickets £5.00 by post or on the door. For tickets and further information: Mrs Lyn Halifax, 5 Sarah's Rd, Hunstanton, PE36 SPA. Phone 01485 533611 Please enclose s.a.e

FOURTH BIG BREAKFAST

South Creake Memorial Pavilion,
The Green, South Creake, Norfolk NR21 9PP
Saturday 4th May, 9 am – 11.30 am
Full English or vegetarian option. Raffle. Cakes etc,
Suggested minimum donation to Christian Aid, £7.50 adult, £5 for under 10s
Come along with your family and friends and enjoy a lazy holiday breakfast with us.



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Heacham Public Hall
Saturday 8th June 2019
7pm to 11pm – Licensed Bar
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Heacham Social Club 01485 570776
Hunstanton Library 01485 532280
Hunstanton Tourist Info Centre 01485 532610
nikkiandvinniehastie@outlook.com

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bad company
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Exciting Dates for your diary!!!!

By popular request in support of Hunstanton Library, we are organising dances at Heacham Public Hall - once again featuring the fabulous Essex band Two Plus One.

They will be playing hits from the 70's until the present day to sing and dance along too. So, pen at the ready – Saturday June 8th and Saturday August 24th, 7.30 – 11pm.

For further information email nikkiandvinniehastie@outlook.com

Creative Writing Course

Creative Writing Course at number 21 The Green, Hunstanton.

Wednesday May 8th, from 10.30 – 4.30 for the HDFA. The tutor is Sue Burge and it costs just £20.00 to include a soup and sandwich lunch.

So far we have just 6 places left on this course which will be writing about the environment. Ann McKimm

HUNSTANTON Festival 3 by the Sea
Are you passionate about the environment?
Fed up with seeing plastic waste destroying our seas and harming our wildlife
- and want to write about it ??

The Hunstanton & District Festival of Arts is sponsoring the:
CREATIVE WRITING ECO DAY COURSE WITH TUTOR SUE BURGE

Date: WEDNESDAY 8th MAY 2019
Time: 10.30am until 4.30pm (with an hour lunch break)
Venue: "Number 21", 21 The Green, PE36 5AH (a new eatery overlooking The Green with splendid views of The Wash)
Cost: £20.00 (including a soup and sandwich lunch)

There are just 15 places available so early booking is advised. Contact Ann McKimm on 01485 533933 or email ann_mckimm@hotmail.com to reserve your place.
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Celebrating 80 years of A. E.

Story by Sophie Hooke



The Wallis' grandad outside the shop during WWII

May 1939 marks the month that Arthur Wallis established a bicycle and electrical business in the village of Heacham and where his sons, John and Richard, still operate the shop today.

The shop's founder, Arthur Wallis, was brought up in the village of Heacham, where he enjoyed working with radios and he learnt how to fix bicycles. Arthur joined forces with Reg Stainsby, who at the time owned a shop in Heacham, and delivered accumulators to surrounding villages. Stainsby decided to concentrate more on his garage located on the main road and offered Arthur the chance to take over the business, and Arthur happily obliged.

However, whispers of war became a reality four months later when World War II broke out in September 1939. For a while, Arthur was a one-man band, delivering things and fixing radios. Cycling was necessary in transporting the accumulators, and his son John bemusedly tells a story of Arthur riding straight into the duck pond in foggy Ringstead on one of his deliveries. Arthur joined the war effort in 1941, spending some time in the RAF. Thankfully, family members kept the shop running during this time as there was still a need for accumulators, and selling the small amount of products that were around.

Arthur returned from war and carried on with his business, taking over the shop next door and dedicating one side to bicycles and one side to electronics. Arthur took on Roy Grey, his first member of staff, and Roy focused on the bicycles whilst Arthur on the televisions, primarily fixing them in people's homes. In the early fifties there were not many televisions around and they were rather

expensive, around £91 and 18 shillings, equating to about £1900 today. In fact, Arthur was rather bemused by the fact that the televisions he was transporting in his minivan were more expensive than the vehicle itself. Luckily, the coronation in 1953 saw a massive boost in demand for televisions, despite the high price tag. The emergence of colour television and events such as the FA Cup final and the moon landing in 1969 also massively boosted sales as people wished to witness these historic events.

Unfortunately, around Christmas time in the early 80s Arthur became very unwell. It fell on his two sons to either take over the running of the business or to let it go. They gradually stepped in and still run the business as a partnership almost forty years later, building up a loyal customer base not only locally but also internationally. On the subject of the death of the High Street that has plagued local business in the last couple of years and the challenges of being a fairly rural business, John says that a personal touch is vital: "where we are, people do just like to talk to someone. And when they come in here they are talking to the owners. And so we always try and give a good service."

John handles the bicycle side of the shop whilst Richard handles the electronics side. Walking into the shop you are struck by the wide selection of products available, including a large array of bicycles and accessories, televisions, radios, washing machines, fridges and many other small electrical appliances. They can deliver and install and they offer a repair service both for electronics and bicycles. They are members of Euronics, and their prices are competitive with online retailers whilst also offering a personal customer



Richard (left) and John in the shop with



experience. They also offer bicycle hires, a very popular service particularly in the summer months.

Above the more modern products is also a shelf of vintage electrical relics, offering a fascinating visual timeline of the technological innovations over the past eighty years and is a fitting display of a local family business' legacy that has survived and developed with the times. And John is hopeful that this will not end any time soon: "it is a very upside down world at the moment... it would be nice to stay on for many more years."

A.E. Wallis, 34-40 High Street, Heacham, PE31 7EP

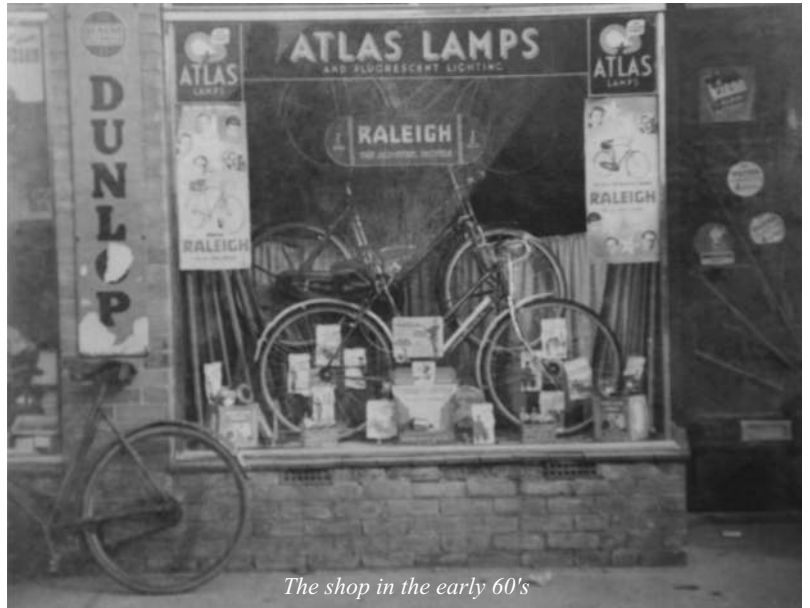


Wallis, High Street, Heacham

er, photographs by Ian Burt



one of the 'coronation' television sets



The shop in the early 60's



The shop in the 80's



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The last thing a Biker wants to hear

by Neil John, Partner, Civil Litigation

"Sorry mate I didn't see you" is unfortunately something that bikers hear all too often.

Government statistics for 2017 show that while fatality figures for most road users are falling, motorcyclist deaths have increased by 9%. The roads can be a dangerous place for those on two wheels.

This won't come as a surprise to motorcyclists who are fully aware that many motorists don't see them coming even when 'looking' in their direction.

It has been shown that when a driver is looking out for a car, their brain is less likely to register a motorcycle. This is cold comfort, however, if you are injured or your bike has been damaged.

Can you claim for lost earnings or damaged equipment as the result of a collision?

If the driver didn't look or didn't see you, they could be guilty of driving without due care and attention, a criminal offence. A conviction here could be useful in proving a civil claim for damages.

If you weren't in view when the other motorist started their manoeuvre, they could avoid blame for the accident. Sometimes accidents do happen, and when no one is to blame, no one is liable for damages.

Can you claim if your accident was caused by the road surface?

The maintenance of a road will either be the responsibility of Highways England or the local County Council.

The Highways Act 1988 states that the authority has a duty to repair defects such as potholes within a reasonable time of their discovery. If the defect that caused your accident was unreported, you may not have grounds for a claim.

Road repairers have a duty not to leave materials on the road. If debris left on the road causes an accident, you could have grounds to make a claim.

The same applies to mud on the road from farm vehicles or an oil or diesel spillage from a commercial vehicle although it can be difficult to prove who left the mud or contaminant on the road surface, limiting your opportunity to claim.

What should I do if I am involved in an accident?

For the best chance of a successful claim, you should gather as much evidence as you can at the scene, in particular:

- The names and addresses of any witnesses.
- Photos of damage to your bike and other vehicles involved. Include number plates and



any points of collision.

- Photos of the road surface or debris affecting it.
- Photos of the road or junction where the accident occurred. Get pictures from various angles, identifying where the accident happened and the direction of each vehicle's travel.

Litigation solicitor, Neil John is a keen biker. He knows what it is like to be a vulnerable road user and can help you with your claim.

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THE VIEW JUST OFF THE HIGH STREET

Mark Kacary

I just had a conversation with one of our customers regarding the High Street and how it has changed over the years and how or why there are so many cafes/restaurants compared to days gone by.

A commonly held view to the demise of the high street is that there is nowhere to park. Now is that true? Is there a genuine lack of parking facilities or is it more the case that parking isn't where people want it to be? When I'm told how much busier the high street was 40 – 50 years ago it makes me think was this because there was more parking then or was it because people didn't use their cars in the way they do now and instead they walked more?

Government data shows that in 1950 there were approximately 3.5 million cars registered and driving on UK roads, compared to over 38.4 million in September 2018. This doesn't of course include cars registered outside the UK.

A visit to the heritage centre when it reopens in the old Nat West Bank building will undoubtedly show that the format of the high street hasn't really changed and that fundamentally there aren't that many fewer car parking spaces now than in previous years. Now we have a large car park located on the old railway site. Presumably people used to walk from the station to the high street shops, so why not now?

I wasn't here to see it for myself, but I assume people walked from the station to the high street. If I'm correct why do people find it inconvenient to park there and walk?

I had a lovely conversation with a customer only a few days ago. She came in with a shopping trolley. It's something one rarely sees nowadays, but I recall my father wheeling one around the streets of Kensington & Chelsea when I was a child. At the time he

didn't drive but he would visit several independent shops and interact with shopkeepers as he bought produce and then even allowed me to wheel the trolley for him. It was refreshing to speak to somebody who said she loved her trolley as it meant she could visit all the independents along the high street such as the butchers, the bakers, the green grocers and ourselves. She could interact with people and what's more it gave her some exercise. It is suggested that to maintain a reasonable level of health and fitness, anybody wearing a fitness monitoring device such as a "Fitbit" will know that there are various international bodies which advise that we walk 10,000 steps a day. How many of us achieve that?

Let's face it, cars have helped us become lazy and businesses such as supermarkets have cashed in on our desire to be as lazy as possible and on our reliance on cars to create the ultimate in convenience shopping. Over the last 40 – 50 years the supermarket has changed the way we shop and look at food.

Supermarket shopping is convenient with free parking facilities and the ability to buy just about anything and everything you need. You just need to wheel your trolley creaking under the weight of the 'bargains' to your car before you drive home. It is, of course, much easier than lugging home shopping bags full of things we provably didn't need and which will end up in the bin by the end of the week. So many people claim not to enjoy their supermarket shopping experience. What's missing? Is it the atmosphere? Is it that they all look the same? Maybe somebody would like to let me know?

We are not alone in watching people walk past our shop without stopping. Shop owners do talk to each other and we're not alone in believing that if it were not for tourism many

other shops (not just cafes) would be permanently closed. That's a shame as so many visitors comment on how wonderful Hunstanton is and how much they love it. Maybe it's the classic case of not appreciating what you have until its gone!

I've said it before, but the sentence 'Use it or lose it' is very relevant and the demise of businesses on the high street can be blamed on a whole variety of reasons, but without a regular flow of customers the abolition of the internet or business rates won't prevent a business from closing.

Independents fight back

In March Tesco's announced that they would close deli counters in approximately 100 of their stores. Some analysts suggested it was due to shoppers preferring the offering from independents, whilst others suggested it was a cost saving exercise as keeping a deli counter stocked and manned 84 hours a week is expensive. Operating a good deli counter takes more than money. It takes knowledge, and a love, passion and a lot of hard work, a trait associated with many independent businesses.

The scourge of Keyboard warriors

When closing the shop last night, another high street business owner stopped to chat and shared with me how several shops (including his) had been rounded on by a modern age scourge, the keyboard warrior. Based on what I was told it's clear that some people write before they think. What motivates somebody to do this? Is the intent to punish somebody for some apparent misdemeanour? Is the intent to close a business down? It's a worrying trend in current society. So much better to communicate properly at the time. If only there were an online site where one could rate ones customers!

COMPETITION TIME

We are holding a competition for all children to win high street vouchers. It is open to children here for the day or week, all children in Hunstanton schools, plus those within an 8-mile radius of Hunstanton. Two entry levels; one for age 3 – 9 and the other for 10 – 16 year olds. Judging will be done by Hunstanton Mayor at the end of October. Drawings, paintings, sketches, decoupage or collages. In fact, any form of artwork up to size A3 (297mm x 420mm), landscape or portrait. So with parents/carers permission, children get your imagination going as we want to know what sums up your day spent in Hunstanton or what you like about it.

Bring you entries to our office at 70a Westgate, Hunstanton and we will complete entry form, or collect an entry form from our office and return it with your artwork. If you wish to have the form emailed, let us know **01485 534267** or **info@norfolkholidayhomes.agency**.

Good luck and we hope to have lots of lovely pictures to see and judge.

Sandra Hohol

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Hunstanton EyeCare Blog

Contact Lenses – An idea from the 16th Century??!

What is she on about now? I hear you say! Believe it or not the idea of contact lenses to correct vision errors may have arisen as far back as the 16th century. The initial concept is recorded by Leonardo da Vinci, yes the chap who painted and sculpted was a bit of a scientist too. In 1508 he wrote a paper illustrating the concept of a contact lens, explaining that a water-filled hemisphere could be placed against the eye and therefore could correct refractive error. His theory was correct, as the liquid in contact with the cornea (the transparent curved front surface of the eye), would neutralise a refractive error. Sadly the idea wasn't thought credible by his peers, I expect he was probably told to stick to painting!

Anyway, the idea didn't die and in 1636, Rene Descartes proposed placing a glass tube filled with liquid in direct contact with the cornea, the end of the tube was shaped to correct vision. Can you spot the flaw here? Folks didn't like a tube sticking out of their eye and it did mean you couldn't blink.

We get to 1827 and an English astronomer, Sir John Herschel, proposes the idea of making a mould of the eye. The moulds could then be manufactured to correct the visual error. It was over 50 years later that a German glass blower, F.E. Muller produced the first glass contact lens to cover the whole eye and shaped to correct vision. Perhaps a horrific thought, but it is reported that the patient had improved vision and was able to tolerate wearing it. Arriving at our more modern times, plastic materials gradually replaced glass, but the idea of this "Scleral lens" (covering the white of the eye) was still used successfully.

After I qualified, I thought I would go on the Contact Lens fitting course. Part of the course was to make one of these Scleral lens moulds. My dear Dad volunteered to be my patient, yes I did tell him what it involved. He was one of the most patient and kind men on the planet and I subjected him to popping a shell in his eye and squirting quick setting gunge into it, once set the mould was removed. Although his eye was anaesthetised it can't have been a pleasant experience. I passed the exams, but didn't work at a practice that could support the hours of practical experience required, so it wasn't something I completed. One student on my course made a pair of these scleral lenses for himself. He was a bit of a rebel, made them from a bright red material, and wore them in public places, he looked quite frightening with red eyes and green spikey hair. When you look at the film industry today, you can understand how they achieve the eyes of many special characters.

In the early 1960s we had mass production of hard plastic lenses that just covered the cornea. I remember trying those as a teenager, thinking that my boyfriend would love me more without specs. As the lenses were rigid plastic you had to get over the foreign body feeling in the eye and that meant hours of building up your tolerance, fooling your eyes not to continually produce gallons of tears. Hours of watery eyes and runny nose accompanied by boxes of tissues couldn't have been very attractive! However, these lenses are still available today and worn by several of our patients.

Contact lens fitting today is SO different. We have soft lenses that you can hardly feel, some are disposable and therefore convenient for busy lives, and we can fit more or less any prescription. At Hunstanton Eyecare our Optometrists are qualified to fit contact lenses, but we hand over the most complex cases to our boss, Mr Leach, who has been a Contact Lens Optician for most of his career. There is no substitute for experience. Contact lenses can be worn full-time instead of spectacles, but many people wear them just for social occasions or playing sport. Whatever your requirements we welcome all contact lens enquiries

We look forward to seeing you soon,

Annette

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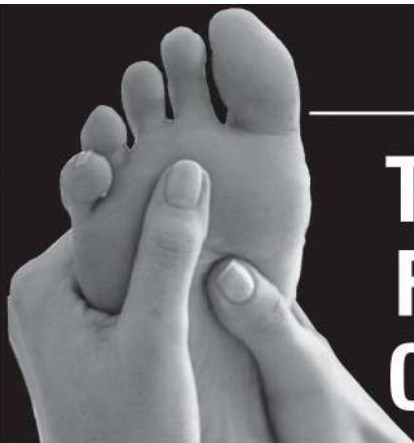


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Hunstanton Lifeboat Station

Geoff Needham, LPO Hunstanton RNLI

Dear Editor with no shouts to report, life at the station goes on, training and keeping all the equipment in a good state of readiness for when the pagers go off. Last year we launched 44 times, and aided 74 people, with the credit of one life saved, these are the official figures released by RNLI Headquarters.

The history of the station and local men, who have helped write the history of our maritime nation, has always been a keen interest to me. Many famous seafarers have been born locally, and made their mark in the history of our area. Henry Blogg. George William Manby. Lord Nelson. George Vancouver. Captain Woodget of the Cutty Sark. Henry Blogg the most decorated man in RNLI History.

In our boathouse we have a portrait of Henry along with his faithful dog. 1952 I was serving on HMS Crossbow a Destroyer. And had the privilege of meeting him. We were paying courtesy visits around the UK, all part of the Festival of Britain, we anchored off Cromer, and the Cromer Lifeboat came out and tied up alongside. This was the first time I'd ever been on Cromer pier, and it was from the seaward side, we landed at the lifeboat slipway. Henry had retired by then, but he took the helm that day. He was awarded the George Cross, for general war service. B.E.M. for the rescue of convoy 559. 1941 3 Gold Medals. 1917. 1927. 1941. (Lifeboat-man's VC of the Lifeboat service.) 3 Silver Medals 1932 1933 1941. No other Lifeboat-man has won so many medals. During his service in the RNLI Cromer boat was out 387 times and saved 875 lives. Truly a remarkable man, and worthy of his place in history. August 5th 1941 Convoy 559 was heading down the East Coast, escorted by two destroyers and a trawler-escort, A North Westerly gale was blowing, it was raining and visibility was poor, as they made their way south close to the Norfolk coast, six of the merchant ships ran aground on the southern end of the Middle Haisborough, due to the tight security of information being released, it was wartime, and in range of enemy planes etc. the lifeboat crew were not told of their mission until they were launched. The sight that greeted them on arrival at scene, six vessels lying close together, their backs broken, or only their wheelhouses showing, the first vessel he approached was the Oxshott, with her decks awash, seas breaking over her, the crew didn't spot any signs of life, so moved to the next one about 50 yards from Oxshott, while assessing how to approach this vessel, one of the L/B crew from a different angle spotted some men roped together behind the funnel of the Oxshott, Henry realised these men were in the deadliest situation, so he turned back to them. 16 men were taken aboard the L/B, Henry had driven the L/B onto the deck, twice

the L/B bumped heavily on the deck, and sustained damage, but they persevered and the crew managed to get all off. The L/B then went to the Gallois, she was aground but her decks were above the waterline. Henry went along side, and held station while the seamen slid down ropes to the safety of the L/B, in all 31 men were rescued, with a total of 47 rescued and 10 L/B crew, working space was a bit cramped. Henry made for one of the destroyers, and transferred the survivors, it was now midday, the L/B having been at sea since 8 a.m.

Henry then went to the Deerwood, with waves breaking over her deck and smashing into the bridge, Henry took the L/B onto the deck and the 19 men in the refuge of the bridge managed to scramble aboard the L/B. Henry backed off and looked round for his next job. He saw the Paddy Hendly, on going alongside, he kept the L/b head to the wind and sea, he used his engines while 22 men jumped onto the L/B deck, with 51 persons on board, he veered away from the Paddy Hendly, only to near disaster, the tide was dropping and he grounded on the banks, heavy seas pounded the L/B, a huge wave bore down on them, instead of overwhelming them it lifted them clear and into deep water. With 41 survivors on board Henry headed for Yarmouth, he met up with a Destroyer and transferred them into the care of the Navy, he was asked to go to H.M.S. Arkwright where there were two bodies to be brought ashore, the L/b arrived at Gt. Yarmouth at 5 p.m. the bodies were taken to the mortuary, and the L/B crew went to get food and hot baths. Before Henry Blogg had a meal he arranged for the repair of the L/B. Which had suffered severe damage, but had come through it. H.F. Bailey Cromer L/B rescued 88 persons, altogether with other L/Bs 119 men were saved. The Commander-in Chief, Nore Command, sent a message of congratulations on the "Superb seamanship and courage displayed" a fitting tribute to all the crews, their dedication to saving lives at sea, this is just one account of Henry Bloggs 53 years service to the RNLI. 38 years as Coxswain. Born 6th Feb. 1876. Died 13th June 1954. A privilege to have met one of Norfolk's great seafarers.

Respect the water campaign and advice to Holiday makers

Tidal waters have strong tidal currents, especially the approaches to the harbours. General coastal safety tips. 1. Check the Weather and tide times. 2. Read signs. Be aware of local hazards, ie; sandbanks. Channel Strong tidal currents. 3. Carry means of calling for help. 4. If you see someone in danger dial 999 or 112 and ask for the Coastguard who will page us.

Basil Johnson

By Dick Melton



Basil Johnson sadly passed away at the age of 90 on the 24th of March 2019.

Basil was born at Titchwell and when he left school he went to work as a game keeper on Mr Borthwick's farm at Burnham Deepdale. In 1947 he was called up to do two years National Service in the Army and he was stationed at Dover.

He married Joyce on 25th November 1950 and they later moved to live at Hunstanton.

Basil then took on the job as manager for John Guise in his fruit and veg shop before opening his kiosk on the promenade in 1963

and his gift shop in 1964. He had the kiosk till 1968, and during this time the kiosk got washed away twice! Basil sold cigarettes in this

kiosk and I can remember them getting washed back up on the next tide the first time the kiosk was washed away, but they were too wet to smoke. Basil claimed on his insurance the first time, but when he claimed the second time he was told, no, it was an act of God.

Basil was a very keen fisherman, not so much with a rod but more often with a net; he would put his nets out on the beach in front of his shop and he would also put nets under the pier from one leg to another.

In the 1970s Basil bought a shop on the corner of Westgate and Sandringham Road where he sold gifts and wool; he also had shops at Fakenham and Swaffham.

For many years Basil lived with his family in Hill Street before moving to live over the Westgate Shop, then in 1977 he moved up to live in a bungalow in Collingwood Road.

Basil and Joyce would go away on holiday once a year and they always went to the same place each year, Torbay, that was going from one seaside resort to another.

Another thing that played a big part in Basil's life was the game of bowls; he was chairman of the Cliff Top Bowls Club and he ran the annual competition at the club for 25 years. In 1996 he was President of the of the Norfolk E.B.A. and he also played bowls for the England Seniors Bowls Team.

Basil was a good old Norfolk boy and he will be missed by many, especially his wife and family.

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**DOCKING'S EIGHTH FESTIVAL OF
BOOKS**

Peter Cook

You can always tell when Spring has finally arrived. As the days lengthen the snowdrops give way to daffodils and primroses and leaf buds start to swell on shrubs and trees. At Docking Church we also have another tell-tale sign as boxes and bags full of books suddenly start to appear in the porch. That is a sure sign that May is just around the corner and the church will soon play host to another fantastic Festival of Books.

This year will be our ninth year, and we are constantly amazed at the fantastic generosity of local people who empty their attics and bookshelves so that we can have such a vast array of books to offer to our visitors. We are very grateful for people's kindness and I am pretty sure that the people who come each year and end up leaving with their arms full of books are very grateful too.

The Festival runs over two days on the second bank holiday weekend in May. This year that will be Saturday the 25th of May and Sunday the 26th. We open each day at 10am and close at 4pm, and over those six hours people are welcome to come and browse through hundreds and hundreds of books.

Docking Church isn't a small building and yet, each year we manage to cover the pew tops with a wide range of both fiction and non-fiction books. The right side of the church is dedicated to fiction and we usually offer a wide selection of books in all genres from romance, crime and historical fiction to classics, plays and poems.

On the other pews we have a wide range of children's books (we have a very good selection of school reading books this year) and a wider range of non-fiction works, which cover the topics of sports, history, wildlife, gardening, cookery, DIY and practical works, religion and local interest too. I can honestly say that there is something here for everybody.

Should you find yourself flagging whilst looking through our wares then, don't worry – you can always take the weight off your feet as you tuck into a slice of cake or a bacon roll and take a sip from a nice cup of tea or coffee. Best of all it's free to get in and we you can park your cars either on the street around the church or in the playground of the school just across the road.

So, if you are planning a holiday this summer and need something to read beside the pool then, you know where to come. Docking's Ninth Festival of Books – it's well worth a visit.

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CCTV

Security for your home or business premises is an increasingly important thing to think about, and one of the most effective forms of deterrent against would be thieves is CCTV, whether it be a single camera covering a vulnerable passage way or a multi camera system covering every elevation, there are lots of different options available to offer protection where you need it.

In the past, security cameras have been considered very much for the commercial sector, with cameras being large and cumbersome, but not anymore, a wide range of cameras are now available which are designed to be subtle and tasteful but at the same time being noticeable, in a variety of styles and sizes to suit your home.

It's not just the neatness of the cameras that has improved, the image quality has also progressed hugely. Gone are the days of black and white, fuzzy footage. Many of the cameras available today record in high definition video and, depending on the system you choose, are capable of recognising number plates, opening gates and detecting movement.

Most modern systems can be connected to your phones, tablets and computers, making it easy to keep an eye on things, you can even set alerts to be sent to you when your cameras detect movement, features like these come in handy so you can see when deliveries have been too!

Particularly useful if the property is not always lived in, or if you are away on holiday and just want that extra piece of mind that all is well at home.

If you already have CCTV installed but have older, low quality cameras and equipment, there is a high probability that you can use your existing cabling and upgrade just the cameras and recorder, much more cost effective than a completely new system and will bring a huge improvement to the quality of footage produced.

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Gates open & registration from 10am, with doggie classes from 11am – 4pm.

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Fun for everyone!!

For more information contact Wells Community Hospital Trust on 01328 711996 or admin@wellshospital.co.uk

Hunstanton parkrun

There has been some interest recently about setting up a parkrun in Hunstanton. For this to be successful, we need a volunteer to become the Event Director and volunteers to become Run Directors. If you are interested and would like to find out more about parkrun and what's involved, we are holding an open evening by kind permission of the Sailing Club. Alternatively please contact bridget.plowright@parkrun.com

HUNSTANTON parkrun

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THE NORFOLK HOSPICE
TAPPING HOUSE



West Norfolk Motorbike Ride for The Norfolk Hospice Tapping House

West Norfolk Motorbike Ride for The Norfolk Hospice , Tapping House

We are a group of Motorcyclists who meet up informally at Ingoldisthorpe Club once a month and enjoy local rideouts with occasional rides further afield. Each year we organise a fundraising event for a local charity. This year it's for The Norfolk Hospice Tapping House.

On Sunday 2nd June 10.00 we leave Ingoldisthorpe club and ride a 100 mile circular route, stopping halfway & returning for a Hog Roast by E. H. Prior & Sons A licensed bar will be open for business, also serving coffee & soft drinks. Motorcyclists, old, very old and new are all welcome.

To take part please buy your wristbands in advance (numbers are limited) from Dersingham Post Office & Matt Pope Motorcycles of Fakenham and display on the day. Rider £15 Pillion £5 Cost includes your charity donation & Hog Roast etc.

For further information email rideoutnews@yahoo.co.uk

A recipe from the Prudent Pensioner

There are some nice cauliflowers in the shops now, so I thought I would share my recipe for Cauliflower Cheese

Makes 2 adult size portions

15g/ ½ oz. Butter

15g/ ½ oz. Plain flour

180ml / 1/3rd. pint Milk

1/4 teaspoon English mustard

85g/3oz. strong flavoured Cheddar Cheese grated

Salt & Pepper

Cauliflower approx. 340g/12oz

If you are serving mashed potatoes with this it is best to get them cooking first.

Remove and discard discoloured base of cauliflower. Cut cauliflower into 2 pieces and place in a bowl of lightly salted water for 10 minutes then strain into a colander and rinse with cold water. Steam or cook in slightly salted water in a saucepan until just cooked; this will only take approximately 10 mins.

Meanwhile make cheese sauce

Mix mustard powder into flour. Over a low to medium heat melt butter in a saucepan; remove from heat, add flour and mustard powder beating quickly to form a smooth base for the sauce. Stir in milk a little at a time, mix until smooth with no lumps. Return to heat and bring to the boil still stirring constantly. Reduce heat to a gentle simmer. Add salt and pepper to taste. Cook for 2 minutes stirring often. Remove from heat, stir in cheese and mix well.

Strain water from cauliflower. Place cauliflower on plates and pour sauce over.

Serve and enjoy. This is nice served with mashed potatoes and bacon.

For details of Doreen's book, more recipes and 'How to' Video clips visit the Prudent Pensioners page on www.doreenreedpoet.com

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Hunstanton & District Rotary Club News

The last month has largely been one of preparation for future events and internal activity for the Rotary Club of Hunstanton & District, with speakers from the National Kidney Federation and Leeway as well as a talk from our President Hilary Farrell about a school she visited in South Africa. We are always delighted to receive visitors and to offer financial assistance where we can. We were therefore pleased to donate a microwave and bedding to the Women's Coastal Refuge supported by Leeway as well as a cheque to support Kidney research. We now annually give dictionaries to local year 5 pupils and as we had some left over this year we have sent these to the Evergreen School in South Africa, who we hope to continue to work with in the future. We were also pleased to record a victory in the first round of our District Quiz against the Rotary Club of King's Lynn.

Rotary is of course a worldwide organisation and we have therefore responded to the dreadful effects of Cyclone Idai in southern Africa, with torrential rains and strong winds of over 100mph. Downpours affected the region for weeks, causing severe floods since the beginning of March. This comes after a period of severe drought, making the conditions worse. Flooding has devastated land, livestock, homes and infrastructure, leaving vast areas uninhabitable and families home-



less and vulnerable. There are fears for further risks to families such as water-borne disease outbreaks. Roads and bridges were washed away, communications were down and, at the time of writing, floodwaters haven't yet receded leaving whole villages inaccessible. Our club decided to follow the same route as we have in the past and support the organisation Shelterbox with which Rotary has been proud to work since its foundation in the year 2000, so we have sent about £600 which provides a green ShelterBox. Each box typically contains a tent specially designed to withstand extreme weather conditions, water purification kit, blankets, tools, and other necessities to help a family survive after a disaster. We also contacted Aquabox who send out supplies focussing on water-filtration unit. Each

Aquabox contains a variety of humanitarian aid items, including cooking utensils, hygiene equipment, tools, shelter materials, baby and children's clothing and educational items. You might like to follow this link to see the full contents to help a family who have lost everything. <https://aquabox.org/images/article-images/Aquabox-Packing-List.pdf>

Looking ahead, our next major event is Crucial Crew where we meet up with year 6 children (10 to 11-year-olds) and guide them through a number of activities. The young people that attend Crucial Crew will have first-hand experience from trained professionals about how to keep themselves and their friends and family safe, how to be environmentally conscientious and how to lead healthy lives. It will cover the emergency services, including the coastguard, electrical and gas safety, safety in the home and on the internet. Last year ourselves & other local Rotary Clubs worked with over 800 pupils and our members said it was one of the most important things we do.

Meanwhile as a club we continue to enjoy fellowship on a weekly basis. If you would like to learn more about Rotary and potential membership or ways in which your business might be involved, please do contact me to arrange a chat on 01485 525142 or by email at johnpcrofts@gmail.com

John Crofts, President Elect 2018-19

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Hunstanton and District Inner Wheel 'Tiger Bay', here we come!

There is something instantly recognisable about Inner Wheel members – difficult to identify precisely but we know each other instinctively. When we go into a crowded place, no sign or handshake necessary, just a nod of the head will do followed by a smile.

Cardiff was the destination for the 2019 conference, so with our regalia in place we descended on the Motor Point arena for the start of a three-day bonanza. What a veritable feast awaited us. Yes, there were serious elements but lots of laughter too.

Reverend Kate Bottley, well known for her exuberance and passion for bringing stories of faith and belief to the widest audience possible led the charge. Ed Pratt, a delightful young man told us about his 22,000 mile journey around the world on his unicycle, Andrew Grisewood, acclaimed floral designer thrilled us with a show of sheer opulence and our vice President Annie Bagworth won one of his creations.

Lesley Schatzberger spoke about Jessie's Fund following the death of her nine-year-old daughter Jessie from a brain tumour. Spending time with Jessie in a children's hospice and being a musician made Lesley aware of how music could help seriously sick children to express themselves.

I was able to grab a photo opportunity when I spotted our President Hazel Evans chatting to the founder of School in a Bag, one of the many charities Hunstanton and District Inner Wheel have supported. President Hazel is the one on the left!



You can't visit Wales without listening to children singing. The Cor Y Cwm choir entertained us – the icing on the cake.

A breathtaking visit to Cardiff Castle during a short period of time out was a truly memorable event, and strolling down the many arcades and managing not to spend money was a challenge and an achievement.

Sue Trewin



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Thornham Village news

VILLAGE CINEMA AND LIVE BY SATELLITE

Thornham Village Cinema Film and Live by Satellite Screenings

Wednesday 22nd May GREEN BOOK



A working class Italian - American bouncer becomes the driver of an African-American classic pianist on a tour of venues through the 1960s American South. Based on the true story of Don Shirley, played by Mahershala Ali who won best male supporting role Oscar. Stunning acting and music. Book your tickets now – Call 0781 802 8687 Tickets £5.00 Bar opens 7PM Film starts 7.30pm

Broadcast Live by Satellite from The Royal Opera House Covent Garden

Thursday 16th May

WITHIN THE GOLDEN HOUR/FLIGHT PATTERN



The Contemporary face of the Royal Ballet in revivals of works by Christopher Wheeldon and Crystal Pite in a world premier by Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui. Orchestra of the Royal Opera House. Conducted by Jonathon Lo. Doors and bar opens 6.30pm – Curtain 7.15pm Book your tickets online at www.thornhamvillagehall.co.uk or call 0778 725 5597 Tickets £15 – Children £10

Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th May

THE MAKERS MARK

Sale of Original Work by Craftsmen & Artisans. 10am – 4pm. Free Entry – Café

Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th May

TEXTILES IN ACTION

Demonstrations of Textile Techniques: Applique, Crochet, Knit, Stitch, Weave. Exhibition of Design Challenge entries Norfolk Open Studios Event and Arts Trail.

'Men only' Outdoor Fitness class

Clare Barker, Personal Trainer and specialist fitness instructor is on a mission to keep the over 50s men moving by encouraging them to come along to an outdoor circuit exercise class.

The FABS fitness Programme brings together the four key components for healthy ageing – Flexibility, Aerobic, Balance and Strength exercises – in one fun-filled class.

The classes at Thornham Village Hall are active community classes for the over 50's. All of the exercises are easy to follow and can be adapted to suit a wide range of abilities.

For more information, register your interest and to book your place please call Clare on; M: 07718637101

E: clare.barker@moveitorloseit.co.uk

The Maker's Mark

Original work by Craftsmen & Artisans making their mark on clay, glass, metal, paper, textiles and wood.



The Maker's Mark returns to Thornham Village Hall at the beginning of May. This annual sale of unique hand-made work has established a well deserved reputation for high quality craftsmanship. Not only a showcase for local talent, it is a celebration of skill and technical expertise.

'The invited makers work directly from raw materials, and there are no quick-fix solutions as seen on TV' explains Melanie Venes, the event co-ordinator, 'You may think it only takes a couple of minutes to raise a pot on the wheel, but it needs years of practice and a thorough understanding of the process to make a success of it. Our seven selected potters work with stoneware, terracotta and porcelain, and use a variety of glazes but even if we gave them identical materials they would each produce a unique item.'

Indeed between them they produce everything you need; tableware by Michelle Daniels, and Rob Dunster, garden planters by Dee Hunt and Mo Baker (the nearest thing to a take-away garden) and, brim-full of personality, birds and animals by Debbie Davis, Jane Bygrave and Phil Arthur.

Local makers are at the heart of this show. 'This is our sixth year and I'm so grateful for their continued support' says Melanie 'we've built our reputation around their skills and visitors keep coming back to see their new work, but there are a few new faces too (see the full list on www.thornhamvillagehall.co.uk)'. Like Marta Kwasniewicz who uses a form of Japanese braiding called kumihimo to construct striking, architectural jewellery in pure alpaca yarn. And printmakers Erica Appleton (screen printing on fabric) and Sarah Bays (hand tinted dry-point and hand cut lino prints). As an added bonus, MM2019 sees the introduction of the first gallery stand. To celebrate 10 years since they opened the doors to Gallery Plus in Wells, Trevor and Joanna Woods will show some of the finest contemporary glass jewellery and ceramics, and Trevor's own distinctive paintings.

A fabulous selection of crafts plus refreshments provided by The BagLadies of Thornham who will also be selling their delicious home-made jams and chutneys. Not to be missed!

The Maker's Mark is open Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th May, 10am – 4pm. Entry is free.

Thornham Village Hall, High Street, Thornham, Norfolk PE36 6LX
Saturday 4 – Sunday 5 May 2019, 10am – 4pm | Free Entry | Café

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WIDE FIELDS AND BIG SKIES

Open Studios Art Trail in Northwest Norfolk

See paintings, textiles, sculptures and more at artists' studios while enjoying a drive through some of the most beautiful countryside connecting Great Bircham, Thornham, Ringstead and Heacham.

The tour starts at C. Julie Witt's studio in Great Bircham. Julie explores a wide variety of subjects including still life, landscape and abstract. Her preferred medium is watercolour.

Hop in your car for the first leg of the journey through Docking, past Summerfield Farm and on to Thornham. Here Melanie Venes' hand woven fabrics and accessories will be on display alongside Sarah Burt's contemporary textile art, depicting seascapes and landscapes inspired by the East Anglian coast and countryside. There will be ongoing weaving demonstrations by Melanie.

The next leg of the trail takes you back over the fields to Ringstead Village Hall. Six local artists join forces with a new exhibition of their diverse styles, techniques and talents which embrace painting, print making, photography, digital art and sculpture. This interesting mix of work by Julie Clark, Helga Joergens, Barbara King, David Lendrum, Cass Wedd and Alan Witley will delight all tastes and ages!

Your next destination is Esther Boehm's studio at 55 High Street, Heacham. Esther will be working on installation pieces for an exhibition at the Undercroft, Norwich from 11-28 July where she will be exhibiting with artists Helen Breach, Alison Dunhill and Lydia Haines (cusp). Although the full impact of the work can only be experienced in Norwich, this will be a great opportunity to experience the process involved in an artistic project of this nature.

Total driving time one way is approx. 30 minutes.

ART TRAIL TIMES

Sat 25 May, Sun 26 May, Mon 27 May,

Sat 1 June, Sun 2 June 10 am – 5 pm

See individual artist's profiles in the brochure for all their Open Studio times.

TRAIL DIRECTIONS

Take B1153 from Hillington into the village past the King's Head on left, then left at war memorial. Studio, 54 Fring Rd (C. Julie Witt), on right. After your visit return to war memorial, turn left, continue on the main road to Docking. Go straight through the crossing at the Give Way sign. At Summerfield Farm turn right. Stay on main road until you reach Thornham. At the A149 turn right. After approx. 600m Greenwoods (Melanie Venes and Sarah Burt) is on your left. After your visit, turn right, take the third left (Ringstead Rd) and then the first right. Ringstead Village Hall (Ringstead Artists) is on your left just after the Gin Trap Inn. After your visit, continue on this road, turning right to Heacham/Sedgeford. Take the first right to Heacham. Follow the road. Turn left onto the A149 and right at the lights. 1st left after Tesco Express is High Street. 55 (Esther Boehm) is on your right.

Brochures and flyers with the tour map are available at many venues including Hunstanton Tourist Information Centre, regional libraries and artists' studios/exhibitions or download at www.estherboehm.com/download/wide-fields-and-big-skies.pdf

Six artists on show in NNOS Event

A new exhibiton in the picturesque village of Ringstead will feature the work of six local artists in a collective show. Held in conjunction with this year's Norfolk and Norwich Open Studios county-wide event, the exhibition will run for nine days from May 25th.

Stylistically their exhibits range from realism to abstraction and practically everything in between in a scale from small to, well, very big! It includes photography, oil, acrylic, watercolour, pastel and digital art – plus cards and print making – all of which they employ to creatively reflect the life and scene in the glorious coast and countryside of the area.

The Six Artists

Julie Clark works in a variety of styles and media and has become recognised for her powerful images influenced by the ever changing coastal seascape of Norfolk.

Helga Joergens produces figurative and abstract pictures created from observation and imagination.

Barbara King's bright, figurative paintings embrace a number of subjects including flora, fauna and the Norfolk landscape.

David Lendrum paints abstract works inspired by the skies and landscapes of Norfolk.

Cass Wedd works with paint, photography and other media and materials on subjects including Norfolk seascape, landscape and Irish history. Alan Witley blends photography with digital art to produce spectacular images depicting the local scene.

You will be able to meet the artists at the exhibition which should make this an especially interesting event not to be missed.

The Six Artists Exhibition is at Ringstead Village Hall from Saturday 25th May until Sunday 2nd June, 10.00 am to 5.00 pm. Entrance and car parking are free.



'Ahoy!' by Julie Clark

Julie discovered her artistic talent following major brain surgery, when she realised the therapeutic value that painting and sculpture has on aiding recovery.

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Textiles in Action

25th & 26th May 2019
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10am-4pm Free Entry Cafe



Demonstrations of Textile Techniques:
Appliqué, Crochet, Knit, Stitch, Weave
Exhibition of Design Challenge Entries
Norfolk Open Studios Event + Arts Trail

Textiles in Action

Textiles in Action is a two day celebration of textile skills and techniques heralding the start of Norfolk & Norwich Open Studios. Come and meet local textile enthusiasts, see the exquisite results of their labour and find out where you can learn new skills.

Demonstrations include hand and machine embroidery, patchwork, crochet, knitting, braiding, lace making, weaving and more!

Exhibition of sketchbooks & samples showing the response to our Design Challenge; work inspired by stunning photographs. The north Norfolk coast as you've never seen it before!

Open 10am to 4pm, Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th May, Thornham Village Hall. Refreshments available, entry is free. Further details from melanievenes@btinternet.com

PS You can also visit textile artists Sarah Burt and Melanie Venes in Thornham. Please see the NNOS brochure or www.nnopenstudios.org.uk

©Sarah Burt

©Melanie Venes



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WIN TICKETS TO SEE BACK TO BACHARACH



The critically-acclaimed concert show *Back to Bacharach* is coming to The Princess Theatre Hunstanton on Saturday 15th June at 7.30pm

and we have a pair of tickets to give away - simply answer the question at the bottom of this article to be in with a chance of winning.

Walk on By, Close to You, I Say a Little Prayer, The Look of Love, Raindrops Keep Fallin' on my Head, Make it Easy on Yourself, Do You Know the Way to San Jose, Twenty-Four Hours from Tulsa, (There's) Always Something There to Remind Me - featuring the biggest-selling songs of all time. . .

Honouring song-writing maestro Burt Bacharach, the production features all of the three-time Academy Award winner's greatest hits, performed by four stars from London's West End and The Magic Moments Orchestra, in a 100 per cent live production.

From Cilla Black's Alfie to Christopher Cross's Arthur's Theme, from Perry Como's Magic Moments to Tom Jones' What's New Pussycat, you're never more than one song away from another classic platinum-selling hit.

For a chance to win a pair of tickets - answer this question: Burt Bacharach wrote the song Close to You for which famous sibling performers:

- a The Carpenters
- b Donny and Marie Osmond
- c Noel and Liam Gallagher

Send your answer by email to: editor@townandaround.net or post to Town and Around, Back to Bacharach Competition, 18 Tapping Close, Snettisham PE31 7FF

The winner will be drawn at random and the Editor's decision is final and there is no cash alternative. The tickets will be for regular auditorium seats and not the VIP tickets.

To buy tickets contact the box office: 01485 532252

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THE HUNSTANTON ONE ACT DRAMA FESTIVAL 2019

Inconceivably it has been 9 months since the great and the good of local amateur theatre washed up on the east coast.

The Hunstanton One Act Drama Festival looms large again and this showpiece of the HDFA (Hunstanton and District Festival of Arts) promises to be bigger than ever before.

Stephen Hayter makes his second appearance as Festival Director and there will be competition pieces from Smithdon High School, Wilburton Theatre Group, The King's Lynn Players, The Old Buckenham Players, The Wisbech Players, The Boston Playgoers and the Stallham Players. Not to mention the ever impressive Downham Amateur Dramatic Society (DADS) who seldom leave empty handed.

It all kicks off at the Princess Theatre at 7.30pm on Friday 28th June with three presentations, and then matinees and evening sessions on Saturday 29th June, and a matinee on Sunday 30th June.

The Red Carpet Awards Ceremony is on the Sunday night with the return of the Blind Play Reading Competition which proved so popular last year.

Tickets are from the Princess Theatre Box office (01485 532 252) and are £8.50 per session, or £30 for all the sessions. The Red Carpet Awards extravaganza is £2.50 a seat with everyone very welcome.

**Hunstanton & District
Festival of Arts 2019**
presents

**An Adjudicated Festival of
ONE-ACT PLAYS**

Friday 28th June
7.30pm

Saturday 29th June
2.30pm & 7.30pm

Sunday 30th June
2.30pm & 7.30pm

Tickets: £8.50 per session or Festival Season Ticket £30.00

Each performance will consist of different adult or youth Drama groups from throughout the District performing one-act plays of their choice. On the Sunday evening, 'THE RED CARPET AWARD CEREMONY' includes special entertainment and the presentation of both Dance and Drama awards.

Call 01485 532252 or visit
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Save the Children UK

Tales without Words - 8th June

The Princess Theatre in Hunstanton have kindly agreed to promote our **SAVE THE CHILDREN CONCERT - Tales without Words** - on 8th June. We are very grateful to Mr Brian Hallard and his wife Diana, who is on the SCF committee for their support for the concert.

The evening begins with music from the Community Choir and they will be followed by Klio Blonz (Flute) and Melanie Jones (Piano).

Klio and Melanie are delighted to be working together again following their very successful collaboration in the past where, along with international cellist Rebecca Hepplewhite, they performed at Les Theophanies International Music Festival as well as at the Abbey of Villelongue Concert Series in France receiving wonderful reviews.

They both enjoy exploring a variety of music, from classical to contemporary, as well as creative improvisational projects. Their aim is to create a common language for all, one that will reach a broad audience. With its beautiful and rich selection of pieces for flute and piano, 'Tales Without Words' will take the audience on a journey throughout the centuries, with music by Bach, Bozza, Ginastera, Hummel, Mouquetand Fauré.

Klio studied in Paris with Pierre Dumail and Catherine Cantin, followed by a scholarship at Trinity College of Music, London in the classes Peter Baker and Wissam Boustany.

Since the beginning of her career Klio has performed extensively both as a soloist and ensemble player in the UK and abroad. She has been broadcast by BBC Radio 3 and has appeared in Festivals and Concert Series in the UK and abroad, such as Brighton Festival, Hurst Festival, Barnes Festival, Mayfield Festival, Deverills Festival, Prokofiev Festival, Peckham Arts Festival, Adur Arts Festival, Kings Lynn Music Society, Deverills Festival of Dodekanison, Demetria Festival, Sani Festival, International Music Festival of Cyclades in Greece, the Blenheim Music Circle and the Blackheath Halls Recitals to name but a few.

Klio has toured extensively the UK with her flute and harp ensemble AMALTHEA Duo and works regularly with international pianist Grace Mo. In 2017 they performed their at the Megaron Hall's International Chamber Music Series in Thessaloniki, Greece, receiving excellent reviews and in the Autumn 2018 they were joined by BBC Magazine Award Winner Fenella Humphreys and presented their Trio program 'A Musical Offering' at the Hanbury Wealth Concert Series at Bishops Stortford and at St Luke's in Brighton.

Following four years at York University, Melanie completed her studies at the Royal Academy of Music in July 2009, where she studied with Malcolm Martineau and Daniel-Ben Pienaar. Whilst at the Academy, Melanie received coaching from Iain Ledingham, Michael Dussek, Andrew West, Audrey Hyland, Jonathan Papp and Julius Drake. She was regularly requested by Maurice Hasson, Hu Kun and Beatrice Unsworth to accompany their classes. She also frequently played in masterclasses with Janet Baker, Dennis O'Neill, Barbara Bonney, Ann Murray, Thomas Allen and Sarah Walker.

Melanie is currently a busy chamber pianist, regularly playing with the Berkeley ensemble and the Dea Quartet, with whom she has often toured abroad. As part of a duo, Melanie was chosen to perform for HM the Queen during her visit to the Academy. She has played in venues including St James' Piccadilly, Cheltenham Town Hall, Purcell Room, St John's Smith Square, and the Royal Albert Hall amongst others. She has performed at the Norwich and Norfolk Festivals and the York Late Music Festival and has worked as official accompanist at several festivals around the UK including Llangollen International Eisteddfod.

Melanie was a Park Lane Group Young Artist for 2014/15 and recently performed recitals at the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse and the Wigmore Hall.

The Saturday 8th Concert is preceded by a Children's Concert on 7th June 1.30 at St Mary's Church Old Hunstanton for 250 local school children.

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With KING'S LYNN FESTIVAL CHORUS

The Chorus is embarking on an important community project involving choirs throughout the U.K. This project is raising awareness and funds for SHELTER, a charity supporting the homeless.

We will be learning and performing a specially commissioned song by the popular composer Alex Wolff. This song, together with other well-known songs, will be performed at a special outdoor concert as part of the King's Lynn Festival in the Tuesday Market Place on Sunday July 14th 2019.

ANYONE can join in this project. There are NO voice assessments, no musical notes to read, and previous experience of singing is NOT NECESSARY. JUST COME ALONG AND HAVE A GO FOR A WORTHY CAUSE.....

Come along to Springwood School in Lynn at 7.15 pm on 13th May for a rehearsal of about 45 minutes. You are more than welcome to stay on for the rest of the rehearsal to see and hear what we do on a Monday night, especially if you are thinking about becoming a regular member of the Chorus. There is a very full programme planned for next season, learning and performing some of the great iconic works of the choral repertoire.

Please use the Contact page on our website if you need more information: www.kingslynnfestivalchorus.co.uk

Nick Torry

Art Exhibition with a twist – in aid of local Hospice



Calling all amateur and professional artists... You are invited to create and donate a postcard-sized work of original art for the second Art in the Hut exhibition, in aid of The Norfolk Hospice Tapping House.

Art in the Hut is a unique charity exhibition and sale of original, postcard-size artworks by established and emerging artists. The exhibition takes place on 9th – 11th August 2019 and will be held in the Mencap beach hut on Old Hunstanton beach. So how does it work? All of the postcards are exhibited anonymously and visitors have the opportunity to purchase the artwork. All postcards will be priced equally, with a minimum recommended donation price. The identity of the artist is revealed only after the work is purchased – so it could be an emerging new talent or a well-known local artist. So not only do you get to enjoy this unique event and support a local charity - you could also go home with an amazing piece of artwork that is more valuable than you first thought!

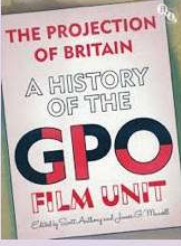
Artists who would like to donate one or more original postcards to support the valuable work of the Norfolk Hospice are welcome to take part.

Jessica Walker, Community Fundraiser at The Norfolk Hospice said, "We are extremely grateful to the supporters organising this event for us for the second time. The event raised over £2400 in 2017 and was very popular. Events like this really make a difference to the amount and quality of support we can provide to the local community."

For entry details and to register, please <https://www.norfolkhospice.org.uk/Event/art-in-hut> email: artinthehut@btinternet.com or for more information please call the fundraising office on 01485 601701. The deadline for entries is 19th July 2019.

Our next lecture – 13 May

The GPO Film Unit – the Birth of Documentary Films.



This is the fascinating story of how documentary films started from the latter days of silent movies onwards.

2.00pm - Sedgeford Village Hall

Visitors most welcome

To book a seat call Gerald Pepper 01485 570755

www.theartsocietynwnorfolk.org.uk

The Friends of St Mary's Snettisham

Return of brilliant young performer to St Mary's Snettisham Korean-born British violinist Joo Yeon Sir has performed at world-class venues and acquired a string of coveted prizes, including The Arts Club-Sir Karl Jenkins Classical Music Award. Described by The Strad as 'exuberant, feline and seductive, rattling off the fiendish cadenza with bravura and oodles of personality' for a Wigmore Hall recital, Joo Yeon is also a composer and former BBC/Guardian Young Composer of the Year winner.

Joo Yeon returns to play at St Mary's church in Snettisham on May 3rd at 7pm with her Russian accompanist Irina Andrievsky. No one can forget the impressive performance they gave in 2018 and The Friends of St Mary's are delighted to be welcoming Joo Yeon and Irina back in 2019.

Tickets for this concert at £15.00 each and available from The Corn Exchange in King's Lynn, The Grapes Gallery in Snettisham or available to book online at www.thefriendsofstmarys.co.uk



Volunteer with NNAB

The Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind (NNAB) is an organisation that supports people with sight loss to live independent lives.

Our offices in West Norfolk, Norwich and Great Yarmouth offer a wide range of equipment, services, activities and support across the county. We could not offer all of this without the support of our many fantastic volunteers who assist us in bringing our services, activities and support into communities all across Norfolk.

Volunteering is a great way of gaining confidence, new skills, of meeting people and of taking part in the local community.

We are currently looking for volunteers in a variety of areas with opportunities from mini bus drivers, to sports and leisure activities, telefriends, fundraising and much more.

If you would like to discuss the opportunities, we have at the NNAB then contact the Volunteer Engagement Co-ordinators on Tel... or at email... for a friendly and informal chat and see if we have an opportunity that is just right for you.

Penny Parker

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Email: volunteers@nnab.org.uk

Website: www.nnab.org.uk

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THANK YOU

Hunstanton Croquet Club

We are holding a 'Come and Try' session on Saturday May 18th, from 1:30pm - 4:30pm. Everything you need will be provided, but flat soled shoes must be worn whilst on the lawns. We are located at the Recreation Ground on the A149 Cromer Road' adjacent to the children's play area.

For more information, please contact Pat on 01485 570889 or Sarah on 01485 579542

FREE SAILING OPEN DAY: PUSH THE BOAT OUT!

All are welcome again as Snettisham Beach Sailing Club throws open its doors for its annual Open Day on Saturday 11th May 2019 from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm, as part of the RYA national initiative "Push The Boat Out" to promote sailing. Everyone is welcome to come along and try sailing in – all for free!

There will be free sailing taster sessions on the sea from 11.00 and on the lake all day.

Come and enjoy our clubhouse with food from the BBQ and drinks from the bar.

Save 10% off any R.Y.A. courses booked on the day, and 10% of club memberships purchased on the day. There is no need to book in advance just come along on the day! Just bring footwear you don't mind getting wet, a windproof top, a change of clothes, and a towel.

No experience is necessary and would-be sailors of all ages from 8 years upwards are welcome. Children, you must accompanied by an adult but your adult doesn't have to go sailing. Come and chat with our members and find out how you can get into sailing.

For full details see www.snetbeach.co.uk, and have a look at the video from 2017's Open Day at <http://snetbeach.co.uk/video-page>

Thornham Cricket Club are looking for junior players

Our aim is to - boost confidence, learn teamwork skills & communication, belong to a team, make the sessions inclusive for all and to most importantly have fun and enjoy the sessions

Junior training will be with ECB qualified and DBS registered coaches, even better it's totally free and no kit is needed Age group Day and time starting 30th April Under 8's Tuesdays 6.30 – 7.15 9-15 Tuesdays 7.15 – 8.30

Ideal for beginners or anyone wanting to expand their skills and knowledge, we are open for all abilities – New this year Under 9 & under 11 softball competition against West Norfolk clubs

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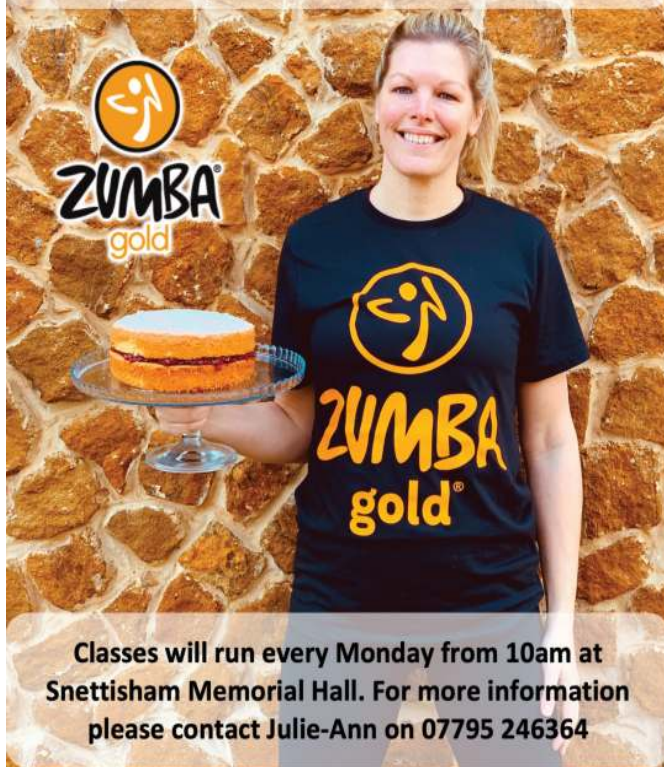
Want to know more please contact Development Officer Jim Clarke: Email : thornhamccinthecommunity@gmail.com

<http://thornhamnorfolkcc.play-cricket.com/>

Or Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/27840960267

Secretary Ron Williamson 07789 276365 & Child welfare officer Miss Sam Rix 07453 589510

Come join us in Snettisham for our very first class of Zumba Gold, it is a free taster session on Monday 29th April at 10am followed by tea, cake & chat



ZUMBA gold

Classes will run every Monday from 10am at Snettisham Memorial Hall. For more information please contact Julie-Ann on 07795 246364

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Saturday 20th July	MARHAM MILITARY WIVES CHOIR
Saturday 27th July	HUNSTANTON COMMUNITY CHOIR

Tennis Coaching at Heacham

Lawn Tennis Club

Taster Day for all ages – FREE Wednesday 8th May 2019 Run by LTA Qualified Coaches

Heacham Lawn Tennis Club is located at the Sports Ground, Station Road, Heacham and as the new tennis season will soon be upon us we will be running a taster day for all ages. This will be run by LTA Accredited coach, Jeremy Hodges, who will ensure that the children have fun and enjoy learning new skills. There will be a number of sessions during the evening for each age group, see below for details.

4.30 – 5.30 School Years 3,4 and 5

5.30 – 6.30 School Years 6 -11

6.30 – 8.00 Adults and any Juniors in Years 12 and 13

The sessions are FREE and there is no need to book, just turn up on the day. Please wear appropriate sports clothing, rackets will be provided for those that do not have their own.

We will then be holding weekly sessions every Wednesday from 4.30pm for all ages throughout the summer, details of times and costs will be available on the day.

Please also complete the form below and bring it to the first session.

Name of Child :

Age:

School Year:

Medical info:

Address:

Email Address :

Emergency Contact no(s):

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Deepdale and Brancaster Staithe Tennis Club

Our new season has started on our two lovely courts in the centre of the village. Our membership is very reasonably priced and it runs from 1 May 2019 to 30 April 2020. Membership entitles you to free play and being able to book a court. Have a look at our website: www.clubsparc.lta.org.uk/DBSTennisClub

Activities for all ages

Mini and Junior members - weekly coaching for one hour each through the summer term in two age groups at 4pm and 5pm. £12 per child for a 6 week course. It is essential to book on to these courses as numbers will be strictly limited. Contact Tamar Crosley our Junior Tennis Co-ordinator via email: juniortennis@brancasterstaithe.co.uk
Improvers Tennis Coaching for ladies and gentlemen happens with Becky Palmer on Monday mornings from 9.30-10.30am. Non-members are welcome to come along as guests for up to 3 occasions to see if this is for you. Contact Becky on 07799 483 016 or by email mondaymorningtennis@brancasterstaithe.co.uk

Ladies Mornings on Wednesdays 9.30-11am for intermediate players. We would be delighted to hear from anyone who can join us. Contact Verily by email tennis@brancasterstaithe.co.uk

Starting on 5th May we will be holding **First Sunday Social Sessions** from 10am-1pm on the first Sunday in the month for those aged 13 and over - young people and adults. Come along at any point and enjoy some fun tennis that is not too serious.

Non-members are welcome to come and play on a 'pay and play' basis. The court fee is £10 per hour payable via the honesty box on the courts.

Whichever of these you come along to, you can be sure of a big welcome.

Verily Borthwick.



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Whatever the weather

April showers are behind us, so get your home ready for outdoor living, writes West Norfolk Glass' managing director Geoff Parker

May is one of my favourite months with spring and early summer weather usually making a show ahead of the Chelsea Flower Show, just in time for the blooms, and in recent years a mini heat wave has set us up nicely for June. As a keen windsurfer, it's a golden moment to get out on the board and take to the water at Hunstanton.

It's also a great time to unpack the garden furniture and barbecue and start to enjoy some early summer entertaining. Bi-fold and tri-fold doors are still big news in home improvement and many of the visitors at our recent Open Day were looking to install these. They are a great way to blend your indoor and outdoor space. We have a fantastic range including products from Evolution, air and Reynaers Concept Folding 68. If bi-folds are something you are considering, pop in to our Hereford Way showroom and we'll be happy to explore the options with you and explain the features of each product.

A conservatory is a fantastic addition to any home, creating a relaxed space to enjoy views of the garden, but many older styles can be challenging to enjoy when the sun is shining. If your conservatory acts more like a magnifying glass, overheating the space, think about a replacement roof which can transform it into somewhere which is usable year-round.

Finally, while we shouldn't complain about the sunshine, a change in temperatures can often reveal a blown double glazing unit. People often mistakenly assume that this is something they have to live with, or that they'll have to replace all of their double glazing. It's worth mentioning that we offer a repairs service, and as master glaziers we are able to create solutions for most settings, so whether you are looking for a grand design or a simple fix, give us a call.

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Hunstanton Primary School

The Schools Sports Partnership Dance Festival was held at The Corn Exchange in King's Lynn on Thursday 21st March 2019 our Year 2 and some of our Year 6 pupils attended this exciting event with lots of other schools from around Norfolk. The theme was Night at the Movies, the children and staff thoroughly enjoyed the show and can't wait to perform again next year!



Our Foundation Stage pupils visited Snettisham Park Farm on Tuesday 26th March; they had a lovely time looking at all the animals and even got to feed some new born lambs! The children particularly enjoyed the deer safari. Our pupils behaved impeccably as always on this school trip. Well done Foundation Stage!

Our lovely hard-working PTA organised a Mother's Day Celebration on Friday 29th March for our parents and grandparents. Many people attended to have a cuppa and cake with their child. This was a lovely event and an opportunity for the school community to meet and greet each other on an informal basis and get to know other parents, staff and governors.



On Friday 5th April our PTA also organised an Easter Egg Decorating Competition which was yet another roaring success!

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News from Brancaster CE VA Primary School

by Eden and Evelina

This month we have been really busy especially with our Easter Activities. The PFA organised an Easter Egg hunt for the whole school; we had to look around the field and find letters, we all had great fun doing this.

After this we had an Easter Egg Bingo and lots of parents came, Evelina won on the bingo and raffle and Eden won on the bingo. We had a decorate an egg competition, in Thrift class Matilda, Faith and Evie won, in Samphire class Gracie, Faith and Evelina won. Reverend Sandra led our Easter Service, Samphire class read poems and showed the crosses we made, we had to wind different colour wool around our cross to show things we were thankful for, like our families and friends. We used red wool in the middle to represent Jesus dying on the cross. We sang This Little Light of Mine and Charlie Hunter sang a solo. Thrift class read an Easter Prayer and their Mothering Sunday messages for their mums, we all signed The Lord's Prayer.

We enjoyed Federation Science Day, we all had our own activity which we had to show to others, Evelina showed rainbow milk and Eden sticky ice, when it came to looking at the other children's Evelina enjoyed using her senses to smell and taste different things without seeing them first!

At Titchwell we have been able to toast bread over an open fire; we learnt how to tie sticks together to make a frame and have put sheets over the frames, we put moss in to make a carpet and logs as stools and sat inside to eat our toast – this was great fun. Today we have been to the White Horse, we learnt about honey bees and how important they are, Katie showed us around the kitchen where we saw food being prepared and we made sausages with Fran which we got to eat for lunch, Xavi said they were the best he had ever had. We all drew menus for the White Horse and Faith King won the main prize.



Ingoldisthorpe C of E Primary School

A Mother's Day Tea Party was held at Ingoldisthorpe Primary school on 28th March. It was a fantastic event to celebrate mums, and all that they do. Pupils performed songs, read stories and acted as hosts to mums in the packed hall. Cakes, biscuits and tea was served to pleased mums. It was a beautiful celebration of a family school where everyone matters.

Mr S.Wright, Headteacher



Hunstanton's 'Outstanding' children

Did you know that our town has a leading facility?, asks Glebe House School and Nursery's headmaster Louis Taylor

It seems incredible that I am embarking upon the last term of my first academic year as Glebe House School and Nursery's headmaster. It feels like just a moment ago that my family and I were arriving in Hunstanton and embarking upon a new chapter in our lives. Already, in just nine months, we have discovered what a wonderful place North Norfolk, and Hunstanton in particular, is to live and work.

Not least in this is the part that our school plays in putting Hunstanton on the map, along with its famed striped cliffs, sand dune beach and internationally-regarded Links golf course. Yet still I meet people who are unaware that Glebe House School and Nursery is regarded by the Independent Schools Inspectorate as 'Outstanding' and 'Excellent', the highest levels of attainment for a school. Academically and pastorally our school has been recognised for its provision and care of our children from just six months through to 13 years.

My own children are still in the early stages of their education at Glebe House School, but whenever I spend time in our nursery with our youngest pupils, I am reminded of how pivotal those foundation stages are in preparing children for reception and beyond.

Our 'Outstanding' nursery team, led by Suzie Pull, offer an incredibly nurturing environment where children are individually cared for and the foundations of numeracy and literacy are sown through play. It really is wonderful to see and I encourage any parents of young children looking for the right place to start their child's education to get in touch and book a visit and take a tour to see this for themselves.

With this in mind, we will hold an Open Day on Saturday 15 June which is an excellent opportunity to find out more about what makes Glebe such a fantastic place to be. Families will be able to tour the school with expert insight from our strongest advocates, our children



– you are guaranteed an honest opinion about what makes us the best.

If you know someone who is currently considering the right school for their children from September 2019, please do let them know about this date and ask them to get in touch – we look forward to showing them what makes us 'Outstanding' and 'Excellent'.

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Sir Henry visits Mr Bun



Hot cross buns came steaming from the oven as Sir Henry Bellingham MP visited the newly refurbished bakery in Hunstanton High Street.

Touring the bakery Sir Henry said: "It is so important to have a decent baker in a town; every town needs classy specialist businesses to make the High Street thrive."

Sir Henry is pictured here with Mr Bun (Peter Gohegan) and Ann Eve who has a dog bakery business.

During his visit, Sir Henry also met Lewis Richardson who has completed his bakery apprenticeship at the business.

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Mela Concert

With the major restoration of Waterden Church under way, the Friends of All Saints' Waterden will be holding an exciting concert in aid of the church on Friday, 31 May at 7pm.

The concert, which will take place at St Mary's Church, South Creak, NR21 9LX, will feature an acclaimed group, the Mēla Quartet, a classical guitar ensemble who trained together at the Guildhall School of Music in London.



The Mēla quartet brings together four exceptional guitarists who play with an "exalted level of perfection", according to the music website Naxos.com. Their "musicianship makes you forget that you are listening to four guitars and carries you to a different sound world", said Thérèse Wassily Saba in Gendai Guitar magazine.

The group were International Guitar Foundation young artists in 2016 and have performed in venues such as King's Place; Milton Court, the Barbican; and Jimi Hendrix's bedroom (!) at the Handel Hendrix House in London where both Handel and Hendrix lived - at different times naturally.

At our concert on 31 May, they will be playing J.S. Bach's organ fugue in G minor and numbers from their new album "Pluck, Strum, and Hammer". We are delighted to have booked them. Please support us by coming along.

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Sandringham & West Newton Primary Academy takes part in ancient Church Clypping custom

As part of their Mothering Sunday celebrations, pupils took part in an ancient tradition of 'Clypping the Church'. Following a service of prayers and hymns inside the Church, the pupils all joined hands to surround St Peter & St Paul Church at West Newton to Clypp (or embrace) the Mother Church.

Executive Head, Mrs Jane Gardner, said: "This is a lovely old tradition which the children enjoy each year. It reminds us of the wider context of Mothering Sunday and embraces a bit of history of the church too.

It took the whole school, with arms outstretched to circle the Church. However, with the help of parents, staff and even the Church Organist we did it!"

The service and Clypping was led by the Rector of Sandringham & West Newton, Rev Jonathan Riviere.

Clypping is an old English word which means embracing. The Christian custom of church clypping goes back to around 1825 and has become an annual event in some churches since Victorian times.



Sandringham & West Newton Primary Academy is part of the Sandringham Federation which includes Flitcham Primary Academy.



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Finding Happiness

Ask a hundred people what happiness means to them and you will get a hundred different answers. Wealth, close relationships, successful careers and good health will figure well up the list, but what you are unlikely to hear is that happiness can be found in knowledge, wisdom, and spiritual understanding. Achieving a happy life may be found in a deeper understanding of our relationship to God as shown in the Bible by the prophets and reinforced by the teachings of Christ Jesus. "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding." Proverbs 3:13 and "...happy is that people, whose God is the Lord." Psalms 144:15. As children of God, we can lean on Him to guide us to find the right answers to all of life's questions, giving us a feeling of security and harmony. Being happy is our divine right as God's beloved children, indicated in the Bible and resulting from understanding this relationship. Mary Baker Eddy, the discoverer and founder of Christian Science, also understood the spiritual source of happiness, when she wrote in one of her books, "Happy are the people whose God is All-in-all, who ask only to be judged according to their works, who live to love." Miscellany p. 127. It is reassuring to know that we do not need to rely on others for our happiness, but on God, our eternal, infinitely loving Father-Mother.

Our church services are every Sunday at 11am at Christian Science Society, 10 Queens Drive, Hunstanton. We also hold a service on the first Wednesday of each month at noon (Oct-Mar) and 7pm (Apr-Sep) and everyone is most welcome. Free magazines are available from the box outside the church and for more information on Christian Science visit www.spirituality4.me



Our two diocesan Lenten appointed charities this year are 'Aid to the Church in Need's "change of life appeal" to support persecuted Christians in Syria and Iraq, and the 'Cambridge Nazareth Trust' whose aim is to encourage the education of next generation Christians in the Holy Land. You can find out more by logging on to acnuk.org and cambridgenazarethtrust.co.uk

There will be a Ladies shared lunch in the Garnett room at Our Lady & Perpetual Succour, Hunstanton on Saturday 4th May starting at mid-day. This is an open invitation for all women in the area to come along and join us for an enjoyable social occasion, just bring a plate of food to share. The Strawberry fair fundraiser this year will be on 6th July at St Cecilia's.

Foodbank supplies are still required, items can be left in the porches of both churches. Please ensure that all items are well in date. Thank you for your continued support...

There is a Fair Trade Stall at St Cecilia's after the 9am Mass on the first Sunday of every month. Please support this very worthwhile cause by buying fairly traded goods to support families abroad trying to earn a living. For more information please contact Caroline Brooks on 01553 673069.

All social events will be well publicised in the weekly bulletins and on the website. 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 10.15am Mass every Wednesday. There are also refreshments after the 9am Mass on the first Sunday of the month at Dersingham. Everyone will be most welcome.

Daily Masses will be 10am in the Convent during winter months and in the parish church from spring at Hunstanton on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday mass is at 10.15am at St Cecilia's, Dersingham.

Sunday Masses are 9am at St Cecilia's, Mountbatten Road, Dersingham and 11am at the Parish Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour & St Edmunds, Sandringham Road, Hunstanton. The Parish telephone number is 01485 534675.

If you require a Priest urgently please telephone V. Rev Canon Peter Rollings on 01553 772220 or email: parishpriest763@gmail.com
Website: www.hunstantoncatholicparish.org
Email: parish@hunstantoncatholicparish.org

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Just a thought...

As we move into the month of May many people including the shops will have decided that Easter is over for another year, but in all seriousness Easter has only just begun.

The death and resurrection of Jesus should now enable us to re-think our lives, our spiritual growth and our worship, and as part of that journey we are given yet another opportunity to walk a path toward restoration with Jesus. But we must walk that path as a community so that there may be for all of us a resurrection into new life.

Easter is not just a holy event that happened over 2,000 years ago in Jerusalem, it is a little Easter on whatever day we discover our need for the love of God. And if you are sensing a need for God's love, for renewed faith, hope, for a sense of inner peace, know that the tomb in which you have buried your faith is now empty, new life has begun and it has been enlivened by the love of God, which endures forever.

To celebrate Easter is to cease the struggle against the way of God and accept the love we so deeply need. For as St. Paul has said, "Nothing in death or life, in the present or the future, in this world or the world to come can ever separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus."

Over the next few weeks we will be looking at the appearances of Jesus to his followers, culminating with the Ascension and the apostles receiving the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. These dramatic events speak of new life, of moving on to new horizons; Jesus said to his apostles "...when the Holy spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power and you will be witnesses for me in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

And for the apostles new life meant just that, witnessing to all they met that the love and forgiveness of Christ was for all, not just a chosen few. So as Easter begins for us, we too must be prepared for new life, moving on to new horizons. It may not be as dramatic as the apostle's experience, but if we can, in our own way as individuals and as a church community witness Christ to those who have not yet experienced his love and forgiveness, then we will have fulfilled our Easter promise to Him who died and rose again.

Steve, Rev Steve Oliver
Methodist Church

PLAYCHURCH

**St Mary's Church Old Hunstanton 9.30-11.00
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Please contact either Anne Fletcher 1485 572467 or Marie Jarvis 07866889967

The Crossroads of History

By Gill Tanner a member of The Way C F Leadership team

The pivotal moment of all human history happened nearly two thousand years ago when Jesus Christ uttered the words 'it is finished (or accomplished)', as he hung on the Roman cross dying for the sins of the world. The door of hope was opened; the power of death was broken. The Bible says the power of death is sin and the sin-bearer was taking the sin of the world into Himself.

'God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God' 2 Corinthians 5.21

The Jewish sacrificial system with the millions of lambs killed as sin offerings all pointed to the one who was to come, who would be the lamb of God, His only son.

'The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus, our Lord' Romans 6.23

God's love for this world is so great that He himself took our punishment that we can go free. Every part of His suffering was for our healing. The Roman flogging brutal with fragments of bone in the thongs. *'By His stripes we have been healed'* The crown of thorns on His head in mockery of His kingship, as he was beaten with rods. The thorns seem to represent anxious thoughts and pressures and torment of the mind and He suffered them to bring us peace. In Isaiah 53 verse 3 it says *'He was despised and rejected by men'*; He bore the rejection that we can be accepted by God the Father. In the next verse it says *'Surely He took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows. He was pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities, the punishment that brought us*

peace was upon Him'

The soldiers took His seamless robe and He hung naked, tortured to death in front of a mocking crowd, that we might have our shame exchanged for His covering.

Jesus who in very nature is God and the source of all life on earth, willingly gave His life that we could be forgiven and, after the death of our bodies, our souls and spirits will live with Him in eternity. We will be clothed with new spiritual bodies like His. 1 Corinthians 15.

In the book of Revelation the bible says that God himself will wipe away every tear from our eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or dying or pain for the old order of things will pass away.

Jesus body lay in the tomb until early on the Sunday morning. The women who went to the tomb found the stone that sealed the tomb had been rolled away and the tomb itself was empty. Jesus had risen from death having visited hell and came out with the keys of death and Hades. He appeared to many witnesses after His resurrection.

The good news of God's love has been preached ever since and millions of people have believed in Christ Jesus for their forgiveness and salvation. It is reported that in China 7,000 people per week are being baptised into Christ. With the recent crackdown on religious freedom in China the cost is very high to follow Christ, but they think it worth doing.

In secular Britain we seem to have forgotten our Christian heritage, which laid the foundation for our laws and our freedom; but God has not changed. Jesus still holds out His arms to a rebellious world. He will heal us if we come to Him, and exchange our sin and mess for His love and peace. His promise still stands

'Come unto me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest'. Matthew 11.28

A letter from The Rt Revd Jonathan Meyrick, Bishop of Lynn and The Venerable Ian Bentley, Archdeacon of Lynn

Greetings!

We are writing to let you know of some of the developments in the life of the churches and communities of Hunstanton, Ringstead and the Saxon Shore Group of parishes.

Many of you will know that both clergy moved on in January and we are very thankful to Father John Bloomfield and The Revd Susan Bowden-Pickstock for their work and ministry.

This gives us the opportunity to strengthen ministry in the area by bringing the eight parishes together in one team, with a Team Rector and a Team Vicar. Both priests, when appointed, will serve all eight parishes giving a new flexibility to Ministry in the area and allowing

collaborative Ministry to develop further.

This reorganisation has the full support of the eight Church Councils and they are presently working on a Profile for a new team, which is the document that is sent to prospective candidates. We would hope to have new ministers in place as quickly as the process allows.

We take this opportunity of thanking the Churchwardens, The Revd James Monro, the retired clergy, Readers, Authorised Worship Assistants and all those who work so hard to ensure that the Ministry of the church continues in this beautiful area of North West Norfolk.

With every blessing

From the Saxon Shore

May, a month of celebrations

The letter from the Bishop and Archdeacon is indeed an exciting move for the eight parishes and one for celebration.

With two bank holidays and half term, remembering the joy on Victory in Europe Day on May 8 1945, celebrating the work of Christian Aid and being able to support that work during Christian Aid week - 12th to 18th May and Ascension Day on 30th May this really is a month for celebration.

However as with all celebrations there will be some who feel unable to celebrate. Some within the church find any change difficult. Holidays and family occasions can be difficult. Celebrations on V.E. day were, and still are, for many tinged with sadness and grief. Although grateful for the help of Christian Aid people in desperate situations may not find celebration easy.

Perhaps Ascension Day can help us to begin to look a little differently at difficult occasions.

Following his resurrection Jesus spent 40 days with his disciples and other friends and followers before he again 'left' them on his ascension. Jesus was the person they had given their life over to, had trusted, respected and looked to for the future direction in their lives. His death was an enormous blow, but he had returned. Now just 40 days later he had again left them.

They would have felt rejected, believing Jesus had failed them and at a loss to know what the future would bring. They were frightened and numb staying within their close circle of friends. At this point they

did not know the joy that was 'just around the corner' with the coming of the Holy Spirit. (at Pentecost - this year on June 9th). When the last thing we feel like is celebration it may help to remember Jesus and his disciples and know that we are not alone.

Enjoy the celebrations during May, even if that may be from the side lines, looking in.

with every blessing

Sandra Ellison

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From St Edmund's & St Andrews

Some of my most special memories are those of mountain summits; the view, the clear air and the sense of achievement on making it to the top, rather than that of the hard slog just to get there. I never did make it to the top of Kilimanjaro in Tanzania because of the effects of altitude sickness, but my memory of the astounding clearness of the stars of the Southern Cross and the rest of the Milky Way is some compensation.

And at this time of year my mind is also drawn towards the association between high places and the heavens, for on Ascension Day we commemorate Jesus' return to God the Father from the Mount of Olives, forty days after his resurrection from the dead. We also read in the New Testament how Jesus also chose mountains as places for prayer, probably as much for the solitude as for the sense and symbolism of being closer to the heavens. But for us when trying to pray, there is often the sense of the hard slog up the mountainside rather than that heavenly presence. God can seem so far away, and then there are those obtrusive and distracting thoughts that keep crowding the mind. Or maybe there is that sense of unworthiness that makes us want to shy away.

In these situations, and especially at this season, words from the unknown author of the Epistle to the Hebrews are of help, *"Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need"* (Hebrews 4:14-16). It is Jesus who can help us ascend the mountaintop to God in prayer.

Fr James Monro

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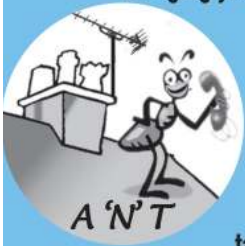
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May Diary of Events

- | | | | |
|-----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Gardening Tips at Hunstanton Library 10.30am. | 11 | Fun Dog Show from 11am at Glebe House School |
| 1 | Cliff Parade Bowls Club (EBA Rules) 6.30 Mens League Home game v Downham Cons B | 11 | Cliff Parade Bowls Club (EBA Rules) Home game v Searles BC 11am |
| 2 | More Old Stuff at Hunstanton Library 10am-noon. Memorabilia display. | 11 | Hunstanton Conservative Club entertainment: Mike Fox |
| 2 | Stanhoe and Barwick WI 2pm: Meeting in The Methodist Chapel, Stanhoe. Our speaker and demonstrator will be Jonathon Carrie. Visitors welcome. Valerie (01485 576261) or Pamela (01485 518033) | 11 | United Services Club Hunstanton entertainment: Quiz Night £3pp plus food starts 8.30pm |
| 3 | Docking Walking Group 11am Dersingham and Ingoldisthorpe, meet at Dersingham Library. Helena Aldis 07769 850965 / Mike Rogers 07765 571313 | 12 | Sandringham Visitor Centre. Friends of King's Lynn |
| 3 | Violinist Joo Yeon Sir accompanied by Irina Andrievsky at St Mary's Snettisham at 7pm Tickets £15 from the Grapes Gallery, or online www.thefriendsofstmarys.co.uk | 12 | Samaritans Annual Bike Ride. Registration 9.30am. 8 miles or 14 miles. Optional fancy dress theme is Musicals. Free refreshments, just bring your bike. For details please contact June Bassett on 07708 443222 |
| 3 | United Services Club Hunstanton entertainment: Dancing to Graham James starts 8.30pm | 12 | Cliff Parade Bowls Club (EBA Rules) Home game v Caters Park 11am |
| 4 | Star Wars event at Hunstanton Library 10am-1pm | 12 | Docking Walking Group 11am Brancaster Staithe, Barrow |
| 4 | Cliff Parade Bowls Club (EBA Rules) Home game – Club Mixed Triples 11am | 12 | Common and Coast Path meet at The Jolly Sailor PH Helena Aldis 07769 850965 / Mike Rogers 07765 571313 |
| 4 | Ringstead Village Club annual plant sale and coffee morning from 10am-Midday at Ringstead Village Hall | 13 | Arts Society of NW Norfolk lecture at Sedgeford Village Hall 2pm 'The GPO Film Unit – the Birth of Documentary Films. Call 01485 570755 to book a seat |
| 4 | Blossom Day at Hunstanton Community Centre | 13 | Hunstanton Book Club 2.30 Hunstanton Library. |
| 4 | Hunstanton Conservative Club entertainment: Dancing to Mike Shelby | 14 | Walk at Talk Group meet at Hunstanton Library 2pm. Refreshments at Library after the walk. |
| 4 | United Services Club Hunstanton entertainment: Dancing to Low Rider City Rockers starts 8.30pm | 14 | Brancaster Camera Club A talk by local photographer, Ian Ward on his trip 'Around China' Our meetings take place in Brancaster Staithe Village Hall at 7.30pm. Entrance is £3 to include refreshments. Visitors are always welcome. Contact Jim Till on 01485 210013 or Wendy Calow on 01553 674725 |
| 4-5 | The Makers Mark at Thornham Village Hall 10-4pm Free entry, Café. Sale of original work by craftsmen & artisans. | 15 | Stanhoe and Barwick WI 2.30pm: Tea at Taylors, Fakenham. Booking required. Valerie (01485 576261) or Pamela (01485 518033) |
| 5 | Cliff Parade Bowls Club (EBA Rules) Home game 2.30pm | 15 | Who Dunnit Book Club 5.30pm Hunstanton Library. Crime books/TV/Films discussed. Refreshments provided. |
| 5-6 | Docking Heritage Group Local History Fair at the Ripper Hall, Docking 10-4pm | 15 | Cliff Parade Bowls Club (EBA Rules) 6.30 Mens League Home game v West Winch |
| 6 | David Young www.solosaxclarinet.com playing live music at the Bandstand on the Green, Hunstanton | 15 | Hunstanton & District Civic Society talk, Hunstanton Town Hall 7.30pm 'History of King's Lynn Waites' by the chief wait Mr Chris Gutteridge. Entrance fee Members - £1, Non-Members - £4 (includes refreshments). |
| 7 | Docking Walking Group 6pm Walsingham and Great Walsingham meet at Coach Park (£) Helena Aldis 07769 850965 / Mike Rogers 07765 571313 | 17 | Docking Walking Group 11am Holkham Beach and Coast Path meet in Village Car Park. Helena Aldis 07769 850965 / Mike Rogers 07765 571313 |
| 8 | Taster Day at Heacham Lawn Tennis Club FREE for all ages: 4.30-5.30 School years 3,4 and 5, 5.30-6.30 Years 6-11, 6.30-8.30 Adults and any Juniors in Years 12 and 13. | 17 | United Services Club Hunstanton entertainment: Dancing to Graham James starts 8.30pm |
| 8 | Quiet Time at Hunstanton Library 6-7pm | 17 | Anmer Village Social Club Film Night presents THE FAVOURITE Anmer Village Social Club Admission £3 at the door Doors and bar opens at 7.30 pm. Film 8pm Email: films@anmerclub.co.uk or telephone 01485 579465. |
| 9 | Knit & Natter 10.30-12.30 at Hunstanton Library. Refreshments provided. | 18 | Cliff Parade Bowls Club (EBA Rules) Home game v Old Newton BC 11am |
| 10 | United Services Club Hunstanton entertainment: Country Night with Mervin and Maria starts 8.30pm | | |
| 11 | Snettisham Beach Sailing Club annual Open Day from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm, as part of the RYA national initiative "Push The Boat Out" to promote sailing. Everyone is welcome to come along and try sailing in – all for free! | | |
| 11 | Teddy Bear Story Time at 10:30am at Hunstanton Library. No need to book. | | |

Continued overleaf...

- 18 Come and Try afternoon at Hunstanton Bowls Club, Recreation Ground, Cromer Road, Hunstanton 1.30-4.30pm. Flat soled shoes must be worn on the lawns. Pat 01485 570889 or Sarah 01485 579542
- 18 Musicals in May, a concert at St Edmund's Church Hunstanton at 7pm by Hunstanton Concert Band £5 at the door. All proceeds to St Edmund's Church to fund a kitchen area in the back of the church and ongoing repairs.
- 18 Hunstanton Conservative Club entertainment: Quiz Night
- 18 United Services Club Hunstanton entertainment: Dancing to Dream Street starts 8.30pm
- 19 Hunstanton mini triathlon starting with swim at Oasis and then an 18km circuit around the town followed by a run.
- 20 Sedgeford Primary School Open Morning 9-11am Call 01485 570997
- 20 Crochet Along 10.30-noon at Hunstanton Library. Experienced and Novices welcome
- 20 U3A meeting Community Hall, Hunstanton 2.00 pm - Speaker Sarah Fairbrother on the History of Family Law.
- 20 Heacham History Group, Old Friends Hall, Sunnyside Close, Heacham, PE31 7DU. 7.15 pm AGM and a talk on "Norfolk Saffron" by Dr Sally Francis. Admission £3 (Members £2) including refreshments.
- 21 Cliff Parade Bowls Club (EBA Rules) Home game - Past Presidents' Trophy 2pm
- 21 Docking Walking Group 6pm Gypsy Lane and Brancaster Beach meet at Titchwell Church. Helena Aldis 07769 850965 / Mike Rogers 07765 571313
- 21 Brancaster Camera Club Battle with North Norfolk PS. Judge Dave Jordan FRPS. Brancaster Staithe Village Hall at 7.30pm. Entrance is £3 to include refreshments. Contact Jim Till on 01485 210013 or Wendy Calow on 01553 674725 for more information.
- 22 Library Friends Meeting at Hunstanton Library 5pm.
- 22 Coding Club at Hunstanton Library 5-6pm. Learn about coding and share skills with others
- 23 parkrun public meeting 7pm at Hunstanton Sailing Club.
- 23 Norfolk Wildlife Trust illustrated talk: Butterflies of Norfolk \$by Andy Brazil, County Recorder. 7.30pm at Hunstanton Methodist Church Hall, Austin St.
- 24 Journaling for Wellbeing at Hunstanton Library 1.30-2.30
- 24 United Services Club Hunstanton entertainment: Dancing to Mike Fox starts 8.30pm
- 25 Elmer Day Story Time at Hunstanton Library 10:30am
- 25 Syderstone Village Cinema presents Bohemian Rhapsody (12A) Amy Robsart Village Hall, Syderstone PE31 8SD 7.30pm Advance tickets £3.50 Tel. 01485 578171 or 01485 578244 Email cinema@syderstone.com
- 25 Hunstanton Conservative Club entertainment: Dancing to Mark Steele
- 25 United Services Club Hunstanton entertainment: Dancing to Shake Rattle and Roll starts 8.30pm
- 25-26 Textiles in Action at Thornham Village Hall Exhibition of Design Challenge entries Norfolk Open Studios Event and Arts Trail. 10-4 Free entry, café.
- 25-1 Art Trail - Norfolk and Norwich Studios www.nnopenstudios.org.uk
- 26 Vegan Festival at Hunstanton Town Hall 10am-4pm
- 26 Cliff Parade Bowls Club (EBA Rules) Home game Mens and Ladies Triples 11am
- 26 Docking Walking Group 11am Coxford Abbey meet by cara van park off A148 Tattersett. Helena Aldis 07769 850965 / Mike Rogers 07765 571313
- 26 Open Gardens at Sedgeford 12-5pm.
- 26-27 Dersingham Open Gardens & Art Trail 11-5pm
- 27 David Young www.solosaxclarinet.com playing live music at the Bandstand on the Green, Hunstanton
- 27 Peace Pole painting workshop on the Green Hunstanton.
- 27 Busker's Corner returns to the Heritage Gardens Hunstanton from 11.00am. It all takes place next to the Victorian Pavilion (the Crazy Golf Hut).
- 27 Blooms, Bling and Books Bonanza at The Village Hall, Holme-next-the-Sea. Sally Burr 01485 525778

- 28 Dersingham Village Screen, Dersingham Village Centre 7.30PM - "Sully"
- 29 Time for Stories at Hunstanton Library 10.30am
- 31 Docking Walking Group 11am Ringstead and Peddars Way meet at The Gin Trap PH. Helena Aldis 07769 850965 / Mike Rogers 07765 571313
- 31 Mela Quartet, a classical guitar ensemble who trained together at the Guildhall School of Music in London, perform at All Saints' Waterden at 7pm Tickets, £10 including buffet supper, from Sarah Prince-White 07775084312 or princewhites@btinternet.com
- 31 United Services Club Hunstanton entertainment: Presenting Richard Whymark (Comedian) starts 8.30pm

PLEASE NOTE: Copy date for entries into the June diary is 12th May. This is also the copy date for editorial and advertisements.

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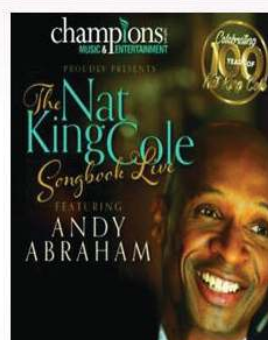
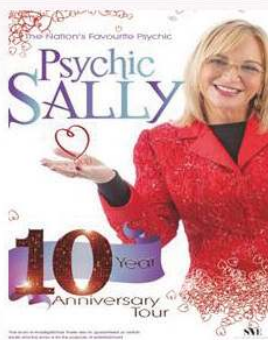
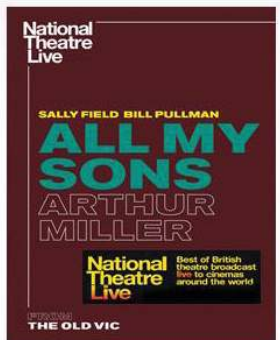
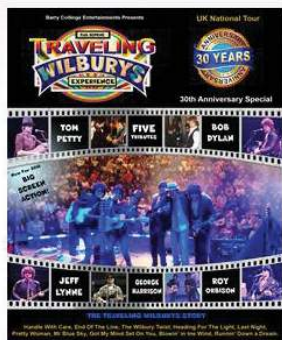


Saturday 4th

Sunday 5th

Tuesday 7th

Wednesday 8th

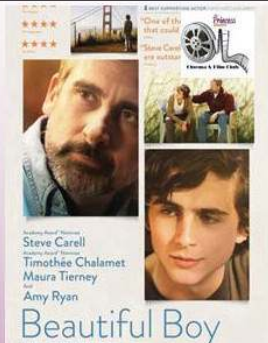
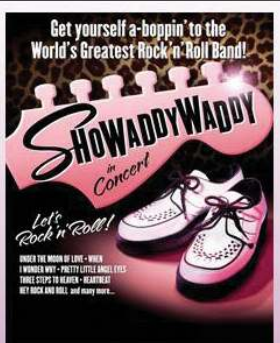


Saturday 11th

Tuesday 14th

Friday 17th

Sunday 19th



Tuesday 21st

Friday 24th

Tuesday 28th

Ticket Booking Hotline: 01485 53 22 52

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