

TOWN and AROUND

ISSUE 204 OCTOBER 2022

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First word



Hello and welcome to the first issue of Town and Around in this new Carolean era. It is also the 17th birthday issue of the magazine.

Pictures of the flowers at Sandringham, memories of our late Queen and the Proclamation of King Charles III, who is pictured on the cover, are in this edition alongside local news and views and regular columns. There was a lot to fit in and I'd like to thank everyone who has contributed items for inclusion.

The October diary has moved to page 73 this month, it's not an exhaustive list and more can be found on our website.

As we went to print the news that Snettisham Primary has been praised by Ofsted for its well planned learning environment and challenging curriculum reached us. Congratulations to Head Teacher Louise Jackson, the staff and especially the children who were described as friendly and polite.

On a personal note, after two postponements because of Covid regulations, our family celebrated the marriage of Jack and Rhiannon at Sandringham Church on 17th September. The very happy couple now begin their new adventure together on Orkney.



With all best wishes

Elaine

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Town and Around

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Crowds at Hunstanton's reading of the proclamation of accession

Hundreds of people gathered at the town's War Memorial on the afternoon of Sunday 11th September for the reading of the Proclamation of the Accession of King Charles III.



Credit: Chris Bishop

Representing Norfolk's Lord Lieutenant, the Lady Dannatt, Deputy Lieutenant Kathryn Buscall led the procession from the Town Hall with Hunstanton's Mayor Cllr Maureen Howard to the Esplanade Gardens where people had gathered around the War Memorial.



Photo: T&A

Mrs Buscall welcomed the crowd and spoke in memory of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Former Mayor Cllr Adrian Winnington gave the eulogy to Her Majesty and the Mayor laid a wreath and read the proclamation.

The crowd, including crew from the RNLI, the Coastguard and many former service people responded loudly to the call for three cheers for the King by another former Mayor Cllr Tony Bishop before prayers were said by Rev Kirsty Allen.

Sarah Mallett led the singing of the national anthem.



Credit: Chris Bishop

Residents and carers from Norfolk Lodge had a good view of the event from their position next to the path in the gardens.



Photo: T&A

Standing from left: Sangeetha, Alice and Aisha. Seated from left: Daphne, Coral and Joan. Photo: T&A

Turning 96 next week, Daphne was living in Leagrave, Luton at the time of the coronation in 1952 and she said: "I was born the same year as the Queen and I remember the coronation well; she was a lovely Queen." Turning 96 the week after the proclamation, Daphne was living in Leagrave, Luton at the time of the coronation in 1952 and she said: "I was born the same year as the Queen and I remember the coronation well; she was a lovely Queen."

Although she was working on the day of the coronation Coral remembers how beautiful the Queen was and Joan said: "I watched it on television, it was very exciting, and the set was very small."

All the ladies were delighted to be at the proclamation agreeing it was an important day in history.

Meanwhile the sea of flowers at Sandringham continued to grow.



Credit: Ian Burt

Earlier in King's Lynn, the Mayor of King's Lynn & West Norfolk, Cllr Lesley Bambridge, read the proclamation outside King's Lynn Town Hall.





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Are self-driving cars safe?

Abigail Brown

Fully autonomous cars dominating our roads may seem like a scene from a futuristic sci-fi film, but we are closer to this becoming reality than you may wish to believe.

Driverless cars have remained a thing of the distant future for some years, but the Department for Transport (DfT) has said the first self-driving cars could be ready for use on UK roads this year.

Should we be nervous or excited about this development? There are both pros and cons to consider.

Pros:

Reduced human error

"Algorithms can't get drunk, drowsy or distracted," said the BBC. And, they're right. This technology's primary goal is to create safer vehicles than human-driven cars. Self-driving cars will keep a close eye on speed and maintain a safe distance from other moving cars. The DfT believes these automated cars could improve safety, with more than 85% of road accidents in the UK caused by human error.

Fuel efficiency

Driverless vehicles could be better for our planet. Many models in the making run on

electricity, and even the way they drive is beneficial. The BBC states, "They accelerate and brake more smoothly, which ultimately reduces exhaust pipe emissions."

Increased accessibility and independence

Automated vehicles could offer "life-changing benefits to people with disabilities." They would also help older people deemed unsafe to drive ordinary cars on UK roads due to diminishing eyesight or mobility.

Cons:

Slow-moving traffic

Research by GreenBiz has indicated that it could encourage "a lot more driving in the US." A lot more people (as assumed by those who weren't able to drive previously will be able to) and longer distances. The first self-driving cars may have to remain in the slow lane, only reaching up to 37mph while in a single lane. Until the technology progresses, these slow speeds could cause a problem or a lot of road rage!

Hacking risks

We know from experience with desktop computers and mobile phones that all similar

technology is at risk of being hacked. Unfortunately, it's a "near-certainty that self-driving cars will be hacked, too." The AI systems responsible for controlling autonomous vehicles are vulnerable to attacks that could compromise their function and pose a risk to drivers, passengers and pedestrians.

Different road variations

While a brand-new dual carriageway may be ideal for a driverless vehicle, narrow, winding lanes in rural areas, for example, could pose a challenge. Self-driving cars use radar, camera and laser-based guidance to navigate different environments safely. Still, the more complex the road, the more processing power is needed to understand it.

Do the pros outweigh the cons or vice versa? The answer at the moment is unclear - until these vehicles are on the road, we won't know. However, as a garage, it will undoubtedly be interesting to learn how to service these automated cars in the future!

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Lions donate books and birdboxes to nine West-Norfolk schools

School children and their teachers filled Hunstanton Library on Wednesday 14th September where Hunstanton and District Lions presented them with sets of books described as the number one children's book series on ocean plastics, climate change and humans relationship with animals.



Children from Heacham, Snettisham, Sandringham & West Newton, Ingoldisthorpe and Flitcham schools with their teachers Louise Prosser, Joanna Westmorland, Melanie Gibson, Christine Hall and Clare Brice with Lions Paul Southerton, Sharon Noble and Jane Scott

Lion Paul Southerton explained: "This is part of a nationwide programme; about four years ago Lions Clubs came up with the idea of making the set of four books available for pupils in infant and junior schools and the content of these was all about protecting the environment, which is one of our global causes.

"Since the initial launch of the set, three more have been added so there is now a set of seven with the possibility of another one being added in the future.

"Our club is donating a complete set to: Hunstanton, Heacham, Docking, Brancaster, Snettisham, Sandringham and West Newton, Dersingham, Ingoldisthorpe, and Flitcham schools at a cost of £40 a set."



Following the presentation by Lions President Sharon Noble, Lion Jane Scott and Paul, there was a further surprise as bird box making kits were produced for the youngsters and teachers and their teachers to put together and take back to their schools where they can be decorated, installed and then photographed to be entered into a competition with a prize for the best one.

"These boxes are simple to construct and cost less than £2 to make," added Paul.



K. Brown

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Medical and first aid supplies for Ukraine

You may have read Chris Bishop's article on page 4 of the September issue of Town and Around. Here Mykola (Nick) and Nataliya give us an update on their fundraising activities.

Nataliya said: "Thank you to everybody who gave a donation or ordered a tee-shirt or bag at the Old Hunstanton flower festival, £300.00 was raised from donations and so far the total for tee-shirts is again £300.00"

An energy expert and founder of the NGO New Generation Management, Nick has been involved in charity projects since 2009 for the country's orphanages and children's homes, and educational projects for schools in Ukraine. Now he is working as a volunteer for the Ukrainian military. He said: "We have already raised [\$5500] and bought Nissan X-Trail 4x4, filled it with medical supplies and an electricity generator, sent it to the eastern part of Ukraine and handed it over to the army.

"Now we are raising funds to buy a Land Rover Defender to fill with medical supplies and perhaps a generator; the Defender is the ideal vehicle to tackle the terrain and it can get through to assist injured people where ambulances would get stuck."

If you would like to make a donation towards this please go to the just giving page at:



Credit: Chris Bishop

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/mykola-voytiv>

The project is called Defender for the defenders of Ukraine.

"Thank you again for all your donations towards helping Ukraine," the couple added.

International junior sailors at Snettisham Beach Sailing Club

Youngsters from Ukraine, Estonia, the USA and Japan are sailing at one of the leading watersports clubs on the East coast.

Vlad Klimov is a 15 year old Ukranian guest staying with member Guy Tasker since he arrived with his mother Tanya in May 2022. He had his first sail with Guy in August 2022 and since then took part in Cadet Week at the club and is now really at home and enjoying solo sailing in a Topper. Although he hopes he doesn't have to stay here for long, getting into sailing is really helping to make the best use of Vlad's time in the UK.



Vlad Klimov sailing a Topper on the RSPB lake at Snettisham Beach SC. Credit: Guy Tasker

Equally welcome are Eric and Karl Tallinn, twin brothers from Estonia who are both starting 2 years at Greshams' School this Autumn and want to carry on their high standard of single handed Laser sailing. Their mother Anneka and dad sought out the club and came for a look around to see what was on offer. Happy with what they saw, they've bought the boys some very decent used boats and joined the club.

Meanwhile the USA and Japan is home to some of the SBSC Cadet Week kids this year. Commodore Adrian Tebbutt said:

"It's really encouraging and interesting to have young sailors from abroad coming to the Club. We're not quite sure why it's happening. I guess people are hearing about us and like what they hear! People around the world see all the Olympic gold medals and world champion sailors that the UK produces and know it's special, and when they land in our part of the world, they seek out what in all modesty I think is the very best Club to learn to sail and improve your sailing!"



Left to right: Guy Tasker, Jennie Tasker, Vlad Klimov, Tanya Klimov. Credit: Guy Tasker



Left to right SBSC Commodore Adrian Tebbutt, Anneka Tallinn, and her twin sons Eric and Karl Tallinn at SBSC with their new Lasers. Credit: Adrian Tebbutt



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News from The Woottons

Richard Coates

Last month I was able to include a photo of myself with Conservative Party leadership contender Liz Truss. For this month, I wanted to include a similar photo of myself with the other contender Rishi Sunak but I've not managed that. My wife and I went to the Norwich hustling hoping to get a photo and I'd emailed in advance, asking for 30 seconds with him for a photo for Town & Around magazine but his campaign team weren't impressed. We turned up half an hour early to a full carpark, some kind of protest outside (we never did discover what they were protesting about although I did see two or three EU flags amongst the hand painted signs). There was also a large police presence there. Both candidates spoke well but then they'd had plenty of practice as they'd both done many of these hustings before the Norwich one. With the large numbers there, I wasn't able to raise my local questions. But now that Liz Truss has won the race to be the leader of the Conservative Party and the Queen has invited her to form a Government, I'll remind her of the commitments she gave earlier

about a new hospital for King's Lynn.

You can tell when that I wrote that paragraph: it was in that very short couple of days between Liz Truss becoming Prime Minister and the death of our Queen. Just a casual mention of "the Queen" as we've all mentioned her so many times over so many years - but our Queen no more. Very much the end of an era but an era like no other. 70 years of change, not just for the Royal Family, not just for the country but 70 years of change for The Woottons. What were The Woottons like 70 years ago in 1952? I often think of myself as a "new boy" in The Woottons, an incomer, yet I realise I've lived here - in the same house - for exactly half of the Queen's reign. Most of the big developments had already taken place by 1987 when I came to The Woottons. It was in the first half of the Queen's reign that The Woottons developed to the size it is now. 70 years ago in 1952 there were none of the large estates we have now. There was no King's Lynn by-pass. No Edward Benefer Way. The main road to the coast went right through The Woottons. From Gaywood clock,

along Wootton Road and Castle Rising Road, past the King's Lynn Golf Club, through Castle Rising, past the almshouses and the now wooden gate across the private road. That route used to carry all the holiday traffic to and from the coast! Sometime, those who have moved to Hunstanton or the many villages between there and King's Lynn, might like to try driving the old route to see what it was like!

The Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk are launching a new, community led initiative to help boost renewable energy generation and save on energy bills. The main part is to organise a group buying scheme for those who want to have solar panels fitted to their roof to generate free electricity. Why do I mention that in News from The Woottons? Well, we had solar panels fitted to our roof here in the Woottons 11 years ago in the very early days of solar panels when hardly anyone knew what they were. At that time the salesman suggested a return on our money of 16%! I couldn't accept such a ridiculously high figure but then I couldn't find any fault in the calculation either, so, in the end,



we had the panels installed. Since then I've kept accurate monthly readings over the past 11 years. So if anyone wants to know the actual figures that they are likely to get in The Woottons from solar panels, I've got a good starting point. Just email me richardcoates@inbox.com. Was that salesman's 16% prediction accurate? For once, the salesman's prediction was spot on! You can't get that kind of return these days as the "Feed in Tariff" is no longer available but, with today's high electricity prices, it could well be that installing solar panels makes better sense than having money in the bank, particularly if you're at home during the daytime. Of course, the sun shines on The Woottons just the same as it does at Hunstanton and all the villages in West Norfolk so if anyone wants my figures, they can contact me. richardcoates@inbox.com

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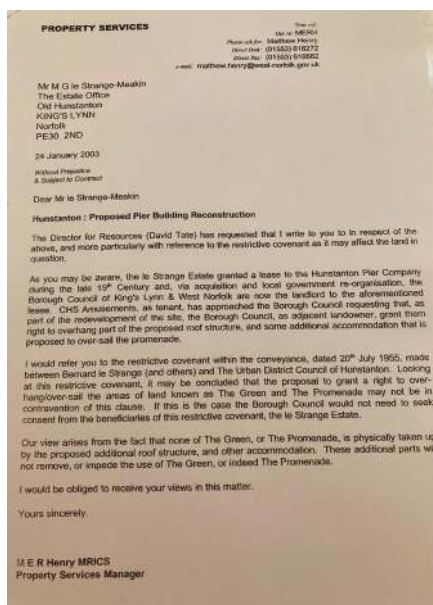
By John Maiden

It came as quite a treat to read Stuart Dark's contribution to last month's Town & Around, not least because it began with an apology for failing to provide the update sooner. It was also interesting to discover a possible reason why Mr Dark does not even 'acknowledge' emails from anyone daring to suggest that past mistakes must be corrected in order to move forward.

He seems to believe that if he continues to ignore past mistakes, which have already led to some senior council officers losing their jobs, those of us demanding remedial action will either give up or die. It is for such people that I refuse to give up! For example, Bryan Bullivant served on the Tory Cabinet from 2003 to 2007 when a terminal illness forced him to retire. In one of his last emails to me he complained that if the council went back on its word, by attempting to vary the terms of a 999-year lease, his 4 years as a borough councillor would have been wasted!

In 2003, Sam Staveley, a local solicitor representing a 'Hunstanton Pier Company', stated in a letter to the council that it would be impossible to vary the terms of the 999-year lease for the pier. In spite of this the council went ahead with the charade in 2009; thereby adding weight to the argument that if mistakes are not identified and corrected there is every chance they will be repeated. Mr Staveley was not the first lawyer to imply that if the lease in question is for a structure that no longer exists, the lease has no valid purpose and should be surrendered.

This was drawn to the attention of the council by Graham Sinclair, an external barrister called in by the borough council in September 2002, after the council's own Head of Legal & Property Services had left rather suddenly to take up a post in Gloucestershire. To this day he refuses to tell me if this was also his advice to the council



prior to his abrupt departure. Ironically, it was at this time that an unauthorised 'Task Group' was agreeing in secret to the removal of a proposed 'pier' structure from a Planning Application, which had been approved by the planning committee just days before!

Bryan Bullivant could never understand why an incoming conservative administration failed to correct the glaring mistakes made by the labour controlled council it replaced in early May 2003. However, four years later he did have the satisfaction of seeing the "reinstatement of Hunstanton Pier" included in regeneration plans for the resort. This was followed within days by the sale of the 'non-pier' to a businessman from Hastings who was ready to do battle with the borough council, in pursuit of a Deed of Variation! This would purportedly release him from the obligation

to make and maintain the pier specified in a Pier Lease, which still had more than 800 years left to run!

Describing a hangar-shaped, three-story amusement arcade as "Hunstanton Pier" is probably enough to convince the current Head of Property Services that this monstrosity is compliant with the Pier Lease and planning policies affecting Conservation Areas. The fact that he refuses to put his warped opinion in writing suggests otherwise. After all, he was the person who in January 2003 claimed, in an email to the le Strange Estate (pictured above) that the extra land to be taken up by the proposed new 'pier' was to permit aerial encroachment, and would not affect The Green, or the public Promenade, at ground level!

If this is not sufficient evidence to convince Mr Dark that it is time to rethink his current policy of 'covering up', perhaps someone needs to call in a similar watchdog to the one referred to in the following report:

"A watchdog has described the Metropolitan Police's approach to tackling corruption within their ranks as 'fundamentally flawed' and 'not fit for purpose'. These 'damning' findings were published on March 22nd 2022. The findings reported that the Metropolitan Police has not learned lessons from an unsolved case in 1987 - the murder of private investigator Daniel Morgan. It described the force's approach to its own corrupt staff as 'flawed' and said it had a 'degree of indifference' to them. The home secretary called in Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) following an independent inquiry into the Met's handling of Mr Morgan's case. It found it was institutionally corrupt and had concealed or denied failings to protect its reputation..."

Development and car parking in Hunstanton

Alfie Rake

My family and I live in Seagate Rd. I think it was about 10 years ago when the planning application for the development of the Kit-Kat site was first discussed and after several meeting with the local residents and the Town Council we convinced the HTC that having a 6 story block of flats on the site was not good for Hunstanton and especially the locals who live in Seagate and Seagate Rd. Yet despite the 31 objections to the development including the HTC, the planning was still passed.

The site has been sold several times in the proceeding years and the development plans have been changed each time with no consultation with the locals (who still object to the development).

The new owner of the site seems to want to get the development up ASAP as on the 25th Aug a rather large digger appeared on the site along with the electricity board building a new substation, on the residents right of way, to supply the new development with electricity.

It would appear that the development will go ahead no matter what the residents say or do I just wonder what benefit the town will get out of having a 6-story block of flats on the seafront. This now combined with the development of the car park site some 150m away makes you wonder why we have planning department at all as this development also was opposed by the vast majority of the locals who have to suffer the daily battle with the holiday makers who seem to be able to afford new cars but cannot afford to pay to park them. This is only going to get a lot worse with these two new developments as in the plans there does not seem to be enough parking spaces for the number of people who will live in these new developments, putting even more pressure on the existing local residents.

The Borough Council now want to sell off the Oasis for redevelopment - is this going to be another block of flats!! and my final point is why is the money generated in Hunstanton not being used to redevelop Hunstanton instead of redeveloping Kings Lynn?

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'FAR HORIZONS' PAULA HALLAM EXHIBITION, 1-7 NOVEMBER, 2022

Paula Hallam's autumn exhibition 'Far Horizons' will feature a collection of paintings born out of a desire to use colour with landscape in a more abstract and gestural manner, to form more immediate and visceral works.

Memory, place and the weather are imbued together with expressive and sometimes abstract results.

Paula said: "I wish to move the viewer with feeling and colour rather than enforce a world view or ideology," she says. "During the last few years, Norfolk has become a vital part of my inspiration and practice. The far reaching skies and landscapes, uncluttered by human activity help me to feel connected to the land and enables me to create moments of wholeness in our increasingly cluttered lives."

West Acre Gallery, River Rd, West Acre, King's Lynn PE32 1UA



One phone call is all it takes...

A couple who started their plumbing and heating business in 1999, and moved to Norfolk just four years ago, have established a reputation for quality work and aftercare that is second to none.



Having completed a traditional City & Guilds apprenticeship Adrian Taverna is a man with a professional approach. "He won't compromise or take short cuts, and he'll never promise anything he can't deliver," says Michaela.

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Michaela says: "Lockdown presented opportunities for us to widen the scope of the business and add on our maintenance services.

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A Dog Friendly Trip around Scotland

My sisters and I are always barking about how pawsome it is here in Norfolk because it is sooo woof friendly. Humans can visit so many places here with their furry friends. Now, I have been doing a lot of research lately and I have discovered that a place called Scotland up north apparently is also very welcoming when it comes to us doggies, so we went to find out more.

Having packed our doggy chunks and duvets, we set off in our pawrents' motorbone, with Ziggy Bear doing the steering and me feverishly working the pedals. I told BB Junior Repawter, Clara, she had to stay at home and do some filing – needless to say she was not too pleased! We decided to visit the Scottish South West Coastal which is a 300 mile trip around some of Scotland's most beautiful scenery. A lot of people may know about the 500 mile journey around the Highlands further north starting in Inverness, but we wanted to check out this lesser well known route. We were not disappointed!

We headed towards the market town of Dumfries – what a silly name for a place! Why are the chips so stupid there, I wondered?

The great thing about Scotland is that provided you are sensible and respect the environment you can park up in the most beautiful of locations, beside the sea and the lochs, in the hills or on mountain tops – you are absolutely spoilt for choice. There are so many great places to explore!

We began by taking in a bit of culture – well, you can't always run about madly on a beach - and visited Sweetheart Abbey (Good name, eh?) in a place called New Abbey. We were allowed to walk around and sniff all the lovely smells there. Soon afterwards we parked up at a campsite in a little place called Sandyhills which was totally pawsome. You can see the Cumbrian coastline from here and go for long walks when the tide is out. The weather was sunny and although very warm it was much cooler than it had been down south, and therefore more



enjoyable and a better climate for us woof woofs to play in. We found a spot practically on the beach which we were well chuffed about. The villages of Portling Bay and Rockcliffe on the coast nearby are also well worth a visit.

Further west we drove through the busy harbour town of Kirkcudbright (pronounced 'Ker-coo-bree') on the Solway coast which apparently has always been popular with artists. I'd like to think I am an intelligent doggy because I can appreciate the blend of medieval, Georgian and Victorian buildings there. I don't just woof, bark, beg for food, demand cuddles and run on beaches all day you know, I do have other interests too and architecture is one of them!

I bet none of you knew that reading is another of my passions ever since my brother, Pupstar, so expertly taught me the alphabet. And hence the reason for our next destination, the little town of Wigtown, which in 1998 was designated as Scotland's national Booktown. Apparently there are over a quarter of a million books to choose from here, old and new, but sadly I didn't find any great doggy books that day. All the places we visited allowed woof woofs in.

We would thoroughly recommend you carry on towards Drummole, the southernmost village in Scotland. This is an ideal base to explore the delights of the peninsula known as the South Rhins of Galloway. It is further south than Newcastle or Carlisle and you can see the Isle of Mann in the distance from certain viewpoints. The little villages of Port Logan Bay and Portpatrick are also worth visiting on this peninsula.

Soon afterwards we headed towards the ferry port of Stranraer and drove through the coastal town of Ayr before travelling back south through some lovely rolling countryside past Loch Doon. We then drove back towards Sandyhills again because we loved this area so much.

All in all we had a thoroughly woofastic time exploring the South West 300. The scenery is varied and you will discover rolling hills, forests, beaches and lochs. It is a 300 mile loop so you can join at any point and also deviate a little and explore other areas. The roads are suitable for both cars and motorbones – if Ziggy Bear can drive us safely around, anyone can! The whole area is very doggy friendly and because it is further north, the weather is much cooler and better for all our furry friends when we want to run about. If any of you humans visit any of these places I am sure you will have a totally pawtastic time, pawticularly if you go with man's best friend because it is a real doggy's paradise!

Woofs Miss Zsa Zsa

Canine Editor at the Barking Bugle

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NEWS FROM BRANCASTER VILLAGE HALL (BVH)

Geoff Wingrove

John Wareham, Chairman of the Trustees, reports that BVH has had a busy and successful summer. He goes on to state that, having reached the end of a beautifully warm and sunny August, thoughts turn to the challenging winter ahead, with the country facing so many issues. However, the regular groups and special events will continue at BVH with the following:

Regular groups

Yoga on Monday evenings
Baby and Toddler Group on Tuesday mornings
Coffee Morning on Wednesday mornings
Line Dancing on Wednesday evenings
Beginner Pilates on Thursday lunchtimes
Mobile Library Van, Quiz Evenings and Food Vans (dates and times on our website)

Special events

Monsters and Kids Halloween Disco	28th October
Charity Jazz Concert	12th November
Brancaster Winter Fair	26th November
Christmas Bingo	9th December
Norwich Puppet Theatre	15th December
Live music with Sidewalk	16th December

You are also invited to visit the shop/Post Office or Bar 71, where you will receive a warm welcome. Bar 71 is particularly interested in anyone who is keen to take part in pool, darts or table skittles. The shop has introduced fresh sourdough bread and pastries baked at Gurney's new bakehouse in Thornham – they are delicious!

For further information on all the activities at BVH, please visit our website: www.brancastervillagehall.co.uk and for enquiries: brancastervillagehallcommunitybookings.co.uk

From Brancaster Village Hall Archive

BRANCASTER – A FLYING EXPERIENCE

Today the sight and sound of RAF and USAF military aircraft circling over Brancaster is an everyday experience - and sometimes an irritant, as the roar of jet engines at occasionally low level can be hard on the ears. The planes come from RAF Marham in Norfolk, RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire or RAF Lakenheath, a USAF base in Suffolk. The Wash area still provides an important range for testing ordnance for both air forces at RAF Holbeach at its western edge.

It may surprise many to know that military aircraft have been a regular sight over the village for over a hundred years. This has mainly been due to the presence of three airfields in the region: Sedgeford (ca 1915-1919), Docking (ca1940-1946) and Bircham Newton (ca1918-1962).

SEDFORD AIRFIELD

Sedgeford Airfield opened during 1915 as a base for the Royal Navy



Air Service. It was originally concerned with the air defence of Great Britain, mainly from Zeppelin airships, as Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty, had volunteered the RNAS for this role, since the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) was overwhelmingly based in France. In 1916 the airfield was transferred to the RFC, who used it as a training ground for pilots going to fight on the Western Front in France. The airfield was closed in 1918/19 and reverted to farmland, although many of the airfield buildings remained. The site was used in the 1940s as a fake airfield to fool German bombers.

DOCKING AIRFIELD

This airfield is closest to Brancaster and opened in 1940 as a satellite RAF Coastal Command facility for Bircham Newton. Docking was a small grass airfield with basic accommodation for about 1000 personnel. It carried out a range of Coastal Command duties including reconnaissance, anti-shipping strikes and meteorological roles. The most important of these was the last, which – although much underrated – was crucial both to the bombing raids on Germany and the success of the D-Day invasion in 1944. A variety of aircraft undertook these duties, and would have been regular sights over Brancaster village in the 1940s. Perhaps the most common would have been the Avro Anson and the Lockheed Hudson, both crucial in Coastal Command operations. At the end of the war the roles Docking performed were transferred to RAF Langham, just south of Stiffkey in Norfolk. Today some buildings remain on the site, but this now being farmland, these are not accessible without permission from the farmer.

BIRCHAM NEWTON AIRFIELD

This was the largest and most important airfield in this area. It was built and opened in 1916 as a training base for pilots on the Western Front. It developed as a heavy bomber base in 1918 using the giant Handley Page bombers which were designed to bomb Germany; the war ended before this plan was enacted. During the 1920s the airfield continued as a bomber base and was expanded and developed in the 1930s; a number of buildings from this era survive today.

In 1936 Bircham Newton transferred to Coastal Command and also became a training base. Following this, the airfield became operational, with the Avro Anson and Lockheed Hudson being the standard aircraft used to carry out anti-shipping patrol duties, reconnaissance and air/sea rescue missions.

The airfield played an important role in the Second World War, with a wide range of aircraft operating from the base. At the end of the war there was little use for a grass airstrip and, after fulfilling a training function, the base was closed in 1962 to become the National Construction College. The airfield is well worth a visit, as many buildings still exist and there is a museum on site, open during the summer months.



The pictures show from left the commemorative tablets at Bircham Newton and Docking, and the Heritage Centre at Bircham Newton. (For information, the RAF came into being in 1918, formed from the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service.) If you would like to know more, do visit the online websites, which contain a great deal more information.



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1st Hunstanton Rainbow unit

Let me introduce myself, my name is Pixie Owl / Nicky and I'm currently a leader in training with the 1st Hunstanton Rainbow unit. I work alongside Snowy Owl / Carol who is the unit leader and together we provide an hour of fun on a weekly basis.

We are already into our new term of fun activities so I thought I'd let you know what we have planned in the coming weeks.

We are learning about charities, what they are, the work they do and how they help others, which is important to Rainbows as helping others is part of the Rainbow promise.

Keeping with the charity theme, we're planning a visit from a wildlife charity helper to talk to the Rainbows about how we can help the wildlife with food and shelter in the autumn and winter months.

Sometimes at Rainbows we like to do a kitchen activity so this term we will be making some cracker pizzas with lots of different toppings available, I wonder what the girls will choose?

We will also be seed planting so the Rainbows can watch the seedling grow and eventually plant it out in the garden as well as badge making, stories and drawing and colouring in.

In December there will be Christmas craft activities finishing with a Christmas party.

So all in all a busy time ahead!!

Finally we would like to say a big thank you to the manager and community champion of Heacham Tescos for their donation of Pritt stick glues to our unit.

If you are interested in joining Girl Guiding please look at the Girl Guiding website for more information.

Stanhoe & Barwick WI

Thursday 6th October: Andrew Tatham, "I shall not be away long". The First World War letters from an officer to his family.

Thursday 3rd November: Candi Robertson. How non-mango mango chutney became a local success story.

Visitors and potential new members always welcome, £3. Please contact Valerie for further details 01485 576261.

New Hunstanton Women's Institute

The last few months at our meetings we have welcomed Christine Earnshaw with The Origins of Our Surnames, a member's meeting with a quiz and strawberry tea, a Coffee Morning in August and in September a talk on working with children in Africa.

We meet at the Methodist Hall, 4th Thursday in the month at 2.15pm. New members and visitors welcome.

Hunstanton & District Inner Wheel

Sue Trewin, Club Correspondent

The Queen's passing has impacted on all our lives and over the years we have been privileged to see all the members of the Royal family from time to time. For over 70 years the Queen has dedicated her life to service for her country and the Commonwealth with a quiet determination and selfless devotion.

Our President Coral Campbell, on behalf of all the members on our Hunstanton and District Inner Wheel group, wish to send our condolences to the Royal Family at this very sad time.



Following the generosity of the Heacham knitting group, we delivered a large consignment of baby clothes etc to Baby Basics. This was preceded by some Inner Wheel members attending a concert at Heacham Church in aid of Baby Basics. We were entertained by David Young, saxophonist and clarinet player who I first met some while back while waiting to have my car valeted! A useless piece of information but memorable as often these short meetings are.

It occurs to me that hopefully by regularly writing about our Inner Wheel group, some of you might be interested in having further information about joining the club. We have this very day hosted a small gathering of potential new members in my home and it seemed to go well. There is nothing like good quality conversation, lots of laughs and meeting new friends. So here goes - our email address is hunstantoniw56@gmail.com. Please feel free to contact us. We would be delighted to hear from you.

I did mention I would try and interest members in an alpaca trek. It was very popular the first time we did it, the second attempt was called off because the alpacas are fussy about air temperature and don't like it to be too hot. The third attempt more recently was not of interest. I couldn't understand why when I had had a waiting list the previous time. One of our committee members said it was likely to be due to the fact that we are getting old and can't walk so well these days. How depressing is that! Grow sunflowers in your garden. They flourish in poor quality soil regardless and aches and pains should not stop us from doing the same.

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Hunstanton and District Rotary Club

Adrian Evans

After our very successful Norton Hill Railway Weekend event at the end of July, which thanks to the generosity of Mike & Angie Schumann, raised £10,000, the club had a quiet start to August.

Our weekly Business and Fellowship meetings during August consisted of a mixture of club business and friendly banter amongst members, together with planning future events consisting of both social and fundraising activities.

Throughout August members of the Club helped Tapping House by stewarding on several days at the Butterfly Meadow in the grounds of Sandringham House.

At the end of August, we had both a fundraising and social event, Bra Day on Monday 29th Bank Holiday weekend and a club visit to the Thursford Museum on the final day of the month 31st August.

Bra day was held to raise funds for Breast Cancer Research and despite the weather being a mixture of sun and rain we managed to raise over £800 with our bucket collection on the high street in Hunstanton. We had adorned the High Street with bras strung out from the lamp posts and even hung some bras on our Rotary members both male and female.



Rotarians Janet Eastwood and Mary Harpley

They were worn outside of their clothes to preserve some dignity! We owe a debt of gratitude to all the commercial organisations that supported us including Legges, The Copper Kettle, Berni Beans Tea Room, Mr Bun the Baker, The Tapping House Hospice Shop, The Community Shop Heacham, Moss Bakery.

Our visit to Thursford was very enjoyable, and thanks go to the Heacham Social Club for allowing us to use their Minibus to transport 11 club members. We were treated to a half hour performance of music, on the 'Mighty



Rotarians Peter Atterbury and Roger Raven

Wurlitzer', mostly from hit musicals from stage and screen. We then rode on the 'Venetian Gondola Switchback Ride' which was a lot more fun than the roller coaster at Alton Towers with a lot less screaming. The day was completed with a pleasant meal on the way home.

Norton Hill Railway Weekend for the Purfleet Trust

Joy Wylie, Purfleet Trust

We had a great weekend and Norton Hill and are very grateful to Mike & Angela Schumann and all of the volunteers who operated the railway over the weekend.

Both days had a lovely atmosphere with music from David Young on Saturday and The Fakenham Ukes on Sunday. Everyone enjoyed delicious cake all donated to us for the event and on Saturday we were joined by the Rapid Relief Team who cooked up some delicious burgers.

Norton Hill is not only a fantastic fundraiser for us but also a wonderful way to bring the local community together and spread the word about our services for people experiencing homelessness in West Norfolk.

We would like to pass on a very big thank you to all those individuals and organisations who helped us to have such a successful weekend.

Hope to see you all there again next year!



Soap Box Derby to make Easter return to Hunstanton

Nearly 50 home-built karts took part in the last event held in Hunstanton in 2019. The Covid pandemic meant the event was cancelled in 2020. Now the borough council, who organise the event, are launching early to give people plenty of time to work on their Easter-themed creations during the winter months. Karts will need to be ready to race down the streets of Hunstanton on 2 April 2023 - the first weekend of the Easter school holidays.

Cllr Graham Middleton, Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Business, Culture and Heritage, said: "The Soap Box Derby has been held on and off in Hunstanton for over 60 years and always draws a good crowd. It's a day packed with family entertainment, a carnival atmosphere and the chance to watch racing through the streets of Hunstanton."

"We're asking people to pencil in the first Sunday of the Easter holiday, Sunday 2 April 2023, for the event, so we can start the holiday and events season with a massive splash of colour, 'eggitement' and 'eggssilation'. This is going to be an Easter 'eggstravaganza' with more karts than ever and associated activities taking place in the town supporting the event."

The Mayor of Hunstanton Cllr Maureen Howard commented: "Hunstanton Town Council are delighted to see this popular event returning and will work with Borough Council staff in staging it, as required."

The 'eggcellent' course starts on Greevegate, has a few 'eggciting' twists and turns and ends up on Beach Terrace Road. Karts will no doubt have to 'bunny hop' over the bumps and hopefully the 'eggssacting' course won't prove too much for intrepid racers.

Details of the full event will be announced once finalised, but in the meantime, entrants are urged to save the date and get started on their karts and costumes.



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Borough Council News - Heacham, Sedgeford and Fring

Cllr Terry Parish

At the time of writing, the late Queen Elizabeth's coffin lies in state at Edinburgh. Councillor work at the Borough Council has effectively ceased. I joined other councillors for the inauguration ceremony of King Charles III at King's Lynn Town Hall followed by a service at the Minster. Such civic observances are very well managed by the Council's Civic Officers.

Fring

The application for new holiday accommodation proceeds. I note that there are 13 fulsome objections from local residents, both permanent and occasional. This is a lot from such a small community. Comments can be received up to the Thursday before the application is due at planning committee. Two people can then speak against and two for the proposal.

Sedgeford

The Parish Council, as usual, has all matters in hand. Congratulations to them for two more successful Community Infrastructure Levy bids which will benefit all users of the excellent hall.

The application for a solar farm is still in the system. I have called this in for public debate. My own belief is that such farms benefit both the land owner and installer most. To benefit energy users, the public, then solar panels should be installed on house roofs – as part of new builds or retrofitted where homes have the correct alignment. Solar farms, if then desired, should go on land which cannot be farmed. The food 'war' will be coming soon.

Instead of overturning the ban on fracking, perhaps the government should support solar panel

manufacturing in the UK. Most are imported and supply will be a problem.

Heacham

Planning applications abound. There are now 7 in the system for extensions and new builds along North and South Beach. These properties used to be modest but owners, old and new, are intent on making them higher and/or wider with outbuildings to frame them. To my mind this activity in the recent past and now accelerating causes, in their entirety, a very detrimental impact on the Heacham sea front. Instead of sea, shore and dunes it is increasingly becoming a street scene with a tide. (I do, of course, consider each application on its own merits).

A well overdeveloped property at South Beach which expanded more than it should have done, was sold for well over a million pounds last year so you can see the incentive to owners. Pity about impact. There is one application for a completely new property on land where building has been refused twice. A, presumably, new owner has made a fresh application to build holiday accommodation but included with it plans for a 'coast guard tower'. Perhaps hoping this beneficence will drive a tank through planning regulations? I wish Heacham residents would take more notice of the goings on at the beaches. It is a case of 'out of sight, out of mind'.

This is not the case at Hunstanton Road, Heacham. An application for 2 homes on land adjacent to the Park is still hot and has received 57 public objections. A newer application just opposite, for 3 houses adjacent to the woodland and Blackthorn Close,

only one. This may be because the planning notice is pinned up adjacent to the site where there is no footpath and the road has to be crossed. It is important to be aware of what is going on and make your comments, for or against.

Both development proposals are described as 'self-build'. Those of you who visualise owners working through the night sawing, hammering and laying bricks need to be disabused of this fairy tale. The owners will likely choose the colour of the bathroom tiles and that will be the end of their involvement, they can contract builders to do the rest. Self-build is a fiddle to get around paying the Community Infrastructure Levy which was designed, by government, to offset negative responses to development. A bribe to communities to accept house building. 'Self-Build' avoids that so you don't even pick up the official brown envelope

Sewage

There was a meeting with the Environment Agency and Anglian Water. Due to illness, I was not present but was filled in about it. In essence, the cause of poor sea water quality at Heacham beaches is not known and nothing has changed. Another meeting is planned. To be fair to the EA, they do lack resources with only 3 or so officers to manage a vast length of coastline

The blame for very inadequate resources to tackle pollution can be laid on Liz Truss. She was Environment Secretary between 2014 and 2016 and reduced Environment Agency spending by £235million. This included a £24million cut for environmental protection involving surveillance of water companies to prevent the



dumping of raw sewage.

Since 2016, raw sewage discharge in England and Wales has doubled; 24% of sewage overflows at seaside resorts are faulty or non-existent. Greenpeace says. 'Truss has sewage on her hands'.

So glad I am an Independent and, I wonder, if marketing of the expensive developments on the beaches will state, 'Wonderful view of the sea but don't go in it'.

Prescriptions

Problems appear to persist compounded by staffing problems due to illness. No word about any national initiative to address shortages of pharmacists. I discovered that prescriptions given by a doctor, during a consultation, get 'wired' to Boots which may, or may not be open. If you ask for a paper prescription then it can be taken to any chemists. I suggest, if you are in that position, ask your doctor for a paper one. It can be provided by the pharmacy at the doctors, the paper, not, unfortunately, the drug (unless you live in Sedgeford).

The Heacham Group Patient Participation Group has re-formed and I wish organisers and participants well.

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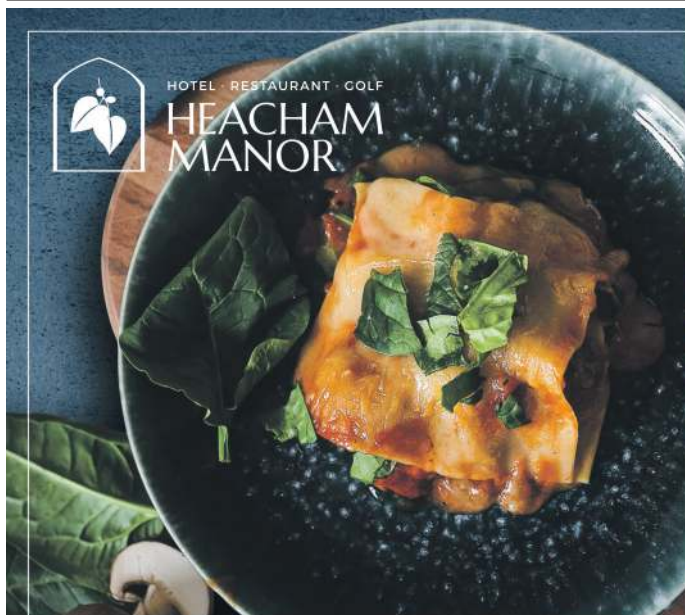
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AN OBJECT OF INTEREST FROM HUNSTANTON HERITAGE CENTRE

This month we are very happy to present the first part of an interview with Hunstanton resident, John Maiden. As you might expect, this interview reported by our member, Margi Blunden is having to be spread over more than one part, so this is Part 1

JOHN MAIDEN THE WORD SMITH – IN AND OUT



The story I am about to share is one of creativity, individuality and words born out of a mixed heritage; one which brought with it the culture of Ireland and the independent spirit of an East Anglian grandmother who was a suffragette.

The determination to follow his own road and be guided by the love of his birthplace and his talent for words, has led John down paths he has wanted to share with others through his individual voice.

He was born on February 2nd 1938 at home at 79 Westgate Hunstanton with Nurse Cooke from Hill Street on hand to prevent him from strangling himself in his umbilical cord! And there with his arrival I will leave this new born infant for the moment and build for you a picture of all the people in his family who had such an influence on him and his life.

If you look up Fellows Hall, Armagh in the North of Ireland you will discover that this house and land have been in existence since the 17th century. John's grandparents worked here. His grandfather George a huntsman, who couldn't write his own name, had come from Yorkshire to Armagh, whilst his grandmother, Elizabeth Conroy, was a local lass.

Ireland however was not destined to be the home landscape of this new family. They crossed the Irish Sea in 1910 to work for the Earl of Gainsborough who owned Exton Park in Rutland. When Norah the daughter of the Earl married Count Robert Bentinck, George and Ernie (sons of George and Elizabeth) moved with Norah to Grange House, Heacham, where George was employed as a chauffeur.

In an unfinished autobiography their son, Henry Bentinck (who later became the 11th Earl of Portland) described George as his "childhood's dearest friend - Irish, singer, teller of tales, remembrancer - 'Podge' we called him and the relationship which existed between us is too rich and deep for the disciplines of psychology and sociology to properly fathom."

Sadly, in 1932 when Henry was only 13, Robert died and the Bentincks left Heacham.

By this time George had married Kathleen Garner in 1929. The couple had two children, Paul and Patsy, and were living in Victoria Avenue. They had met when singing in the choir at the RC Church in Sandringham Road. While on the lookout for chauffeur work, George sold ice cream for Crown's dairy (where Sowerby's is now). Another job involved painting Hunstanton Pier, before he became chauffeur to Mrs Elgood who lived at the Gables in Austin Street.

Kathleen's mother, Judith Ann Garner was a woman who could be said to have been ahead of her time. She owned and ran The Crown pub in Peterborough. She had four children, Annie, Ida, Willie and Kathleen and was capable of combining parenting with business and politics. Her husband William was not always there – he went off to Canada as a lumberjack. He then became an engine driver, but it seemed that Judith held the reins of the partnership. Her commitment to the cause of women gaining the vote, took her to a London rally (along with 6 year old Kathleen) where she met Theodore Roosevelt on his visit to the UK in 1910. Kathleen was given some florins (two shilling pieces)

by the former President, which never got spent, but were kept proudly on the kitchen dresser throughout John's childhood.

Life was to change radically for the Garners when Judith sold the pub and bought 4 houses in Hunstanton.

They all moved into 2 The Shields in St Edmund's Avenue, whilst the other houses were rented out. It was only after Judith's death in 1936 that Portland House, 79 Westgate became home to the Maidens, along with widower William Garner and Judith's live-in maid, Susan Haverson.

It was here that John grew up, with Sue replacing the maternal grandmother

Very early memories are still vivid in his mind. Having been baptised into the Catholic faith in infancy, he recalls one of his earliest visions being two stained glass windows: one depicting St Edmund being shot with arrows, and the other being Our Lady; two impressions which fired his imagination.

His strong voice became evident in the following incident: he was only about 4 when, being pushed in a push chair by his older brother - pretending it was a tank - along Alexander Road (which is still an unmade road), the chair folded up. John was squashed. When Dr Cottu put iodine on his wounds John cried out:

'Damn it, damn it I can't stand it!'

A bombing raid on Church Street during the war caused all the windows of the family home to shatter. He recalls the sound of the bombers and like many people the family sheltered in the cupboard under the stairs.

Life at home provided John with values enriched by cultures which were not local. Right from the start he was exposed to messages from a world beyond West Norfolk and at the same time he was becoming attached to his geographical surroundings.

When the time came for him to go to the Infant School he resisted. He even remembers holding on to his grandfather's chair and pleading with the old man to save him from the ordeal. He did not enjoy much of it apart from story time. Listening to

stories was one of his favourite activities and his older sister Patsy Ann would read to him until he could read himself. Then Biggles books became his reading of choice, while listening to the radio exercised his imagination.

The family's Republican views and its Catholic faith were sufficiently unusual in those days to make John feel somewhat different to the other children at school. He was not allowed to develop a Norfolk accent His Irish father would correct him, having spent so much time himself listening to the gentry! He never felt totally at ease amongst his peers except for his closest friends.

By 1946 he was almost a school phobic and would sometimes get to the school gates then return home feeling physically sick. The Headmaster, Mr Crowther said John would grow out of it and he was almost right. What John loved to do instead was go with his father as he delivered cakes from the NAAFI bakery in Church Street to most of the RAF and army bases in Norfolk. As he drove along George would recite poetry to John and, in his lovely bass voice, sing the songs from the Gilbert and Sullivan operettas. So before the age of 10 John became familiar with places beyond Hunstanton. He was gradually building up a deep familiarity with the area and expanding his understanding of words and music.

The 11 Plus exam was still in operation during John's boyhood and things were changing for John at school. It was now run by George James, who had spent 4 years as a Japanese prisoner of war. He was a kind and humane man who John recalls meeting later on in his life.

Two more ex-military men arrived at the primary school after training as teachers – Bill Lowery and Bob Knight. After narrowly failing to get over the line at 11+ and 12+ John managed it at 13+. This meant that he now qualified for a place on a three year grammar school course at Wymondham College on the other side of Norfolk, 12 miles from Norwich. At the time, this co-educational school consisted

of Nissen huts, housing a five year technical course in addition to the grammar school course.

Unfortunately this experience was no better for John than his earlier days of schooling. Again he felt that he did not fit in to the system. The only subject he really liked was Geography. Despite encouragement from his parents and George James to complete the course, he left at 15 after completing five terms with no GCEs.

Back in Hunstanton he got a job in the warehouse of James Lambert and Son, Grocers and Wine Merchants, but was soon asked to serve behind the counter of the shop in Westgate (now Abbots). He joined the Seagulls Swimming Club and Tom Atkinson's Keep Fit classes at the new Secondary Modern School after its opening in 1954. He even went to evening classes in English and Maths taught by George James, primarily run for

the benefit of police officers preparing for the Sergeants' exam.

After 18 months at Lamberts he thought about joining the merchant navy, to visit places where some of the more exotic products on sale in the shop actually came from. Instead, he spent the next 18 months working for the contractors who built Hunstanton's new North Promenade. He claims that this was the best job he ever had.

Enforced education behind him, he was beginning to take hold of his life to suit himself. The man who was to become such a spokesperson for his home town, was beginning to lay the foundations for his own direction in life. Free to make his own decisions he started to connect with his thirst for knowledge, people, and the world at large.

Margi Blunden
August 2022

Copy date for the November issue is 12th October



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Wild in Westminster and West Norfolk

"Events, dear boy, events."

Harold Macmillan's words came to mind as I sat down to write this column shortly after a tumultuous week. A week that began with a new Prime Minister taking office and ended with the Royal Family and the Nation suffering the immensely sad passing of Her Majesty The Queen.

After seven decades on the throne, it is hard to believe that the Queen is no longer with us. In the House of Commons, I paid tribute to her extraordinary life during which she more than met the pledge she made at the age of 21 to live a life of service. It is only a few months since celebrations in West Norfolk and across the country for the Platinum Jubilee and it is some comfort to know that she witnessed the heartfelt displays of affection towards her.

That unprecedented occasion was celebrated passionately here which is unsurprising given the special place that Sandringham had in her affections. Having ascended to the throne at such a young age, Sandringham offered the Queen an escape from the public eye where she could relax with family, enjoy walking her dogs, country pursuits, and her prized horse stud.

People in the villages around the estate had great affection for the Queen. They have happy memories of encounters with the Queen because, as well as the private time she spent there, she chose to undertake many

visits over the years. Whether as a member of the Sandringham Women's Institute since 1943, and then as its president, presenting local children with awards, or visiting charities and businesses, she was a cherished part of life in west Norfolk. Her affection for Sandringham and that of locals towards her was matched only by that of the Duke of Edinburgh.

Laying flowers along with so many others at the Norwich gates was an emotional moment and reflected the deep love for her. Now the Crown has passed to King Charles III who will have our loyalty and along with the Royal Family is in our thoughts and prayers.

One of the final acts of Her late Majesty The Queen was appointing a new Prime Minister. For the first time in 300 years, we have a Norfolk MP in the highest office which can only be good for putting more focus on addressing the challenges facing West Norfolk. Liz Truss takes office at a very challenging time. As she said in her first speech as Prime Minister her priorities are growing the economy, protecting individuals and businesses from sky high energy bills, and ensuring people can get the NHS services they need.

Since being elected MP for North West Norfolk, I've enjoyed campaigning with my constituency neighbour who is now our Prime Minister, and other Conservative MPs in Norfolk, to make the case for investment whether for rail upgrades, road improvements,



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gigabit broadband rollout, or to improve education. But the most important campaign we've worked on remains my priority – securing a new QEH. She has been an important part of the effort to get QEH selected as one of the new hospital schemes.

So it was encouraging during the leadership election when Liz committed to sorting out the situation at QEH and to make sure that QEH and other projects happen across the country. Now she is in Number 10 she has committed to building new hospitals. I look forward to continuing to work with her and our new Health Secretary to confirm urgently that QEH will get the investment in a new hospital.

Snippets from Slim

I have to agree with John Davis (Letters to the editor August) Sedgeford Buck Inn was in Church Road, or as John says at the bottom of that awful hill where I once stopped behind a learner driver waiting to pull out onto the Heacham road and you can guess the rest!

The Buck's license was transferred to the Kit Kat Restaurant 1936.

James Kendall was the licensee from 1850 to 1871 when he died aged 57. He was also the village Blacksmith. In February 1864 he was sent to prison for 2 months for beating up his wife Louisa with his leather apron; she almost died. After he died she took over the license until 1885 when she died age 65 and then their son James became licensee until 1912. Edward Bunkle was the last landlord until Seth Brewery closed it in 1933.

The Plough Inn was the White Horse owned by Elijah Eyres until 1879 when it changed

Hands and then became the Plough owned by Morgans. Ernest Bell was Landlord from 1952 and he was also an engineer at Newcombe-Baker's Lucern Driers. He couldn't understand why the refrigerator in the cellar wouldn't work until it was found that the Plough Cellar was colder than the fridge.

There - Dick getting the pub location wrong has caused all this squit from me, but he is right about the Blue Lagoon. I think it was 1966 the electric motor that drove the pump filter stopped running. The council officers were told they needed a new motor because the bearings had never been greased through lack of maintenance, but they

still wanted to try and have it repaired. The pool went for weeks without having a filter working until Laurence Scott of Norwich who made the motor found some bearings for the forty year old machine. It work but vibrated and I am not sure how long it lasted.

I enjoy reading the Page from the Sage. The item about cockles reminded me about digging for lug worms for fishing bate.

Town and Around is now read in the Norfolk Fens available at Magdalen Hall, Wiggenhall, St. Mary Magdalen.

Fare ye well Slim Wilkinson

Memories of Her Majesty the Queen

I lived in Dersingham from 1945 till 1966 and when us boys went out we often went in Sandringham woods and we sometimes would see the Queen riding her horse or following the shooting party. My best memory of the Queen was when I worked for a firm from Hunstanton, we were doing the catering for the gun dog trials and were serving lunch in a large potato shed down Wolferton Marsh. All the game keepers and several other people sat around the barn on straw bales then a Land Rover pulled up and out got the Queen with her wellington boots on, a tweed skirt, water proof jacket and her famous headscarf. She came in and sat on a bale next to her head keeper and they had a good old chat. I stood about 5 yards behind her working at the buffet, at 2 o'clock a whistle was blown and everyone went back to the trials and we packed up and went back to Hunstanton. I shall never forget that day.

Dick Melton Sunny Hunny

Round the bend with Dean Baker

Change and change again

I keep reminding myself that change is the only constant in life. It's only mid-September and yet ...

I'm working 2 days a week now – Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Mrs B has to get used to having me in the house. It's only been a couple of weeks but every time I volunteer for a job it's already done. Mrs B asked me to put the washing out the other day. I didn't realise there was washing to go out, I replied. "There's always washing!" came the growled response.

So, its taps, toilets and all things dripping! If you've got a problem with your boiler or heating system you can still contact me but I'll have to refer you on to another plumber.

And now for the household energy crisis. At the time of writing things are looking much



better than they did a couple of weeks ago in late August. However – its not quite nailed down yet. In the mean time I suggest getting into the habit, if you haven't already, of turning energy using items off. As I mentioned a couple of months ago, look out for things on

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standby – microwaves and TV's. Go through your freezer, make sure that you're going to eat the food in there at some point. If not chuck it out now. The same with your fridge, there should be gaps between the items.

I hope these small pieces of

advice help.

Next month I'll write more on household bills.

All the best.

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One-stop shop for everything sewing

Sew On & On in Westgate is simply a treasure trove for the would-be and competent needleworker. With templates, quilting and craft kits and a wonderful range of fabrics you will be spoilt for choice. The Indian silks look and feel fantastic – and at £7.50 per metre a bargain too.

Many of the kits on sale are exclusive to the shop; you may have seen their Fabrikitz on Create and Craft TV.

Owner Mark says: "I'm a complete beginner and I test each kit; if I can make it anyone can!"



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Also at the shop Mark has the embroidery and printing machines plus embroidered school wear for Ingoldisthorpe, Heacham Junior, Snettisham Primary and Heacham Infant schools.

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Allen Tomas & Co open their third office in the county

Allen Tomas & Co Financial Management Ltd are excited to announce the opening of their third Norfolk based office at No. 1 King Street, Kings Lynn. The Mayor of King's Lynn & West Norfolk, Councillor Lesley Bambridge was there to commence proceedings on Thursday 22nd September.

Refreshments were provided by the newly established Purfleet Brasserie.

Allen Tomas & Co are Independent Financial Advisers and Mortgage Advisers serving Norfolk and beyond. They are proud to call themselves Chartered Financial Planners with three members of staff achieving fellowship with the Chartered Insurance Institute. They specialise in Investments, Pensions, Taxation (including Inheritance Tax Planning), Mortgages, Protection and Care Fees Planning whilst working closely with local professionals such as Accountants and Solicitors. The company has Later Life Adviser accreditation with the Society of Later Life Advisers (SOLLA), which means their advisers are authorised to specialise in the financial needs of older people and can advise families, lawyers and deputies on planning for care fees. On the mortgage side, Senior Mortgage Adviser Rachael Smith heads up their mortgage team and they are currently offering fee free mortgage advice on any UK property until the end of the year.

Directors Ben Allen and Michael Crisp acquired the Grade II listed building earlier this year when Sowerbys Estate Agents vacated the premises. "We're extremely proud and honoured to become the new owners of this fabulous building because it embodies so much history," says MD Ben Allen. The building was constructed around 1670 for Sir John Turner, who was mayor of King's Lynn and who went on to commission a new Custom House for the town in 1683. Allen Tomas & Co have completed a 3 month renovation process which included new modern partitioning to create meeting spaces, complete redecoration over the four floors and new carpets throughout, all whilst keeping the traditional feel of the old building. All their advisers will be able to make use of the office to see clients Face-to-Face thanks to the fantastic meeting rooms on the ground floor.

With the decision in 2019 to incorporate a mortgage arm into the firm the team rapidly expanded and Head Office in Dersingham was unable to accommodate a largely growing team. Following the end of the pandemic Ben and Michael looked to King's Lynn for a third office. Michael explains "In the heart of Fakenham our office is a hub for the North of Norfolk and we wanted to replicate a similar setup to serve our South and West Norfolk clients. King's Lynn is busy market town with a vibrant centre. It is a place I call home and to have an office on the prestigious King Street is a fantastic opportunity".

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Changing seasons

Reaching into your wardrobe for knitwear is about to become a daily routine as we slip into an English autumn with chilly mornings and (hopefully) bright days. Now's the time to refresh your wardrobe and 2022 sees a big return for polo and cowl necked sweaters, three quarter length sleeves and creative and artisan-inspired knitwear.

Thick jumpers worn with jeans are perfect for the daytime laidback look and they look equally good with a skirt and heels for the evening.

Gone are the days when 'blue and green should never be seen', the sweater in the advert is a super soft 100% cotton cowl neck, two tone chevron jacquard patterned knit from Marble that has a relaxed fit. Easy to care for too – just pop it into the washing machine at 30 on a gentle wash.



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The clay pipe story

Possibly one of the oldest artifacts found in New Hunstanton, and some memories from the 60's and 70's

S G Owen

My Father worked at the Golden Lion Hotel during the 1950's and early 1960's, and during this time some work was carried out on the foundations of the hotel. One day one of the workman called my Father over and said to him "look at this down here, it's been here since they built the hotel". It was a clay pipe. The workman didn't want it and gave it to my father, who took it home and it sat alongside other family ornaments. My Father died suddenly in 1971, and although my mother moved house within Hunstanton three times the pipe remained in her china cabinet. Sadly she passed away 21 years ago and two or three years before this she gave me the pipe, knowing that I would look after it, as although I left Hunstanton many years ago I have always felt a strong connection with my home town. So the pipe came to my home in the Midlands. Then three years later me and my family moved to the hills of Andalusia, where I still live, and the pipe still sits in our china cabinet. I have got almost every history book printed about Hunstanton, and in one of Mary Rhode's books is a sepia photo of the men who built the Golden Lion. I have often wondered if the pipe belonged to any of them? Although I am only 64, and hoping to live for many years to come, I am aware that the pipe will be of no interest to my sons when that time comes, so if the Heritage Centre would like it then please let the editor know, and I'll wrap it up carefully and post it to them. Here is a photo of the pipe.

When you come from a place like Hunstanton part of you never leaves, and I take a daily interest in what is going on and seeing many of my old friend's names pop up from time to time. It's good to see my old school teacher and youth club leader John Maiden is still very active and fighting for the pier to be rebuilt. In 1972 I had a summer job working on the pier and one of my jobs



Here is a photo of the pipe.

was collecting the Toll to walk along it. Every morning I would walk the length of the pier to make sure it was clean and I always took a moment at the end to take in the view. In those days there was nothing at the end, the skating rink was long gone but every day I was kept very busy with people wanting to walk along it. Mr Harris was my boss, he was a very quiet man and his son Norman was in charge. Mr Maiden also mentioned recently that back in the 1970's a sponsored walk was organised to help pay for the school swimming pool. Well, I was one of those pupils, and we did two walks which started in Sandringham grounds and then on to Wolferton Railway station, where we walked along the line towards Lynn. Just past Wolferton Church we turned right and followed a footpath across the marshes. On reaching the coast we headed to Hunstanton, and I remember these as I enjoyed every minute of them. I also read that sadly the pool was being demolished due to the lack of after school staff available to supervise and oversee things. I guess we were very lucky to have teachers like John Shorten who, would be there for so many after school activities, in charge of the football, cricket, you name it! I have very fond memories of this teacher.

As for the bus station going back to where

it was in the 60's, what next? The return of those dreadful damp underground toilets which used to be on the Spinney!

I would also like to say that over the years how much I have enjoyed Dick Melton's articles. Every month it's the first thing I look for. Back in the early 70's I was a paper boy for Murton's newsagent shop, and I often saw Dick walking briskly to work, which was the 'Kit Kat'. Many years later when visiting my mother, myself and my wife would take our two young sons to have a few goes on the machines etc. in the Showboat Arcade, especially if it was wet or cold weather. Anyway, we would often have to call Dick over if a coin got jammed in a machine. My sons are now in their 30's, but still remember hiding behind their mum's legs as Dick approached.

They would have been about 3 and 5 year's old, and for some reason were scared of Dick! I have to say never in a million years would I have imagined Dick all these years later writing such interesting and entertaining articles!

Talking of Dick's articles, a few months ago Dick mentioned 'Old Hunstanton', where I was lucky enough to spend my childhood, and he mentioned men like Fred Turrell and Percy Richardson. Fred and his wife ran 'The Lifeboat' cafe, and Fred was also the beach inspector. He always had time for us kids, telling us old tales, and had a face that looked like worn leather. Percy Richardson had a small field off Smugglers Lane, where he grew Strawberries. This is now built on, but I remember that his strawberries tasted so good, and he would always give us local kids a handful, hoping that we wouldn't return to nick any! However as it was he had nothing to worry about, as we would never have done this to Percy. Whereas I'm ashamed to say that Doctor Baron's prize winning apple tree stood no chance, (remember Glenn!!)



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Plant of the month - Indoor Flowering Bulbs

Wendy Warner

When it's cold and dark outdoors, bring some Spring colour and fragrance into your house early in the form of flowering bulbs. It's easy to achieve, but you need to think a little ahead and the timing is important if you want to force bulbs early to flower indoors for a certain time. Most will require a period of cold to trick them into thinking we have had the depths of winter and it's time to flower.

Specific bulbs that are sold for indoor flowering include hyacinths, paperwhites and amaryllis. But others such as crocus, snowdrops, grape hyacinths, iris, narcissi and tulips can also be used for flowering indoors as an alternative to traditional houseplants. Due to their hardy nature, they're also perfect for using in colder rooms, unheated porches or conservatories where tender plants wouldn't survive the low temperatures.

Most indoor bulbs can be grown in bulb planting compost (also sold as bulb fibre) but good drainage is very important as they will rot if they become waterlogged –



although equally, they don't want to dry out. Therefore, if you are using a container that has no drainage, make sure you put a good layer of stones at the bottom and add a little crushed charcoal to "sweeten" the smell of the damp compost. Water the compost before planting the bulbs and space them much more closely than you would in the garden, so you have a full pot of flowers. Cover small bulbs completely and larger bulbs such as hyacinths and paperwhites

up to their necks.

The planted bulbs then need rooting time in a cold, dark place. This can be a shed, garage or old fridge. Generally, the smaller bulbs that naturally flower earlier need the shortest cold time – crocus 8-10 weeks, snowdrops and dwarf iris 10-12 weeks, miniature narcissi and tulips 14-16 weeks. Once they are moved into a warmer room, most bulbs will bloom within 2-5 weeks. To prolong flowering indoors, avoid positioning them in direct sunlight, keep away from radiators or other heat sources and keep the compost just moist.



Hyacinths are one of the most popular bulbs used for indoor flowering and can be purchased ready "prepared" with a special

temperature treatment which initiates flower bud development. Make sure you choose Prepared Hyacinths as opposed to the smaller, cheaper garden hyacinths. They can be grown in compost or for a different look use hyacinth glasses (an hourglass shaped vase). This is great for children to see how the bulbs grow. Fill the glass with water to just below where the bulb's base will sit. Place in a cool dark place for six weeks for roots to form. Once the main green shoot is 7-10cm tall, move the glass into full light and the flowers will gradually develop. Top up the water as necessary and turn the glass to prevent the plant growing and bending towards the light.

Paperwhites, the highly fragrant narcissi and amaryllis don't require any cold period after planting. Paperwhites will flower within 3-5 weeks and amaryllis 6-8 weeks. All bulbs except these two varieties can be planted into the garden in the spring after they have finished flowering and they will bloom at their regular time the following year.



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SNETTISHAM GARDENING CLUB

We won a Silver medal with our exhibit at Sandringham Flower show this year with our garden "An Elizabethan Garden".

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 26th October when Barry Gayton will be talking to us about Painful and Poisonous plants 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall, Old Church Road.

Any further information can be obtained from Gail on 01485 541279 or Addie on 01485 544754.



Bioblitz Event

Putting Thornham's Wildlife on the Map
Saturday 5 November 10am-3pm
Thornham Village Hall

Join us as we try and record as many different animals and plants as we can in Thornham in 5 hours. From moths to butterflies, dragonflies to birds, wildflowers to trees we will be recording it all. Experts will be on hand to lead guided walks and help us with identifying species.

Pop in and see us at the village hall and share your wildlife sightings with us, or join us on one or more of our guided walks!

Do you live in Thornham? Why not record the wildlife in your garden on Saturday 5 November and pop into the village hall and tell us what you have found, or take a walk round the village and share your wildlife sightings with us. Every record counts!

To view the guided walks programme for the day visit:
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Mudpies & Butterflies

with Louise Barby

"The end of the summer is not the end of the world. Here's to October."
A.A.Milne

It is very easy to see Autumn as the end of something, I pre-fer to see it as the start. The start of rejuvenation, the start of new colours and scent in the garden and the start of new creative thoughts on how to improve our beautiful outdoor space.

In the flower garden

- Plant spring bulbs now for an amazing colour injection from January onwards. Think about creating colour from early snowdrops in January right through to late alliums in May.

- Bareroot tree, shrubs and roses can now be purchased on line or at nurseries.

- Winter/spring bedding should be planted now while the soil is still warm, this provides it with a chance to grow before the temperatures decrease.

- Move any trees and shrubs and plant hedges, October is an ideal month to do so.

- For free plants, lift and divide perennials that have died down or at least cut back.

In the vegetable garden

- Harvest as much as possible before the frosts, green tomatoes can be ripened on a windowsill or alongside and banana in the fruit bowl. Herbs can be divided and potted up inside to use throughout the winter.

- Plant Autumn garlic bulbs or try elephant garlic for something a little different.

In the fruit garden

- Divide large rhubarb plants for a good crop next year

- Plant bareroot fruit trees, remember some patio trees are fine in large pots if your space is limited or fan trained on a wall.

Traditional treatment

- Now is the last chance to sow lawn seed.

- This month, ensure mower blades are high or maybe stop mowing some area

- You can feed your lawn now, ensure the feed is rich in potassium and low in nitrogen.

Eating well and being in the fresh air make a huge difference to our mental and physical health, so take an hour this week and get out in the garden, or your nearest open space and enjoy the start of Autumn. Embrace it's ease and try to slow down a little, if only for a short

BIRCHAM IN BLOOM

Simon Bower, Parish Clerk

The awards day for Anglia in Bloom took place on Wednesday 7th September at Orsett Hall in Grays, Essex. This is part of the RHS Britain in Bloom competition which was set up to help us get the best out of where we live, both florally and environmentally.

The event was attended by nearly 170 people from the six counties of the Anglian region. The Birchams were represented by Chris Fellowes and Darri Pattinson from Bircham in Bloom. We made submissions in three categories - Village, Churchyard and Nature Conversation Area - and were delighted to have been awarded Gold for the Nature Conversation Area (the Spinney), an Order of Merit for the Churchyard, and Silver Gilt for the Village.

Chris Fellowes, chairman of Bircham in Bloom, commented, "We're so pleased to have been part of this fantastic initiative which focusses not only on the planting, but also on the environment and community participation. The judges gave us some lovely comments which can only inspire us moving forward. We have many ideas for the future, and are looking forward to receiving the judges' written feedback to help us formulate our plans."

The judges made particular mention of the bee hotel, hedgehog house and bat boxes together with the flower meadow and the general wildlife friendly work that had been carried out.

Bircham in Bloom would like to thank everyone who has supported them including the Parish Council, local businesses and volunteers.

New members are welcome, and if you would like further information on our activities please contact the Parish Council. birchamparishcouncil@gmail.com



Hunstanton team work rewarded at Anglia in Bloom Awards Day

Adrian Winnington

This year saw Anglia in Bloom judges visit Hunstanton in person after two years of virtual judging. It was a pleasure to welcome our two judges and show them around our town and host them afterwards in the Town Hall. Even though they visited during the very hot, dry summer it was clear to them that a lot of work had taken place by a lot of different people.

Hunstanton in Bloom has always been about team work and this year was no exception. Being Platinum Jubilee Year our secretary, Christine Earnshaw, came up with the idea of crowns being placed in flower beds around the town. After designing the crowns Christine asked the Men's Shed to make them, which they did with great aplomb. She then painted and decorated the crowns with help from other groups, including pupils from Glebe School. The Gardening Group of the U3A also took the Platinum Jubilee as the theme for the raised bed on The Green. They designed, planted and maintained the bed, using plants purchased with a grant from Hunstanton Town Council. This bed also celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the U3A. Many of the roses in the beds by the War Memorial were replaced, having been purchased by Moss Bakery. Standard roses in the Esplanade

Gardens were also replaced, being purchased with a grant from the Hunstanton Charity Shop. Many of the flower beds in the Esplanade Gardens were tended by our group of adopt-a-bedders, especially Ken and Sandra Sach. A number of other individuals, groups and businesses also made special efforts to brighten up the town with their floral displays. Carrying out a lot of the groundwork around the town was the team of Borough Council gardeners, under the direction of Chris Durham. After two years of restrictions due to Covid they had to work extremely hard to get the gardens and other areas of the town back into shape.

Judging took place in July and we had to wait until the Anglia in Bloom Awards Day on 7th September to find out how we had fared. The Awards Day this year took place at Orsett Hall in Essex. Carol Bower (Chair of HiB) and Adrian Winnington (Vice-chair) made the long journey down to Essex. Although a long way, it was a great day with the opportunity to meet so many people from other towns and villages in East Anglia as well as the hardworking team of officers and judges from Anglia in Bloom. Everyone is very nervous as awards are announced; we were extremely



pleased when it was announced that Hunstanton had been awarded Gold and also "Winner of the Coastal Category". In addition we were the winner of the "Best Public Open Space" for the Esplanade Gardens, and winner of the "Best Sustainable Planting" for Redgate Roundabout.

As already mentioned, Hunstanton's success in Anglia in Bloom is down to team work. Thanks must go to all those who contributed in any way to this year's awards. Later this year we will arrange an opportunity to get together to discuss this year's In Bloom and begin planning for next year – Coronation theme? We have had some new residents join us in our work this year and are always looking to welcome



anyone who would like to become involved – it is very rewarding! If you think you might like to become part of Hunstanton in Bloom, or just want to find out more, please contact one of the officers below. Carol Bower, Chair – cllr.carol.bower@west-norfolk.gov.uk Adrian Winnington, Vice-chair – cllr.winnington@hunstantontowncouncil.gov.uk Christine Earnshaw, Secretary – 2chrisearnshaw@gmail.com

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The Ringed Plover Day

Terry Parish

On 2nd September the second big litter pick went ahead. This time it was restricted to the beach and dune area between Snettisham and Heacham South Beach. There were more people and more litter than illustrated above.



It was a joint venture between me and the RSPB. Their principal representative was Wynona Legg, the Ringed Plover Project Officer. The area cleared was the nesting area of the Ringed Plover. This had to be left undisturbed during the more extensive litter pick in July.

The juxtaposition of shingle and dune is the key breeding and nesting habitat and it is fortunate that the grass fires in the heatwave swept past this line and the birds escaped injury. One pair had to leave as the flames licked at them but returned afterwards and reared their chicks. These were seen at this litter pick, very much active.

Later in the evening, Wynona gave an excellent talk about the life and habits of the Ringed Plover. This was at the Old Friends Hall, Heacham, kindly provided by Heacham Parish Council. It was revealed that this beach is a principal location for this bird though increasing disturbance could lead to a falling population. That



RSPB. The burnt area in the foreground is slowly recovering though trees out of the picture are unlikely to.

disturbance is from natural predators (birds and mammals), people, and uncontrolled dogs.

Special nest cages have been trialled to reduce predator attacks. Light fencing and constant work by volunteers attempt to steer people and dogs away during the breeding and nesting season.

I have asked Wynona to repeat her talk prior to start of the new season in Spring. There will also be a pre nesting litter pick.

My thanks to the many RSPB volunteers who work to preserve this and other species for no reward other than that of doing something worthwhile; the members of the public who step up when asked to, and officers at the Borough Council depot who maintain and loan out all the litter picking kits and arrange for the removal of the collected rubbish.

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Local communities give vulnerable beach nesting birds a helping hand

Wynona Legg, Ringed Plover Project Officer

The support of local communities has given a vital boost to vulnerable beach nesting birds breeding on a stretch of coast from Snettisham to Heacham. With the help of mindful locals and visitors, 36 vulnerable ringed plover chicks have taken flight from these shores this year – almost double the number that fledged last year.



A ringed plover nest. Image credit Les Bunyan

The RSPB led project 'Plovers in Peril', delivered in partnership with Wild Ken Hill, aims to halt the worrying declines in breeding numbers of ringed plover and oystercatcher on these two beaches by giving them much needed protection and raising awareness of their plight to visitors. The team of staff and volunteers working on the project want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the local community for supporting these birds by keeping dogs on leads and keeping a safe distance from fenced-off nesting areas during their most vulnerable time of year.



Ringed plover with chick. Image credit Phill Gwilliam

Generous funding from the Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk as part of the Habitats Monitoring and Mitigation fund has enabled the project to continue protecting the vulnerable birds on these two busy beaches for another five years; and with local communities, mindful beach goers and a team of dedicated volunteers and staff all watching over them, 36 chicks have taken to the skies this season – that's almost double last year's total of 19! A fantastic result for the project after only its second season and a timely boost for a bird in Global decline.

These two beaches are well loved by both local people and visitors from further afield who come to enjoy the wild open spaces, stunning scenery, and unique wildlife. For perhaps the most iconic feature of this coast –

the birds who make their nests on the sand during our great British summer – the challenges appear to be endless (and with a changing climate, this list is set to grow further still).



Ringed plover chick. Image credit Phill Gwilliam

Despite the challenges facing them, these charismatic birds are remarkably tenacious – trying again and again when their eggs or chicks are lost too soon but these birds need the help of their communities if they are to thrive alongside us; and in this case, the support shown by the communities of Snettisham and Heacham has thrown these birds a real lifeline.



Almost there! A chick stretching its wings. Image credit Phill Gwilliam

Project Officer Wynona shared her thoughts about the support offered by the community: "We have received so many offers of help from people within our communities, moved by the plight of these birds living on their doorstep, that our volunteer team is always growing! These people are showing up for



Thank you sign made by Snettisham Beach Sailing Club's junior members.

Image credit Wynona Legg.

these birds every day of the week, rain or shine to chat with visitors, explain restrictions and build support for these birds in hope of securing them a brighter future. It is truly inspiring."

It's not just volunteers though, local organisations have been pledging their support for the project too and amongst others, the project team have enjoyed working alongside Snettisham Beach Sailing Club to raise awareness of beach nesting birds amongst sailors young and old.

Snettisham Beach Sailing Club shared their support for the project, saying "SBSC are passionate about working closely with the RSPB to help protect the nesting birds here. Our Junior sailors and families have enjoyed a tour of the nesting sites, seeing first-hand the impact we have on their survival and with this knowledge they have helped to design thank you signs to be displayed outside the sailing club. Building links through educating our next generation is paramount and we look forward to continue working with the RSPB!"

Project Officer Wynona echoes her heartfelt thanks to the community. "It has been moving to see so many people within the local community taking pride in the wildlife that makes this coast so special, taking action to help it thrive and actively inspiring others to do the same. It shows us just how much can be achieved when people pull together to be custodians for nature; and for beach nesting birds – it may just be the key to their success."

Dominic Buscall, Project Manager at Wild Ken Hill said, "I'd like to join the RSPB in thanking local residents and visitors their help conserving these wonderful beach-nesting birds. By continuing to work together, we can ensure a better future for these species"

Whilst there is still a lot to do to ensure beach nesting birds have a future here, the success of this season brings hope for these iconic birds who love Snettisham and Heacham just as much as we do!

For more information about the Plovers in Peril project or to register your interest for volunteering in the 2023 season please contact snettisham@rspb.org.uk

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1170-100

Big brother really will be watching you

By Kathryn Gigg Chartered Accountants, Hunstanton

One of the consequences of the increasing digitisation of practically everything is that it is becoming easier for governments to keep tabs on who owns what – and as time goes on (and the threat of money laundering grows) there is a move to make that knowledge even more comprehensive.

This is becoming apparent in Income Tax with the “Making Tax Digital” initiative, which will require most businesses and many landlords to file electronic accounts on a quarterly basis from April 2024. For trustees, the problem is slightly more pressing. The Trust Registration Service, which was launched in 2017 after a troubled start and a couple of deferrals, required registration of both taxable and non-taxable existing trusts by 1 September this year. By such date, all trusts should have registered with the service, giving details of assets, settlors, beneficiaries and trustees. Any new trusts established since 4 June 2022 are required to register within 90 days.

It would appear likely that there will be a fair degree of non-compliance. No one knows how many trusts exist within the UK but estimates range between 1-2 million. Less than 200,000 trusts were registered with HMRC under previous rules. The new registration regime catches all trusts except a few small exceptions such as pensions, charities, will trusts wound up within two years and some insurance policy trusts, but includes, for example trusts with a life interest, property trusts where the trustees and beneficiaries are not identical and even most bare trusts (typically where investments are held on behalf of a minor). The number of trusts currently on the register is not disclosed, but almost certainly there will be huge numbers of trustees who hold assets producing no income and who have simply not heard of the new rules.

Potentially such trustees will be liable for fines, starting at £100 and ranging up to £5,000. However, HMRC have indicated that they will initially adopt a “soft landing” approach starting with a “nudge letter” encouraging trustees to register, before raising a fine. Given the degree of information available to HMRC from their many databases, such nudges will probably emerge at some scale.

There are without a doubt hundreds of cases locally where registration will be required. Our existing trust clients were mostly registered by the deadline and a handful more have come forward in recent months, but this is probably the tip of the iceberg. Anyone who is holding property, investments, land or other assets on behalf of others, should act as soon as possible to bring matters up to date.

Please contact either myself or my partner Nicola Tarry FCA on 01485 534800 or email kate@kathryngigg.co.uk if you require advice regarding the tax implications of the Sponsorship payments.

Mrs K H Gigg FCA

N.B. Article written in August 2022

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Caution: The information listed above is for general guidance only. You should neither act, nor refrain from action, on the basis of any such information. You should take appropriate professional advice on your particular circumstances because the application of laws and regulations will vary depending on particular circumstances and because laws and regulations undergo frequent change. Whilst I endeavour to ensure that the information contained herein is correct, neither I nor my firm shall be liable in damages (including, without limitation, damages for loss of business or loss of profits) arising in contract, tort or otherwise from any information contained in it, or from any action or decision taken as a result of using any such information. © Kathryn Gigg 2022

The Coastal Community Supermarket

Helping ease the pressure of rising food costs

A new service is coming to Hunstanton. With the rising cost of energy bills, food, fuel and just about everything else, many more of us are now struggling to make ends meet. With the support of Norfolk Community Foundation and the Nourishing Norfolk Network, Wells Community Hospital Trust will be bringing a new pop-up shop to the town to help local residents stretch their budgets and ease some of that financial pressure.

So what is a community supermarket and how does it work? By working with local food businesses, charitable organisations and food redistribution schemes the Coastal Community Supermarket can offer it's members a range of groceries, household products and personal care items at considerably lower prices than many local shops. Membership is open to any local resident struggling to access affordable, quality food. There is a small one-off joining fee then all that's asked is that you only buy what you need in order for the supermarket to help as many people as possible avoid reaching crisis point.

The pop-up shop will visit various locations around the North and West Norfolk coastal area and will be in Hunstanton on Mondays between 10am and 1pm at the Town Hall. Here you will also find the Helping Hands café and a range of other services such as Citizens Advice Bureau, offering help and advice to improve peoples' overall health and wellbeing. To sign up to use the supermarket just come along to the pop-up shop and speak to one of the friendly team members.

If you are looking to make a difference in your community, why not volunteer with us? Or perhaps you're a local business looking for ways to support local people? We welcome all enquiries about volunteering opportunities, sponsorship or donations of supplies so please get in touch.

Contact Helen by phone : 01328 713173
or email: helen.roythorne@wellshospital.uk
Or send us a message through Facebook
[@coastalcommunitysupermarket](https://www.facebook.com/coastalcommunitysupermarket)

A page from the Sage

The first thing I have to do is apologise to all the readers of August's issue in getting my public houses wrong when talking about public houses in Sedgeford. I said that the Buck was up the Docking Road when in fact it was down Buck Lane near the church and it closed down in 1933 and the licence was transferred to the Kit-Kat public house in Seagate Hunstanton.

The Plough was up the Docking Road and closed down in 1969, I would very much like to thank Mr Geoff Needham and a gentleman who used to live in Sedgeford and now lives in Hunstanton for putting me right, thank you both very much.

Weather

Well now, we have certainly had some very hot weather but nothing like that what we had in August. I well remember in 1947 we had a very bad winter with a lot of snow with many villages in west Norfolk and north Norfolk for days and no trains or buses running. Another thing that sticks in my mind was the great flood of 1953 when many people were drowned, land flooded and buildings were washed away, yet the next day, a Sunday it got out sunny, the wind dropped and after a few days the water went back. Then we had the warm dry summer of 1976, the only thing that spoilt that summer was the five days in July when we had swarms of millions of ladybirds; they got everywhere - in your bed, your clothes, your hair and worst of all in your food and drink, then one night they just vanished leaving millions of dead ones behind. This summer 2022 has certainly been the hottest ever known and it did not just affect the people but it did a lot of damage to farmers crops. I was listening to a farmer on the wireless who said that he had to throw a lot of his carrots and parsnips away as they were crocked and bent and people would not buy them, I asked myself what is the difference between a bent or crocked parsnip and carrot than a straight one, they all taste the same!

Beaches

As you all know by now I think a lot of Hunstanton beach as I have worked on it and beside it for over 50 years but unfortunately I can now only look at it now through the web-cams, but I have many

friends who keep me in touch with the changes that have happened over the last eighteen months. For a start the sand has been washed away from more of the green rocks especially the ones past the pier. All of these green rocks have been there for thousands of years but until a year or two back the ones to the south had been covered in sand.

Further along by Johnson's slipway the sand has been washed away from the promenade leaving a twelve foot drop. As you walk to the south the sand builds up so that when you get to the power boat slipway the sand is once again level with the promenade, on this sand there is grass growing as the tide never reaches it to carry the seed away that was washed in by previous tides. If you walk to Heacham along the promenade, half way between the hump (Heacham/Hunstanton boundary) and the last bungalow (Kalajuga) you will see a much larger area of grass that has been there on the beach for maybe twenty years or even more.

Another thing if you walk along the promenade you will see that the sandbanks that are about half a mile to a mile out to sea have split up so when people are out on the beach they look out to see these banks and are tempted to walk out to them.

Lifeguards

I have been saying for many years saying that we need RNLI life guards on all of the main west Norfolk beaches like Heacham, Hunstanton, Old Hunstanton and Brancaster; these are the only beaches in Norfolk that do not have RNLI life guards. I have written in the Town and Around about it and the Village Voice. I have also written to the local newspapers, Hunstanton and King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council, also West Norfolk Members of Parliament. When I do get an answer it is always the same one - that these beaches are all safe beaches. There is no such thing in the world as a safe beach.

We have had people drown on Hunstanton beach but thank goodness not for a long while. In the early seventies early one morning a man going to work saw a lady laying near a groin, he thought she was asleep and went to wake her and discovered she was dead it was established later

that she was washed up from Lincolnshire.

In 1963/64 I was working on the skating rink down the fair when we heard a lot of shouting and screaming in the sea and some people swimming out to sea. It appeared that a young chap had swam out to sea to retrieve a ball but by the time the other swimmers got to the young chap he had sadly drowned. He was a local chap and he came from a nearby village. Another tragedy was in the late 1950s or early 60s when an elderly retired vicar and his wife were walking along Hunstanton promenade with their Jack Russell dog. When the dog fell into the sea the vicar and his wife both went in after it and sadly they both drowned but the dog got out alive. I have been asking for RNLI life guards on West Norfolk beaches in the summer months for over 10 years now but my request just falls on deaf ears. The Girl Guides and Scouts association advise their members to only swim on beaches where there are RNLI life guards and to only swim between the flags and take notice of what the life guards tell them.

Lightship and LANBY

There are I would say that there are many people about that like me listen to Radio Norfolk, this morning they were talking about the fog horns at sea around the coast of Norfolk. As most people know we have a lighthouse on the cliffs at Hunstanton. It is still there but it was taken out of operation in 1921 and was replaced by a lightship at the mouth of the Wash to warn ships about all of the sandbanks in the Wash. The lightship had a crew of seven and they did a month on and a month off. After the Second World War Mr Geoff Searle, who was a boat owner, would take a Christmas tree, some fruit and drink out to the lightship for their Christmas cheer. In the 1950s the Lynn news and Advertiser ran a competition to raise money to get the crew of the Lynn Well a television set which they did. The crew used to record the numbers of any dead birds that fell on the ship and send the numbers to the RSPB at Thetford; one day they found a dead bird that had been ringed at Dersingham then Russia that was no doubt on its way back to Dersingham.

Then in 1971 the Lynn Well was taken off station, she was towed



into Great Yarmouth, and then towed up river to Norwich where she was bought for £4,000 by a Norwich potato merchant who gave it to the Norwich Sea Scouts who anchored it in the river and used it for their headquarters.

Whilst the Lynn Well was on station in the 1950s a retired naval officer came to live in a house on the cliffs he was Commander Watts and he put a letter in the Advertiser saying that the fog horn was too loud and it kept him awake at night. Someone put a letter in the paper saying that as an ex-naval man he should know better. Myself and my family lived in Seagate Hunstanton in the 1960s and the lights from the Lynn Well could be seen from our kitchen window but none of them bothered us. We could also hear the fog horn.

After the Lynn Well was taken off station it was replaced by an large automatic navigational buoy (LANBY) it looks like an extra-large mushroom, and is anchored to the same spot as the Lynn Well. It has a light and a foghorn - you can only see and hear them if you are in the vicinity of the cliffs.

Safety

Well here we go again talking about safety on West Norfolk beaches I was watching Look North on the telly on the 24th of August when Peter Levy the presenter was doing a programme about safety on a beach in Yorkshire. Their main topic was rubber rings and rubber ducks that children play with on the beach and in the sea. There were a lot of people on the beach including RNLI beach lifeguards; when interviewed most people said that rubber inflatables should be attached to a rope held by a grown

up but most people said they should be banned altogether. Then Peter walked along the promenade, he stopped at a stall that had many inflatables hanging up outside all with a rope attached. Peter asked the stallholder if he thought that inflatables should be banned from sale, of course not as they were part of his living he said, it was the parents fault for not keeping an eye on their children and making sure the inflatables had a rope attached, inflatables are a danger at sea and always will be.

Holme-next-the-Sea

In the September issue of Town and Around I did a bit about the beaches in this part of West Norfolk, but oh dear me I made a bad mistake as I did not mention Holme-next-the-Sea, but not to worry as the day after they were put out I had a good friend of mine, Mr Geoff Needham who lives in Holme putting me right and at the time we had a good old chat about other things including the behaviour of some of the people at the Hunstanton Tennis Tournament. Thanks a lot for putting me right Geoff, and do you keep a troshin'.

Walks

Hunstanton always has been, and still is, a good place for people to be based who like walking as there are some good walks that start in or near to Hunstanton. One of the longest walks is Peddars Way that starts at Holme-next-the-Sea and winds its way southwards past many Norfolk villages until it goes over the Norfolk/ Suffolk boundary and beyond.

It's an incredibly historic trail dating back to AD61 when it was used by the Romans to form paths across East Anglia after the defeat of the Icenii tribe who were a Celtic tribe and inhabited much of what is now Mid Norfolk. Later, in the 15th and 16th Century this route was named the Peddars Way in honour of the pilgrims who walked to the religious village of Walsingham and the Priory there. This was, and still is, an extremely important pilgrimage route.

The next longest path or bridleway that is nowhere as old as the Peddars Way is the Norfolk Coastal path that starts just to the north of Hunstanton sometimes near the sea and sometimes a bit inland it goes past Wells-next-the-Sea and Cromer until it ends up at Yarmouth going past many small and large villages on its way. If you go down Beach Road Hunstanton when you get to the Heacham boundary on your left is

a large earth flood protection bank with a well-worn path on top. This bank was built around 1870 to stop the railway line being washed away by the sea, it was constructed by the same company of men that constructed the Hunstanton to King's Lynn railway line. It makes its way south past Heacham, Snettisham, Dersingham, Wolferton and the Wootton's until it ends up on the northern side of King's Lynn.

Now we come to some shorter walks that all start in Hunstanton. If you go up Park Road and cross over the A149 you are in Downs Road just beside the Smithdon school, carry on along Downs Road and you will come to Lodge Farm, just past Lodge Farm is Gypsy Lane if you follow this lane it will take you to another lane called Chapel Bank that takes you up from the Old Hunstanton church to the A149. In years gone by it would take you to the old chapel ruins near the lighthouse that are still there.

Now let's go back to Downs Road or Lane, there you will see the old gamekeepers cottage you now have a choice of walks you can go straight ahead through the gate into Old Hunstanton Park and past the Old Hall, which is now flats, past the church and once again on to the A149 road, or you can carry on along Downs Road till you get to Downs Farm on your right, just before you get to Downs Farm there is a very rough track, if you go up this track about 200 yards you will come to the old ruined church that you can see from the top of Redgate Hill, go back to the old track turn right at the top past the chalk pit and you will be back on the A149 again.

If you go back to Downs farm go past the farmhouse and you will come to a gate. There is a notice that says admission on a Thursday only, it has been there for many years but I don't think it applies anymore, so go through the gate and you are in a valley. This is Ringstead Downs. This used to be a large river that came from Port Ringstead right through to the sea at Hunstanton where Ringstead still has 200 yards of beach. At one time boats of up to six tons would use this river. When you get to the end of the Downs you will come to a hard road, turn to your left to go to Ringstead or to your right for Heacham.

Well that's all for now just keep on a troshin', see you all again next month. The Boy Dick.

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Leaving money to charity in your will

By John Newham, Solicitor, Hayes + Storr

There are many reasons someone might choose to leave money to charity in their will. It could be due to a lack of close family members or having strong feelings about a certain cause. Perhaps it might be part of a tax planning exercise to legally reduce the amount of Inheritance Tax which might otherwise become payable.

Cromer Hospital

The new Cromer hospital which opened in 2012 was funded by legacies from Sagle Bernstein, whose sister was cared for by the hospital, and former patient Phyllis Cox, who was so impressed with the care she received there in the 1950s, made arrangements for the hospital to receive her £1.4m estate. Her husband had passed away before her and they did not have any children.

Sagle Bernstein lived in Cromer with her sister Muriel Thoms, and left £11.4m as a thank you for the care Mrs Thoms received at the hospital before she died in 1998.

Charitable gifts are a great option for those without close family

If you no longer have any close family or friends, you might not want your money to end up with distant relatives you never speak to or see. If you find yourself in this situation, a gift to charity could have more meaning to you.

Making a will in which you clearly set out your wishes is the only way to ensure that any charities can benefit from your estate. If you die without a will then the predetermined intestacy rules apply, and these never provide for money to pass to charity. Intestacy will mean all your assets end up being left to the Crown.

Creating a lasting personal legacy with charitable gifts

In Sagle Bernstein's case, her sizeable donation was made to Cromer Hospital for the general benefit of Cromer and its residents. The sisters are remembered at the hospital with the minor injuries unit (MIU) being named after Mrs Bernstein and the day procedure unit after Mrs Thoms. Paintings by Mrs Bernstein are also hung in the new building. The Audiology Unit on the first floor has been named after Phyllis Cox.

The effect of charitable giving on inheritance tax

For many, tax saving is not the key consideration for leaving sums to charity, but it is usually a welcome side effect.

Any gifts you leave to charity in your will pass free of inheritance tax, as charities count as exempt beneficiaries. This reduces the value of your estate by the amount of the gift before any tax-free allowances are taken into account, leaving a smaller pot to fall subject to inheritance tax.

In addition, if you leave 10 per cent or more of your estate to charity the remainder benefits from a reduced inheritance tax rate, meaning a greater share for your other beneficiaries.

How can we help?

We can advise you on preparing a will in a way that ensures your choices are clear and legally binding, as well as helping you to create the legacy you wish to leave.

For further information, call 01328 863231 or email john.newham@hayes-storr.com.

This article is for general information only and does not constitute legal or professional advice. Please note that the law may have changed since this article was published.



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Bits and Pieces...

Another summer over and what a relief! We could have booked most properties several times over as we were forever saying, sorry we cannot help! We hate doing that as we always aim to please. So now catch up on paperwork time for a little while. And time for training our new lady.

With the departure of Carol who has happily retired to enjoy her life and commitments we now have Chloe who will be seeing people in as receptionist, doing admin and generally helping all round. She has been in the industry from a different aspect for a while and has always worked with people so is a welcome addition to our little team where you cannot be afraid of the general public. Claire will have been with me since October so has almost seen a year. She will be taking a bit of a back seat from reception as Chloe gradually finds her feet and responsibilities from training kicks in. But that does not mean she will be doing less! We all still have our work cut out for us! Claire has been a Godsend and learned a lot really quickly, so now she can take a bit of a breather with what has been a very busy year with lots of changes. Time for Chloe to apply her young brain to our holiday department.

A few months ago, I wrote about people in general (and to be specific a percentage of guests...) not reading information or following instructions. I am repeating myself from a previous report here. Well, many more than normal have driven us mad with their incessant lack of following simple instructions. They arrive at the office and don't know which property they are going to. They don't know what time they can go in. They don't know where they get the keys to their holiday home. They come in with no paperwork. They think that because they have arrived early, they can get in early. They send children in to get keys. They arrange for someone else to collect keys on their behalf – without giving them any information for identification, or telling them what property they need keys for, etc. They use a different number to the one given them to access a key safe and wonder why it won't open – and where did they get this so called number from? Who knows but it is not the one that is on our details.... Just lessons to learn here once again. Life lessons really and common sense. Easy – just read and understand – then you won't look stupid. We are all guilty of not reading properly and thoroughly though. (Especially when putting together flat pack furniture.....).

Electric cars on holiday. Yes, we are all out to save money where you can and those who have electric cars need to pay to have them charged at the correct charging points. Most people do. Not when you are on holiday! Oh no. You cheekily bring your cable, plug it in to the car and then drag the rest of the extensive cable through an open window into the

holiday home. You then leave it to charge for a few hours whilst you and your entourage have a wander, returning to a fully charged car at no expense to you, ready for your afternoon trip out. This can of course be carried out several times during your stay. Never mind where the cable is left or who it will trip up when you leave it trailing from the roadside, through the gate, up the garden and into the window. How long can a cable be? How much is the cost of this to the owner? Our correspondence to guests has covered this issue for a few years now, telling guests not to do this. Safety is an issue, not only across the pavement in this case and a few more, we were thinking of the power from the house and socket... .. For those who are now asking with a gasp, do people really do this? Yes, they do.

Sandra Hohol – NORFOLK HOLIDAY HOMES
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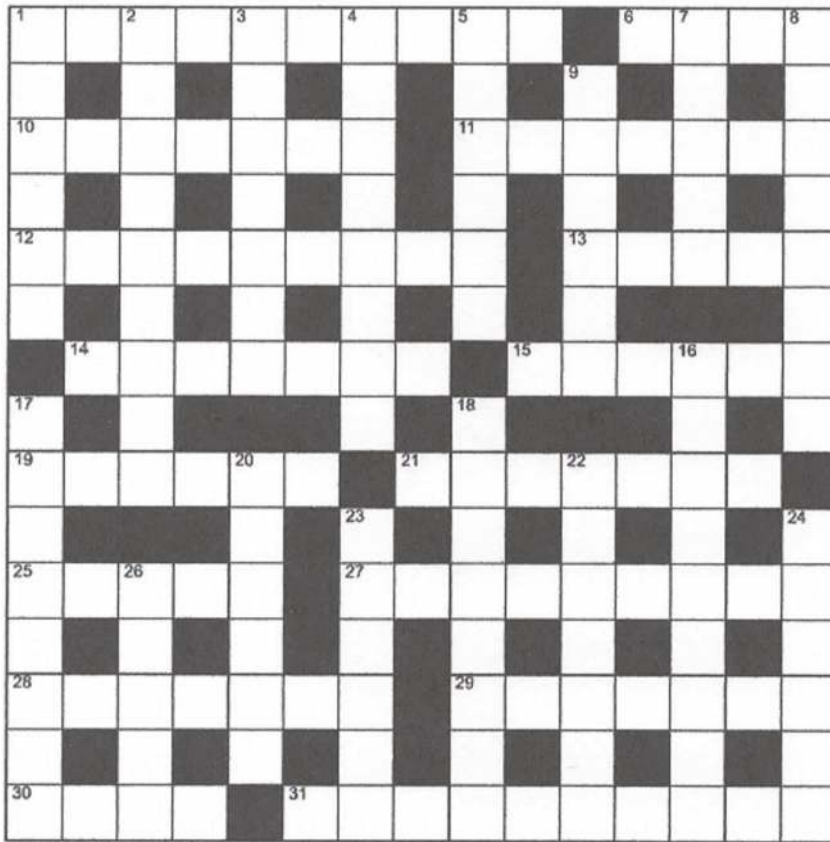
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email: marie125@btinternet.com

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Across: 1. Wordscarch, 6. Pfat, 10. Artemis, 11. Emulate,
 12. Thornhill, 13. Thong, 14. Daffled, 15. Armlet, 19. Aye aye,
 21. Epicure, 25. Chain, 27. Caribbean, 28. Baskets, 29. Tangles,
 30. Xema, 31. Spiritless

Down: 1. Wrath, 2. Rationale, 3. Seminal, 4. Abselter, 5. Creels,
 7. Idaho, 8. Freights, 9. Punter, 16. Large blue, 17. Matchbox,
 18. Operator, 20. Yankee, 22. Cabinet, 23. Acts up, 24. Anises,
 26. Assam

David Elsey's Cryptic Crossword



Crossword solution on page 47

CROSSWORD CLUES

Across

1. Crowds are rioting in front of hotel – it's a puzzle (10)
6. Good to meet a fine chanteuse (4)
10. Expertise, I reflected, is required for new NASA project (7)
11. One is grounded in Australia, being delayed for match ... (7)
12. ... when in the side it's annoying to be facing flyer of a winger (9)
13. Host has no right to reveal flimsy garment (5)
14. Took one's time (everyone is late to eat) (7)
15. Band member needs permit (6)
19. Roger, at sea, called out repeatedly (3,3)
21. Recipe you sent by text is cooked for gourmet (7)
25. Albert is featured in a series (5)
27. Can most of meat and veg be coming from the West Indies? (9)
28. Enquire about 9's interests (they are the same as 5) (7)
29. Catches up as first trimester approaches (7)
30. Gulls American Express into making a U-turn (4)
31. Not getting 1 Down, becomes depressed (10)

Down

1. Rovers in Scotland, under the influence of whisky, see ghost (6)
2. Reasons to restrict the consumption of beer (9)
3. Cup-tie, if abandoned, could prove very important (7)
4. One descends from a couple of seafarers, one is told (8)
5. Top-class lines used by anglers (6)
7. I held review over state of potatoes (8)
8. French crews join ships (8)
9. Piano tuner, ill, gets better (6)
16. Butterfly is abundant down under (5,4)
17. One provides strip for striker in game featured on TV (8)
18. Someone who works on call – a surgeon, perhaps? (8)
20. 9 might take a chance on this statesman (6)
22. Storage for vehicle, fashionable and French (7)
23. Carries on after scenes at university (4,2)
24. Organise sunshades to protect plants (6)
26. One place for tea? A crowd turned up! (5)

Ray Butcher's Su Doku

Easy first....

...then the more challenging

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

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

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Heacham and Hunstanton at night

Terry Parish

(If you read no further, look at the penultimate paragraph).

October and, on the 30th, we will be on Greenwich Mean Time, GMT – the clocks go back.

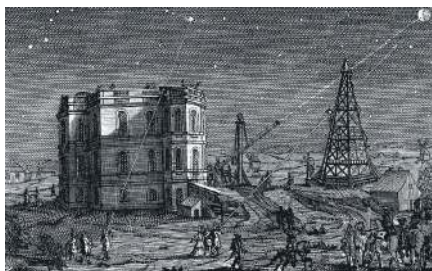
Some might wonder why 00 longitude runs through Greenwich and that time is measured from it. Every 15 degrees west loses an hour, every 15 east gains an hour which is why New Year in Australia is well before ours. The answer is that we were the favourites at the International Meridian Conference of 1884 which decided on Greenwich rather than Paris.



The Prime Meridian, 00 longitude, at Greenwich. Internet

The conference was held in Washington DC and initially came about in order to regularise train times across the North American continent which had, in fact, been done the year before. The reason for Greenwich was that longitude line is closer to the mean circumference of the Earth than is the one going through Paris. France hung on to the Paris meridian until about 1914.

France abstained on the vote for the prime meridian as Greenwich was seen as an acceptable bribe to the British to ensure we accepted the new Metre convention agreed at the International Bureau of Weights and Measures in 1875. The Paris Observatory, built around 1667, was pre-eminent in work on measurement. Members of the Cassini family ran it for 100 years. Giovanni Cassini discovered, in 1675, the gap in Saturn's rings now known as the Cassini Division. The Cassini – Huygens space mission reached Saturn in 2017.



The Paris Observatory in 1740. Note the very long telescopes supported by pylons used by Cassini. Internet

Early astronomy is riddled with the politics of the day but what of now, what to look for this October?

Meteors first, those transient objects I wax lyrical about but few see. There are a number of showers about this month:

The Draconids. A minor shower which starts on the 6th and peaks on the 9th. The Southern Taurids. Peak on the 10th, some bright fireballs but its only one day after Full Moon. The Orionids. Your best chance, occurring between the 18th and 24th with just a waxing Crescent Moon to interfere; these are due to Earth's second pass through the debris from Halley's Comet. The Northern Taurids. Start on the 20th and peak early November. Both Taurids originate from Comet 2P/Encke.

So many possibilities, you may as well get the sun lounge out and lie on it all night. The best show is typically late and often not long before dawn but there are always some meteors before bed time. If the weather is not obliging you may want to listen to meteors passing through the atmosphere. Google 'sounds of meteors', or similar, and there are several U tube presentations. The best one comes from an official source – US Airforce Space Surveillance Radar.

The planets. I hope you have all noticed Jupiter shining bright in the SE/SW from 9pm with a good horizon, a little later otherwise? I looked at it last night, 9th September, and it was much clearer than in the drought days as all the dust had been washed out of the air. The characteristic bands of the Jovian world were visible and the four Galilean satellites were nicely strung out like pearls. (See last month for more details).

Despite it being one day before Full Moon, Saturn was also very clear to the naked eye. My telescope showed the rings, including the Cassini Division, clearly. However, as I stepped up the magnification the image blurred. There was cloud about and magnification enhances problems more than the object you want to see. I couldn't see Neptune which I managed several weeks earlier so the 'invisible' thin cloud, illuminated by the Moon, must have washed it out.

Uranus was a tad low and behind thicker cloud. Mars had not risen (this was 11pm). October is three weeks away so what can you expect to see when you read this?

The middle of the month is the best time to see Mercury but you need a very good easterly horizon and to catch it before sunrise. It is at its greatest separation (elongation) from the Sun on the 8th and is brightest, magnitude -1, a week later. On the 24th, at 7am, the Crescent Moon is just above Mercury. If you can make it, Cromer cliffs should be good site for viewing. I went there to see a transit of Venus, it rained.



The launch of BlueWalker 3 by SpaceX. Set to ruin the night sky? Internet

Jupiter will be shining brightly with a magnitude of -2.9. In the absence of Venus, it is described as the brightest object other than the Moon. However, a very large communication satellite was launched on September 10th and this might overtake it. Such satellites, for Internet connection, are becoming more than a nuisance. Jupiter doesn't set until 5.30am so you can still be looking at it whilst enjoying the meteors. On the 8th, at 8pm, Jupiter will be just above a nearly Full Moon low in the ESE.

Saturn is clear to see with a magnitude of 0.6. It rises earlier than Jupiter so is always further west and sets around 1.30am.

Neptune is between the two gas giants, very faint at magnitude +7.8. A telescope is needed.

Uranus is in the range of good binoculars with a magnitude of +5.7. It rises in the NE at around 7pm so leave it until around 10pm to start looking for it. Stellarium or similar software, also available as a phone app, will find it for you.

Mars rises even later, at around 8.30pm. It will brighten as the month advances from magnitude -0.6 to -1.2. In the middle of the month, early morning will find it reasonably high in the SE. On the 15th, the Red Planet will be just below a Half Moon.

If you want to try and see five planets in the night sky then try around the 17th at midnight. Bright Jupiter will be high in the south. Saturn will be low in the SW and, if your horizon is poor you will need to look for it earlier. Uranus will be high in the SE on a level with Jupiter. Mars will be in the east a little lower than Jupiter. An hour earlier and you will likely not have a good enough easterly horizon so, 11pm to certainly see Saturn,

midnight for Mars. You are looking along a long arc of the ecliptic, the path that the planets describe across the sky. Remember that it is Earth's rotation that makes the planets rise and set in succession.

Mercury will be on the same line, right in the east as the sun rises. Venus is there too but too close to the Sun to see.

As well as the Earth rotating, it also orbits the Sun. This movement does change the positions of the other planets as seen in our sky. Their own orbits do the same. These changes are significant for Mercury and Venus, comparatively close and moving faster, and for Mars which is comparatively close and moving slower.

The orbit of the Earth also changes the constellations we see in the night sky. As the seasons change, the area of space we see is different and the constellations move slowly to the west. Late in the month, look for Orion rising in the east heralding winter.

Look due south at 11pm to see the asterism of The Great Square of Pegasus. Just above, right overhead, will be the W of Cassiopeia.



The Great Square of Pegasus with Andromeda located. It won't look like that!
Internet

Either side of this stretches the band of the Milky Way, terminating at the east and west horizons.

Find the upper left star, Alpheratz, of the Great Square and track up and to the left at about 45 degrees. A misty patch is the Andromeda Galaxy. This is the furthest object that the eye can see unaided (2.5 million light years). If you can't see it, neither can I but steady binoculars might do it for you.

I nearly forgot. Assuming no annoying clouds, there is something all of you can see between 10am and noon on October 25th. It



The partial eclipse of 2015 seen from Heacham. Parish

is a partial solar eclipse – the Sun will have a small bite taken from it by the celestial dragon, otherwise known as the Moon. The New Moon has lined up between the Sun and Earth but not quite good enough for all the Sun to vanish. The maximum coverage is at around 11am. Don't stare at it, use eclipse glasses if you have them, project the Sun onto a piece of card through a lens, or just take care. Very thin cloud can be a help.

Dark, clear skies await.

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Hunstanton Lifeboat Station

Geoff Needham

On behalf of everyone involved with RNLI. We send our heartfelt condolences to The Royal Family on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The Queen dedicated 70 years as Patron of the RNLI. Her Majesty's support for our lifesavers and our cause will never be forgotten.

Our 999 open day was cancelled, a new date will be announced.

A change in the weather and children back to school, has eased the number of incidents along our coastline, visitors to the beach should still remain vigilant to tide times and weather conditions, enjoy the open spaces but take care.

Saturday 13th August at 4.50. p.m. U.K. Coastguard requested launch of Hunstanton Lifeboat to go to the aid an inflatable dinghy with two young girls on it, and a swimmer trying to save them, and reports of people on the sandbank caught by the incoming tide. Hunstanton volunteer crew made good speed to the area, and

rescued the two 14 year girls along with the male swimmer, they were taken aboard the lifeboat they were suffering from water inhalation and shock, The lifeboat then picked up the other three people who were in the water, a father and mother and young daughter, because of concern for the casualties, an Ambulance was requested to meet them at the Boathouse on return.

This was a multi Agency incident involving RNLI. Ambulance including Air Ambulance, Coastguard and Police, the casualties were later transferred by road Ambulance to the QE 2 at Kings Lynn for further observation. This was our most serious incident this heat-wave, and highlights the importance of the dangers of using inflatables in tidal waters, and venturing out to the sandbanks unaware that the tide comes in at a very fast rate.

Sunday 14th August at 5.25 p.m. UK Coastguard requested launch of Hunstanton Hovercraft to report of 11 persons cut off by

the Tide on Scolthead Island Brancaster.

Hunstanton Hovercraft launched on service and proceeded to Brancaster. On arrival they received a radio report that the 11 persons, all young adults had swam ashore and were now with the local Coastguard response team, and after check of the Island, no other persons were left. Hovercraft could return to station. This completed a busy week for Hunstanton RNLI crews. H.W. 9.26. p.m.. Wind E. 3. Vis. Good Sea state Slight.. Weather Fine.

I'd like to share a little memory with you. I was serving aboard HMS Crossbow a Destroyer in the Home Fleet we were in the Mediterranean when His Majesty King George VI died. I was on watch down the forward engine room, the Chief Tiffy asked me to go and make brew up. So I went down to our mess-deck and while there the Skipper made an announcement on the ships radio. The message was "You may have noticed we are flying our flag at half mast and steaming in line

abreast with the Fleet. The King is dead God save The Queen. I returned down the engine room and informed the Chief of the message, He threatened to put me on a charge for spreading malicious gossip, he got on the phone to the Bridge and asked the officer of the watch to confirm the pipe, he didn't believe me. We were at the eastern end of the Med having left Malta, we were ordered to sail for Gibraltar, as the Queen was flying home from Kenya. In those days flight paths were different and restrictions over territorial airspaces, meant the flight path was mainly over the sea from Gib to UK. We were ordered to steam to a position spaced out between different ships of the fleet, in case of an emergency. I was 4 years old when I can recall King George V Jubilee street party 1936. Also King George VI and Queen Mary along with the two princesses and the Old Queen Mary coming through Sedgeford in the Rolls Royce motors, early models, in the early 40s. not sure where they were going maybe Bircham RAF. Treasured memories. Us kids stood on the bank down Fring Lane and waved as they went by,

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. Channels 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.



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NCI Brancaster

The National Coastwatch Institution (NCI) was formed in 1994, after two fishermen drowned off the coast of Cornwall near a recently closed Coastguard lookout. Local people decided to reopen the lookout and restore a visual watch and NCI was born.

There are currently 59 stations manned by nearly 2600 volunteers keeping watch around the coasts of England and Wales. NCI watchkeepers provide the eyes and ears along the coast carrying out visual surveillance, particularly observing the activities of vulnerable persons and vessels and monitoring radio channels. Watchkeepers are trained to deal with emergencies and rigorous training ensures that high standards are met. NCI also supports wildlife agencies and report any animals or birds requiring attention.

NCI Brancaster is situated in the grounds of the Royal West Norfolk Golf Club and opened its doors on April 15th this year following a trial in 2021. We have already been involved in 12 incidents and have been instrumental in preventing at least 6 more.

The station overlooks Brancaster beach and Scolt Head Island to the east. At low tides access can be gained to the island, but when the tide turns the channels soon backfill and people regularly get cut off from the mainland.

We are open seven days a week during daylight hours, although our hours of operation are sometimes restricted by the tide flooding Beach Road. We currently have around 19 volunteers but require more people to join us. No nautical or maritime experience is needed as full training is given at your own pace in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere at the station. All that we ask is that you can carry out at least one three hour watch per week.

Further information can be gained by visiting our national website (nci.org.uk) or by contacting the Station Manager John Allen on 07955 621608 or email at john.allen@nci.org.uk



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 Questions start at 7pm

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Hospice Fundraiser

**Dersingham Village Centre,
 Dersingham, King's Lynn,
 PE31 6LN**
7th October, 2022 at 7:00pm

The Fun Quiz Night at Dersingham Village Centre returns! The next quiz night will be on Friday 7th October with questions starting from 7pm. This night includes an additional challenge - the Question Master's Brightest Waistcoat Challenge.

Tickets are £6 each (including snacks) and the maximum team size is 6. There will be cash prizes for winners and raffle prizes on the night.

Licensed bar courtesy of the Dersingham Village Centre Association. This event is in aid of The Norfolk Hospice.

Booking is essential through Graham Eley on 07901 896102 or grahamreley@tiscali.co.uk.

The Question Master's Waistcoat Challenge

The challenge is for the quiz players to wear a waistcoat that is more colourful or better decorated than the one the Question Master will be wearing.

If the Question Master's waistcoat is judged not to be the brightest then he will donate £1 to The Norfolk Hospice for each waistcoat in the room. If however his waistcoat is judged to be the brightest then each waistcoat wearer in the room will pay a forfeit of £1 to The Norfolk Hospice.

Judging will be undertaken independently.

Waistcoats are not the most popular and available items of wear these days so any sleeveless top may be worn. They can be self-made/decorated or straight off the shelf.

Have some fun and please take part!



The Prudent Pensioner's recipe

Days are getting cooler, time I feel for some nourishing soup. This recipe is quite simple and very tasty.

I am told there is often lovely bread and more, available from the Community Fridge – free food for everyone and set up to stop food going to landfill. Did you know about it? Open from 10.15 Wednesdays until the food has gone at Hunstanton's Community Centre.

Broccoli, Carrot & Celery Soup

Makes approx. 800ml

1 med Shallot or small onion

A knob of Butter

Potato approx. 115g/4oz

Carrots approx. 115g/4oz

1 large or 2 small sticks of Celery

Broccoli approx. 230g/8oz.

Chicken or vegetable stock cube dissolved in 500ml hot water.

Salt and Pepper to taste.

Cut florets from broccoli and leave to soak in lightly salted water. Trim off and discard discoloured part at base of broccoli stalk. Peel stalk and cut into small pieces.

Peel potato and carrot and cut into small pieces.

Peel shallot/onion and slice fairly thinly.

Clean celery, trim off and discard base and top of stalk and slice fairly thinly.

Put butter into a saucepan over a low to medium heat, add shallot/onion, stir well and cook for 1 minute stirring continuously.

Add potato, broccoli stalks, carrot and celery, stir and mix well. Carefully add stock, increase heat and bring to boiling point. Reduce heat and leave covered, simmering gently, for 10 minutes stirring occasionally.

Rinse broccoli florets in cold water and add to stock. You may need to increase heat for a few seconds, simmer gently for a further 5-10 minutes or until all vegetables are fairly soft.

Strain off most of the liquid into a jug, put aside while you either put vegetables into liquidiser or use a hand blender and whizz until pureed.

Carefully return liquid to pureed vegetables in a saucepan, stirring gently to mix well. Season to taste. Reheat stirring gently. Serve and enjoy.

-oOo-

My updated book "Less Waste more Soup" 45 easy, budget friendly recipes for nourishing soup is now available from Amazon. A search for Doreen Reed will find it (together with my books of light hearted poems and tales) It is also available from Ridouts Bakery in Heacham. Docking Farmers Market and Folgate Farm shop Waddington, Lincolnshire. A copy is available to borrow from Heacham Library. See more recipes on The Prudent Pensioner Facebook page

Email: pru.pensioner@btinternet.com

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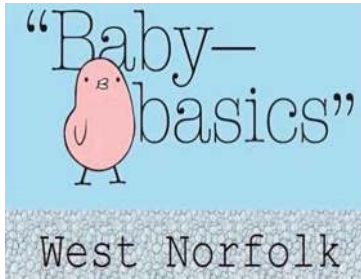
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North West Norfolk MP James Wild met with Baby Basics West Norfolk to learn about the essential work they do to support vulnerable mums by providing a safe bed, and other essentials for their new-born babies.

A volunteer led project, the team meets once a week at St Nicholas Church, to prepare starter packs to help mums and families struggling to meet the financial and practical needs of looking after a new baby. These new Moses Baskets which provide a safe bed for the babies to sleep in are packed full of essentials such as nappies, wipes, toiletries, blankets, baby towels, and baby clothes from new-born to three months. For some mothers, these are the only items they may have for their baby.

As well as these items for babies, essentials such as maternity pads, breast pads and toiletries are provided for the mum.

Mums are referred to Baby Basics by Midwives, Health Visitors, Social Workers, Leeway, Early Years, AskLily, The Borough

Council, the Purfleet, and many other professionals. Help is given to vulnerable groups including, but not limited to, those facing poverty, homelessness, families in crisis, teenage mums and women fleeing domestic violence.

Demand for the service continues to grow. Since 2019 there has been an increase from 57 referrals received and completed to 216 in 2021. So far this year 186 referrals have been completed.

"I am sure the pandemic has had an impact on the increase as more health and other professionals have become aware of our charity, but there has also been an increase in domestic violence during lockdown, which saw more people seeking help".

Whilst it is a privilege to provide these Moses Basket bundles to those who need them most, it's a sad reflection on the need locally.

It takes courage for these mums to accept or agree to help, so when they are referred to us by the professionals we know they will get ongoing signposting for further support.

Our ethos is to try to give these mums dignity, to feel worthy, because they are. Having to ask for help is hard.

Any donations, large or small are gratefully received. Just £2 will buy a packet of maternity pads.

All the Moses baskets are new. Fundraising and donations enable us to ensure each baby has a new bed to sleep in.



Do join us at our next fundraiser!

13th October – 12.30 – 2pm 'Ballads for Baby Basics'! Why not spend your lunchtime enjoying a mix of live music at St Nicholas Church. Bring your own sandwiches! Hot and cold drinks will be served.

Donations of money or new baby items including new-born and 0-3 month clothing can be given at the event.

Thank you all.

Maggie Anderson
Baby Basics West Norfolk Centre
Leader

We have our own Baby Basics email or Facebook, as below.

Email – babybasicswestnorfolk@gmail.com

Visit – www.baby-basics.org.uk

Tel – 07708173567 or 07876034281

Pride - the biggest parade in town

Jo Rust

On Saturday 20th August King's Lynn played host to the biggest parade in the town. Pride 2022 was back after two years away due to covid and the crowds were bigger than before. Approximately 750 people were in the Tuesday market Place to see that start of the parade with an estimated 3500 in the walks for an afternoon of fun, food, fairground rides and music, as well as inspirational speakers. All the Pride organisers were over the moon at the success this year particularly in respect of the additional facilities laid on to make the event the most accessible. Disability Officer, Linda Cox said "we were determined to grow on the success of 2019, our last full Pride, by making sure it was even more accessible. So we had a mobiloo adult changing facility which was widely used as well as Linda Bacardi, a drag queen signer for the deaf. And this year we had an even larger area covered by the porta paths to make getting around easier and smoother. We've been widely praised because of our inclusivity. Pride really is for all."

Tuesday Market Place Parade organiser Jo Rust said "you could see how pleased the crowd were to be back, everyone had gone the extra mile to dress up and we were blown away by the colour, the beauty, the happiness and the diversity of the event. After a gap of



two years you could see exactly how much people had been looking forward to this parade and how much it meant to everyone. We know that going forward we'll only see more people attend as they grown more confident to come out and be their true selves. Our speakers such as Laura Skaife Knight, deputy CEO of the QEH, help show the way and inspire others."

Josh Elms, another organiser said "Pride started in the UK 50 years ago as a protest. Sadly we still have the need to protest as shown by the way in which Titania Trust was treated when booked to do a drag queen story time. One has to wonder what these protestors make of panto dames and if they'll be staging a sit in at panto season. We will

continue to lead the way in ensuring we gain equality for all in our LGBTQi community"

The two Walks organisers – Darren Whiley and Fran Bone said "we had more stalls and more variety than before and the fairground rides were a welcome addition to show how Pride is for the whole family. We couldn't have been happier with the reception from the crowds. Our acts were amazing and the support we had from local businesses like Bar 100, to make our event more like a party, was fantastic"



All the organisers were agreed, Pride is back and will be every 3rd Saturday of August, so next year, book Saturday 19th August in your diaries and make sure you're a part of the biggest, most colourful, happiest parade the King's Lynn has.

WE ARE IN THE TOP 10

THE SUNDAY TIMES

The 10 best fish and chip shops in the UK



6. Fishers, Hunstanton, Norfolk

There are newer, more fashionable chippies on the north Norfolk coast, but I've eaten at them all, and the best is the shop on the Green that has been serving since the 1950s. Most fryers make a big deal about their "signature batter", but Fishers is the lightest and crunchiest I've tasted this year. There's a charming restaurant, but unless it's raining you'd be mad to use it when you could sit on the Green overlooking the sea, or walk for five minutes up Cliff Parade to find a bench in Esplanade Gardens and watch the sun set over Lincolnshire. Cod and chips £9.70 (fishershunstanton.co.uk)



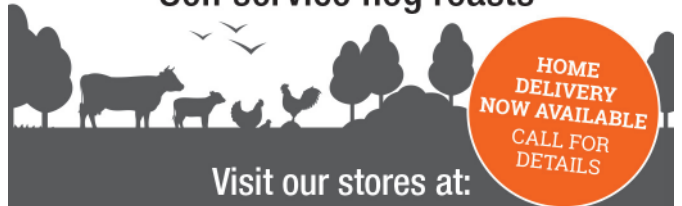
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u3a

By Tim Keogh

The University of the Third Age - are a group of retired people offering a range of social activities to like-minded people. From pétanque to Majong, monthly strolls to flower arranging, art to zoology and everything in between, over 250 members make use of the vast array of activities on offer by the Hunstanton branch.

The club meet up at 2pm every third Monday of the month at Hunstanton Community Centre. Anyone wishing to join or, to simply find out more about U3A, are invited to come along.

Former mayor, Geoffrey Smith, is an advocate of this friendly society. Geoff looks after the pétanque sessions on Monday mornings, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Born and bred in Hunstanton, Geoff remembers swimming at the Blue Lagoon, Dinner and Dance evenings at the Kit Kat and a traditional annual football match being played between the Hunstanton football clubs and East Fulham football clubs, a post war tradition set up by two wartime friends. Geoff recollected World Cup winner, George Cohen, attending one of the events at East Fulham. Geoff said, "I understood the importance of social interaction from a young age, with weekly trips to the Blue Lagoon from the surrounding villages, but nowadays understand it's importance for us older lot! U3A are a really friendly bunch and there are loads of different activities to suit all tastes".



*Former mayor Geoff Smith
with his mayoress
Vee Cooper in 2004*



Yoga session

The U3A, celebrating its 40th anniversary, is an international society formed by Professor Pierre Vallas in Toulouse in 1973, a movement aimed at aiding learning, staying active and having fun for a positive later life for those in the third 'age' of their life. The Hunstanton branch has been operating for thirty one years. The group also arrange day trips, recently putting on a coach outing to the wonderful moated Tudor House, Kentwell Hall, in Suffolk. A coach trip to the festive Lincoln Christmas Market is planned for December.

For more information please pop down to the next meeting at the Hunstanton Community Centre on Avenue Road at 2pm on Monday, 17th October. Alternatively, you can contact them on 01485 534031 for an informal chat or email memsec@hunstantonu3a.org

Extinction Rebellion King's Lynn news

On 27th August 12 locals from Extinction Rebellion King's Lynn took part in a litter pick in the Lynnsport area along the Gaywood River to raise awareness of the poor health of the chalk stream, filling 22 bin bags.



Credit: Extinction Rebellion King's Lynn

Although we organised a litter pick along the river, litter isn't the main issue affecting the health of this chalk stream. The Gaywood River faces many issues but we are raising awareness of the pollution that has caused downstream of the river to suffer. The Gaywood River is a tale of two chalk streams. Upstream is in better health, it has crystal clear water and flourishing plant life.

Downstream is another matter; the water is murky, plants are dying off and there is algae overgrowth.

Along with picking litter, some members handed out leaflets and spoke to passers-by about the issues facing the river. Previously we collected over 1000 signatures in a petition to the Environment Agency's director Sir James Bevan, we delivered the petition to him and the King's Lynn office earlier this year. The agency responded[1] with thanks and encouragement around "citizen science" projects which allow local people to take an active role in monitoring and maintaining the rare chalk stream.

Robert Shippey, 30, after picking litter along the river today said "We're so lucky to have a rare chalk stream like this, the litter is a shame but the pollution has caused much more damage to the river. The people I spoke to today really value the Gaywood River. I want to see the authorities and government, nationally and locally, start to properly protect rivers like this one."

Testing by a local enthusiast last year revealed that the Phosphate levels downstream of Bawsey have been around four times higher than the source[2]. Phosphates increase in rivers due to sewage dumping or runoff from farms.

We are encouraging people to report any pollution in the river they see to the Environment Agency on their free 24hr incident hotline at 0800 80 70 60[3]. People can also get in touch with our group to take part in future campaign activities on the Gaywood River, and the wider climate and natural emergency.

What is happening to the Gaywood River is an example of the wider destruction being done to natural systems. We've all seen the recent reporting around sewage dumping into our rivers and sea. The nature around us is used by companies as a free resource and an endless dumping ground, with the government allowing it to happen. Restoring rivers like the Gaywood River to their natural and healthy state is an important step to helping us tackle the effects of climate change.



Credit: Extinction Rebellion King's Lynn

Winter Warmers 2022– 2023

A series of five entertaining and informative talks, with supper generously provided by The Orange Tree

14th October 2022: Jake Fiennes, General Manager, Conservation, Holkham Estate - "Making Space for Nature"

Jake has recently published "Land Healer, which you might like to read in advance. He will also have books available on the night and will be happy to sign your copy.

11th November 2022: Orysia Lutsevych, Manager, Ukraine Forum, Chatham House. Orysia came to Thornham in 2019 to speak on "Ukraine – A Struggle of a Frontline State." It seems like the right time for an update from this engaging and informative speaker.

9th December 2022: Tony Lyons, Managing Director, Xceco - "Offshore Wind – A Peek Inside"

Your opportunity to find out more about the wind farm we can see from the beach!

13th January 2023: Sir William Russell, Former Lord Mayor of London - To provide continuity during the pandemic, William served two terms as Lord Mayor, and will talk about the role and his experiences during his time in office.

24th February 2023: Speaker to be confirmed.

Our February speaker has asked that we confirm her talk early in the new year, so fingers crossed.

All talks take place on Friday evenings at Thornham Village Hall. £25, including a 2 course supper and welcome drink. Advance Booking is essential. To book, email winterwarmers@thornhamvillagehall.co.uk

Doors open at 6.30pm and talks start promptly at 7 pm, followed by supper. Full bar facilities available.

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On the turf with Charles Joyce

On 8 September racing lost a friend who had been involved with racing since Monaveen won a handicap chase at Fontwell on 10 October 1949 returning at a price of 30/100. The eight-year-old was trained by Peter Cazalet for the then Princess Elizabeth. Later as Queen Elizabeth II her horse Aureole ridden by Harry Carr and trained by Cecil Boyd Rochford finished second in the Epsom Derby which brought the comment from Phil Bull's Timeform Racehorses of 1953. "It is his (Aureole's) misfortune to be foaled in the same year as Pinza, but for whose intervention in 1953 Aureole would have won the Derby". In 1957, Carrozza a daughter of war time Derby winner Dante and granddaughter of the immortal Hyperion won the Oaks ridden by Lester Piggott and trained by Noel Murless became the first Classic winner for the late Queen. The following year Pall Mall won the Newmarket 2,000 Guineas at 20/1 with jockey Doug Smith beating his brother Eph into second place. Highclere which shared the same name as the scene of the episodes of Downton Abbey won the Newmarket 1,000 Guineas in 1974 when trained by Dick Hern and ridden by Joe Mercer. A daughter of stallion Queen's Hussar the sire of the legendary Brigadier Gerard who was also trained by Dick Hern and ridden by Joe Mercer. Highclere went on to win the French Oaks at Chantilly and was herself a relation to Aureole via her grand dam Hypericum who had won the 1,000 Guineas for King George VI in 1946. In Silver Jubilee Year Dick Hern trained and Willie Carson rode Dunfermilne to win both the Epsom Oaks and Doncaster St Leger where she beat Alleged only the second non-French trained horse to win the Arc D'Triomphe in successive years (Italian trained Ribot was the first in 1955/56). Trained by the legend Vincent O'Brien and ridden by Lester Piggott Alleged's only defeat came at the hands of Dunfermilne. The St Leger is run over a distance just short of a mile and seven furlongs which is a long race for three year olds.. Yet the filly Stroma born in 1955 was brought into the Royal Stud presumably with the intent of injecting some speed into the breeding lines. Stroma never won a race but gave birth to some useful horses including Canisbay which won the Eclipse Stakes at Sandown Park for his royal owner when ridden by Stan Clayton in 1965. Stroma also gave birth to Strathcoma who's sire was 1960 Epsom Derby winner St Paddy himself a son of Aureole. It was Strathcoma who in 1974 gave birth to Dunfermilne. A regular attendee at the Epsom Derby and Royal Ascot where she rode in an open carriage down the track Her Majesty had been winning owner in 1954 and 1957 after taking over the racing string of horses following the death of her father she continued on to great success. Possibly the most memorable of her winners was Estimate when she won the 2013 Ascot Gold Cup and became the first reigning monarch to win the race in two hundred years. The video of her encouraging jockey Ryan Moore is on youtube. As a child Her Majesty was fascinated with horses and she carried her enthusiasm for racing up until her death. Her last winner was at Goodwood in the 3.05 on Tuesday 6 September when the Clive Cox trained Adam Kirby ridden Love Affairs won. It was the same day she asked Liz Truss to form a Government.

August was a mixed and at times very frustrating month. John Jo Murphy did have a winner at Killarney, but in a listed race which was not a handicap. Eddie Lynam had a 10/1 winner. This time it was Bellewstown. He did come good though on the very last day of August when Marsa won at Gowran Park at 7/1. David O'Meara did the reverse with a couple of winners early in the month at 11/4 and 8/1, but let the side down as the month wore on. Most disappointing was City Vaults who attracted heavy late support being backed in from 11/2 to 3/1 but got caught behind horses and was too far back to make up the ground. That's racing and At The Double won for Sir Mark Prescott at 10/3 and although there have been several losers this year the smoking baronet is still keeping punters in front. August was also the month Broadspear ran at Chepstow. The 1/16 favourite (Yes you had to put £16 onto win £1) lost. He was one of the shortest losing favourites in the history of racing in the UK. Although the honour, if that is what it can be called for being the shortest priced loser goes to Royal Forest who lost at 1/25

in 1948 when ridden by Gordon Richards he finished second to the unraced 33/1 outsider Burpham in the Clarence House Stakes at Ascot. (Clarence House was the official residence of the Prince of Wales now King Charles III) Royal Forest did redeem himself to some extent by winning the Dewhurst Stakes at Newmarket at odds of 5/4. One of the reasons he was so short at Ascot was because in his previous race he had won the Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot. Then run over five furlongs rather than the present day six furlongs Royal Forest beat in to second place Nimbus who the following year prevailed in the Newmarket 2,000 Guineas and Epsom Derby. His head victory at Epsom denied Australian jockey Rae Johnstone a triple Derby win. Born in New South Wales Rae Johnstone spent most of his racing life in France. He won the Epsom Derby in 1948 on My Love owned by the Aga Khan and on Galcador owned by Marcel Boussac. In 1949, he rode Amour Drake to finish second to Nimbus. All three were trained in France. His 1949 defeat means Steve Donoghue remains the only jockey to win the Epsom Derby three years in a row when winning on Humourist in 1921; Captain Cuttle in 1922; and Papyrus in 1923. In 1924, his mount Defiance finished down the field. But Donoghue won again in 1925 on Manna. Altogether Steve Donoghue won six Derbys with the war time winners Pommern in 1915 and Gay Crusader in 1917.

August was also the month Mark Johnston trained Dubai Mile to become his five thousandth winner. It's a remarkable feat and strange to think that when he had his first runner on 2 March 1987, I was in Ireland becoming busy in preparation for lambing sheep. Even stranger is I was surrounded by famous equine people and their horses but did not have a bet. Maybe more on that another time.

Nanny Nadine Dorries is leaving front line politics. Although affordability checks are less likely the loss of nanny Nadine, given the state of the country, is a big loss. She calls herself "a council estate Scouser" and tried to keep the Government with at least a toehold in the world millions of people live in this country. She helped stave off some of the worst excesses of Government policies and it was nanny Nadine who called David Cameron and George Osborne "two arrogant posh boys who do not know the price of milk." In an interview with the Financial Times she said at the time that "government policy was being run by two public school boys who don't know what it's like to go to the supermarket and have to put things back on the shelves because they can't afford it for their children's lunch boxes" She added: "What's worse, they don't care either."

I hope a few kept the faith with our old friend Above the Curve who won at 5/1 in Ireland on Champions Weekend. During that weekend Luxembourg posted notice that he would be a very serious contender if he showed up for the Arc De Triomphe run on the first Sunday in October when he won the Champions Stakes at Leopardstown. Second that day was Onesto one of the local French hopes. He had previously beaten Simca Mille a neck in the Grand Prix De Paris over course and distance on Bastille Day. Fourth that day was Eldor Eldorav who later won the Doncaster St Leger with Irish Derby runner up, Piz Badile sixth and last. Simca Mille led until the last hundred yards with Onesto sitting at the back before making his challenge. It can be difficult to come from the back in a large field at Longchamp. On French trials day, Simca Mille won what was once considered the key Arc trial on trials day when he won the Prix Niel. If Luxembourg turns up and is awarded a good draw, he will not be the 6/1 he is at present even if Baaeed shows up. But with plans still fluid it may pay to look elsewhere. The French colts will be hard to beat. Although Simca Mille is not even entered but could be supplemented. Sir Mark Prescott's Alpinista is presently 15/2 and this has been the mare's long-term target. She has won her last five races, all of which were Group 1s while earning more air miles than the average British Airways stewardess. In one of those Group 1s she beat last year's Arc winner Torquato Tasso. For a lot of years fillies and mares seldom got a look in against the colts, but since Zarkava won in 2008 until Enable winning in 2018 eight fillies/mares won the Arc D'Triomphe. In the three other year the winner also won the Epsom Derby in the same years as his Arc win.

Al Riffa won the Group1 National Stakes at 9/1. He had been supplemented by Joseph O'Brien at a cost of fifty thousand euros. Also upholding the honour of supplemented horses was the filly Haskoy who ran second in the Doncaster St Leger before being demoted to fourth place. Many bookmakers will have paid out on the second place to each/way punters. One for the future from Irish Champions Day was Tahiyra who is a half-sister (they share the same dam) to multiple Group 1 winner and runner up in the Arc last year, Tarnawa. Tahiyra was very impressive in the Group1 Moyglare Stud Stakes when beating the previously unbeaten Mediate who won at Royal Ascot. Tahiyra is as short as 3/1 for next year's Newmarket 1,000 Guineas which is too short for a race with no entries so far. And 8/1 for the Epsom Oaks. If she wins the 1,000 Guineas, she will be odds on for the Oaks. The problem being there is a lot of water to flow before 2nd June next year.

As always pay the bills first and under no circumstances bet if you cannot afford to lose, because even the best professional punters lose more often than they win.

Hunstanton Eyecare blog

Myopia Control – "STELLEST Spectacle Lenses"

This month's blog is a bit of a techie one, so best thinking caps on as I try to explain!

When Covid arrived our lives changed in ways we never really thought about before, to be asked to stay indoors for months was quite alien for us social creatures. In our optical world, one unfortunate side effect seems to be an increase of Myopia in children. Myopia is the name given to short-sight, things are fine close up but distance vision is out of focus. So why has this occurred? The theory is that children have increased indoor activities, especially the use of digital gadgets, such as ipads and mobile phones. The lens in the eye needs to bulge to enable focusing at close range, this puts pressure on the eyeball itself which tends to increase in length, hence the result is that the eye becomes more short-sighted.

What's so bad about myopia you may ask? A highly myopic eye is at greater risk of retinal detachments and general degeneration of the retina as it is stretched with an enlarging eyeball, this in turn can lead to poorer vision especially in later life. As short-sight increases the spectacle lens edge thickness increases and we end up with the "bottle-bottom" look, although we have many lens materials and anti-reflection coatings to minimize these problems. Other factors that influence myopia are our genetics, if parents are myopic then children may inherit the trait. Research also tells us that the younger a child becomes myopic, the faster will be the progression and the higher the degree of myopia once adolescent growth stops around the age of late teens or even early twenties.

So the question is what can we do to slow the rate of myopia progression in youngsters? STELLEST spectacle lenses have been developed by our lens supplier Essilor and, following a two year clinical trial, shows that the lens slows down myopia progression on average by 67% if worn for at least 12 hours a day. The lens has two zones, a central zone with the full prescription so that everything will be perfectly clear in the distance, and an outer zones of concentric rings creating a "soft-focus" zone which slows down the elongation of the eye. So if you have a young relative who is short-sighted, bear in mind that we have the option to slow down the progression of myopia and therefore maintain healthy vision throughout their adult life.

After all that concentrating, what you really want to know is how my Smart Meters saga is doing? I had to chase them up of course, and an appointment was finally sorted. We now have meters that actually work, and the new home display gizmo that reminds us to turn something off! It's only taken four months to get sorted. Hallelujah!!

Annette



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The retreat day of recollection in July with Fr Bob Eccles was very well attended. We hope to run some others during the year. Details will be on the parish website and weekly bulletins.

Fifty people from the parish, including volunteers attended the parish BBQ on Saturday 20th August. It was lovely to be able to get together for a social event, with good weather and lots of delicious food and refreshments.

We have regular Rosary prayer meetings at St Cecilia's every Monday from 2pm. and

there is also a Mothers Prayers group which meet at 2.30pm Monday fortnightly at OLSE. There is a fair-trade stall at St Cecilia's on the first Sunday of each month.

The Pope's prayer intention for October: A Church Open to Everyone We pray for the Church, ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.

A few members of the parish have been getting together to discuss ways to enliven the life of the parish following the drop in attendance due to the pandemic of the last couple of years. The dates of the meetings are published on the website and in the weekly church

From the Rector

During September and in to October our thoughts are often, in the church, about our harvest festivals, those times when we remember God's gift of provision for us. Of the food we grow, the livestock we rear and all those in the food retail industry who enable it to get to our plates. We respond to that gift by giving food and money to our foodbank and community fridge.

By the end of the month you may well be starting to think about the Christmas coming and what gifts you may buy. Those of you with children or grandchildren may already be witnessing the excitement of lists being drawn up for Father Christmas!

But giving is not just about what we buy or make or grow, giving is also about what of ourselves we offer to our families, our work and society at large.

The Apostle Peter wrote a letter to, what was then, a small and scattered Christian community around the Mediterranean, urging them to use what gifts God had given them to serve others. He encouraged them to live their lives in the best way they could and in doing so that "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10)

As I write this letter in the days following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, as I watch all the news coverage of her truly remarkable life I am reminded over and again of what a life lived with faith and in the service of others can look like. I am moved to hear His Majesty King Charles III clearly and unequivocally commit his reign to be one of dedicated service also. Standing and supporting people at Sandringham gates in the days following the sad news of the Queen it was clear that her death highlighted our own personal losses. This was combined with thankfulness for the precious treasures we have had in our Queen, family and friends. On 30th October at 4pm in St Mary's Church Old Hunstanton, we will have our 'Time to Remember' service. A service of quiet reflection, candles to light and a space to remember with thanks anyone we have lost, either recently or in the past. All are welcome and refreshments will be offered afterwards.

Returning to the theme of service, I am aware that none of us have the opportunities granted to their Majesties to serve – but we are all granted some opportunities, in ways small and, maybe occasionally, big to play our part; to give of ourselves in the service of others. Whether we volunteer with an organization, shop for an elderly neighbour, listen to someone in pain and distress or the many, many other ways we give of ourselves there are opportunities for service everywhere.

bulletins and anyone interested in contributing in any way is more than welcome to attend or pass on ideas.

Sr Danuta is guiding a regular parish study/discussion group at the Convent every Tuesday, 4.00-5.00pm, looking in more depth at the readings for the following Sundays. Anyone who is interested is welcome to come along to any of the meetings and take part.

The Sisters at St Theresa's Convent, Sandringham Road, are now offering daily Mass at 12 noon. Please confirm with them if you intend to be present. Contact 01485 532837.

For Parish news including Mass times and prayer requests, please see the Parish News page on our website. For information about live streamed Masses in the Diocese and related matters, including Coronavirus updates see the Links page of our website at, www.hunstantoncatholicparish.org

The Sunday Masses are at 9am at Mountbatten Road, Dersingham, and 11am at OLSE Sandringham Road, Hunstanton.

Daily Masses are at 10am at Hunstanton on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Fridays and 10.15am at Dersingham on Wednesdays.

Website: www.hunstantoncatholicparish.org Email: hunstantonparish@rcdea.org.uk (please note that this is a new email address, please add it to your address list)

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

And the good news is that we don't have to do it all ourselves. We serve a servant King, a God who gave of himself through Jesus, a God who knows what it is to serve and pours out that love and service on us each and every day. We can all offer our service knowing we do so with God support and help. As Peter goes on to say.

"If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides," (1 Peter 4:11)

God is with us every step of the way as we reach out to help those around us.

May God bless you in your service and as you remember our Queen.

Rachael

Rev Rachael Dines

Team Rector, Hunstanton and the Saxon Shore Benefice

01485 535936 or 07763 211901 revd.rachael.dines@hotmail.com

Rest Day: Monday

Thoughtful Titchwell

Our group, Stillness on the Saxon Shore, has been meeting in St. Mary's, Titchwell on Friday afternoons for some eight years now. On most occasions we consider some thoughts on a specific topic that are interspersed with short periods of reflective silence. At other times we have sung the simple chants of worship from the ecumenical Community at Taizé in Burgundy, or celebrated a simple contemplative service of Holy Communion together.

More recently, we have introduced a longer, thirty-minute, period of communal silence on the first Friday of the month, introduced by a simple theme to guide those who would like something to lay hold of it. Others may prefer to approach God within what an unknown medieval mystic termed "the cloud of unknowing".

We meet at 4pm for about half an hour. Friday October 7th will be our longer period of guided silent prayer.

On Fridays October 14th, 21st and 28th, we will be considering the parables of Jesus, the great story teller, who always has something to challenge us with.

Sunday Services for October

2nd 10.30am Holy Communion for families (Common Worship)

9th 8.30am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

16th 10.30am Holy Communion for families (Common Worship)

23rd 8.30am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

With my best wishes and prayers for you all,

James Monro

(Assistant Priest, Hunstanton and Saxon Shore Benefice)



I think it's safe to say that the month of September 2022 will go down in history as one of the most memorable for our nation. With a new prime minister appointed at the start of one week and the proclamation of a new monarch by the end of it, I'm sure I wasn't the only one left shocked at the turn of events. The death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, cited by the new PM as 'one of the greatest leaders the world has known' truly marked the end of an era.

In Matthew 16:24, Jesus says to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Queen Elizabeth II never shied away from her faith, and put her trust in God on a daily basis. She knew that Jesus Christ, her 'role-model of reconciliation and forgiveness', stretched out his hands in love, acceptance, and healing for us all, and she openly declared him an anchor in her life. She sacrificed her own life to take on the role she was given, all in the name of duty. With quiet dignity we all watched how her immediate family came together – past feuds seemingly put to one side – as they gathered in response to her death to share their grief as a unified body with the world. With such an outpouring of love and gratitude for the Queen seen across the globe, it is clear just how much of a great legacy she has left.

We at The Salvation Army are honoured to celebrate this legacy and to thank God for her life and reign. We continue to pray for King Charles III, as well as our new government. Our prayer meeting is held at 10.00am every Tuesday, and all are welcome to join us.

Our CAMEO Club – a fun and friendly get-together for over 50s to 'come and meet each other' – continues every Monday at 10.30am-12pm.

Craft Club is on the 6th – bring a project you are currently working on or simply come for a chat and be inspired by others.

Come and enjoy a slice of homemade cake, scone or filled roll with a hot drink between 10.00am-12pm at our coffee morning on the 13th and 27th. As ever, our Sunday worship begins every Sunday at 11.00am. Whatever the activity, you will always be welcome!

How Is Your Glass – Half-Full or Half-Empty?

Gordon Tanner, a member of The Way C F Leadership team

Some people are born despondent. By that I mean they always see the down side of any situation. Their glass is always half-empty. At times, I'm a bit like that. I often expect to be supporting the losing side in a sports fixture. Maybe it is a defence against the disappointment of being on the losing team eventually and it's a nice surprise if you win.

Recently I had an arthritic hip replaced. After 7 weeks recovery time the consultant has basically signed me off. That is not normally done until 12 weeks. But he's happy with the progress of my recovery, and the state of his surgical skills.

But several days during that time I've felt I hadn't made any progress. Looking back over those weeks I've had several days when I felt quite down and finished the day thinking I'd made no progress. But in retrospect I can now see that if something didn't go right early in the day I had allowed that to cloud my view of the whole day. Sometimes there were several minor but significant advances made later in the day, but I had allowed one thing, not going quite right at the start, to affect how I viewed the whole day. Looking back there are few days in my memory now when I didn't make progress, though it didn't feel like that at the time.

Recently we've been singing a new song in church. It's called 'Reason to Praise' and part of the chorus has the lines:-

*'This one thing I know, You're still on your throne,
So whatever I'm feeling I've still got a reason to praise'*

It is remarkable how singing can change your mood, and I've found that those lines are particularly helpful when things are not going well. I can just submit my concerns and frustrations to God and somehow he always answers them.

Christian Science Society, Hunstanton

Autumn & Harvest – a time for praise!

Gratitude and sharing come from within, are qualities we are gifted with, and cannot be limited. They bring a sense of joy!

Our church services are held every Sunday at 11am at 10 Queens Drive, Hunstanton, and a testimony meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 12 o'clock. You are welcome to join us.

If you want a chat or more information, call Gay Paterson on 01366 328108 or email Paterson.g@aol.com

Free magazines are in a rack outside the church building. We can be found on Facebook and information on Christian Science and our worldwide church can be found at www.christianscience.com. Services are also available online at www.spirituality4.me along with talks and further information.



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The Art of Therapy

Al Ware

For several years arts and crafts have been popular along with the other activities at our West Norfolk Stroke Rehabilitation groups.

But recently it has become nationally acknowledged that art and crafts are therapeutic.

Stroke Survivors who regularly partake in arts and crafts benefit in body and mind.

Each project affords achievement and hastens recovery at a time when needed.

Our art exhibition at Thornham on October 8th and 9th will illustrate the amazing results of our Stroke members and their tutors.

The exhibition will include paintings by local professional artists. And refreshments will be available. Who can't enjoy a day in Thornham anyway?



Hunstanton Primary School pupils pay respects to Queen at Sandringham House

Seven girls and boys from Hunstanton Primary School laid flowers at the gates of Sandringham House on Monday 12th September.

Newly-appointed head Jo Bland said: "Our school, staff and children wished to pay tribute to our late Queen.

"Taking them to Sandringham gave them an understanding of what an amazing woman she was – a role model to us all.

Imogen (EYFS), George (Y1), Isla (Y2), Alfie (Y3), Elyssa (Y4), Brogan (Y5), Jacob B (Y6).

From left back row: Miss Wood, Brogan, Miss Bland (headteacher)

Jacob, Elyssa, Miss Tisshaw

From L to R Front row:

Alfie, George, Isla, Imogen



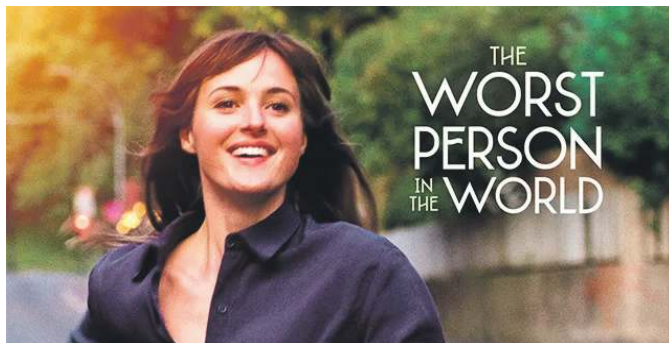


Tricia Rowlands

King's Lynn Community Cinema Club shall be concluding its current Summer season in October with another busy month of activities. They shall be screening another two films and then towards the end of the month their popular film quiz night shall be returning.



6th October they shall be showing 'The Electrical Life of Louis Wain', the true story of eccentric British artist Louis Wain starring Benedict Cumberbatch, whose playful pictures transformed the public's perception of cats forever.



Then on Thursday 27th October they shall be screening the highly acclaimed Norwegian film 'The Worst Person in the World'. This film follows Julie for four years as she navigates the troubled waters of her love life and struggles to find her career path, leading her to take a realistic look at who she really is.

Both films will be screened at St George's Guildhall, King Street starting at 7.30pm and are free to KLCCC members. All over 18's are welcome to come along to any film as a day member for £5 cash on the door or details of how to become a member can be found on the club website, Facebook page or by emailing communitycinemaclub@googlemail.com. New members are always very welcome and current membership is just £17 for a 6-month season of 8 films.

Finally on Friday 28th October KLCCC will be hosting a Fun Film Quiz in the Nightingale Bar, Ferry Lane Social Club (off King St) at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Paul Thompson will host a quiz with pictures, music and clips that will range from ridiculously easy to a touch more challenging. Teams can be up to six people so you can come as a team or join up with others on the evening. Entry is £5 per person and booking is essential to guarantee entry as this has proved to be very popular in the past. Please contact Ros on r.harre@btinternet.com or 01553 761890 to reserve your place.

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A new £6m build Primary & Nursery School opens

A brand-new £6m build Primary and Nursery school in Gayton near King's Lynn opened for the start of the brand-new term in early September.

Gayton Church of England Primary Academy, part of Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust (DNEAT) and Gayton Goslings, was commissioned and funded by Norfolk County Council as part of the school's capital programme and was designed by NPS. The new school will cater for up to 56 nursery places and 210 places for primary school children.

Kier built the new site between Springvale and Vicarage Drive in Gayton near King's Lynn, Norfolk and much thought was given to energy efficiency capabilities, including an air source heat pump, solar glass, efficient lighting system and excellent insulation which is monitored to control room temperatures. The Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust (DNEAT) is also looking to install solar panels on the South facing roof of the primary school.

The shiny new £6m build primary school will have a central library space and a multi-use games area (MUGA). The Gayton Gosling Nursery building has a Children's Room, a Community Room, a Sleeping Bay and lots of space with outdoor play areas.

Rachael Greenhalgh, Executive Head Teacher of Middleton and Gayton Church of England Primary Academies said: "As a school we are absolutely delighted that we are finally here and ready to open! Our fantastic staff team are all very excited about the opportunities this new building will create for our thriving school community. We have worked on this project for ten years and we are confident it will be worth the wait! It is great to see this kind of investment in a rural school in this part of West Norfolk."

Mr Oliver Burwood, CEO of Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust (DNEAT) said: "Everyone at DNEAT is very excited about this new nursery and primary school being built in Gayton. This will be an excellent resource for the children in the village and reflects the high aspirations we have for all children within the Trust. It is a culmination of nearly a decade of hard work from the headteacher to get this underway and we thank all those involved in what is going to be a fantastic new school."

Cllr John Fisher, Cabinet Member for Norfolk County Council Children's Services, said: "We have been delighted to fund and support the building of this new school and nursery for the Gayton community. It will provide a fantastic learning environment for local children."

The works began in November 2020 and the first foundations laid in July 2021.



Head Teacher Rachael Greenhalgh with staff and pupils



Teacher Kelly Watts with pupils



Deputy Head Niamh Allitt and Head Teacher Rachael Greenhalgh

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Now's the time to get your lawnmower serviced

When was the last time you had your lawnmower serviced? Town and Around asked R&B's Robert Frost for advice on lawnmower care.

"The general rule is that you should get your mower serviced once a year", said Robert, "but if your machine is doing a lot of work you might need a tune up mid-season.

"Think about your mower as you would your car; a car that's serviced regularly will perform better and last longer and the same goes for your mower.

"Cleaning and servicing your mower at the end of the cutting season will ensure that it does not accumulate dirt or dust during the winter months when it's sitting in the shed and it will be ready for the spring."

During a service the engineer will:

Change the oil

Clean or replace the spark plug

Clean out the air filters properly

Take care of the moving levers

Tighten the belts and wheel hubs

Grease the joints

Sharpen the blades

Clean out any debris

Completely clean out the carburettor and fuel system.

Robert added: "The type of fuel you use in a lawnmower is very important; if you put unleaded petrol in, come spring the machine is unlikely to start because the fuel goes stale, but when we complete the service we always fill the tank with the Aspen fuel (that we stock) which has a life of five years and you can be sure the machine will start when you want it."

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Sporting corner with Tim Keogh

Magical local duo reach the holy grail of amateur golf

Tony Thacker and Keith Whiting, of Heacham Manor Golf Club, have reached the finals of the Daily Mail foursomes.



A national competition, which invites pairs from every golf club in the country, starts out with nearly 1,000 teams. Including individual club qualifying rounds, the tournament attracts an estimated 190,000 entries each year and is recognised as the largest amateur golf tournament in the world. With seven arduous qualifying rounds, reaching finals weekend is no mean feat and every amateur golfer's dream.

On Saturday, 27th August, the pair, representing Heacham Manor, hosted Sleaford Golf Club in a semi final for a place in the coveted finals. Given what was at stake, the tension could, quite understandably, be felt in the air. After a close and tight first seven holes, the match suddenly erupted, as the home pairing stole a march on the 8th and 9th holes to take a two hole lead. Managing to keep the momentum, they went onto secure a superb 5&4 win on the 14th hole.

An ecstatic Tony said, "Overwhelmed! Just so delighted to have made the finals, a once in a lifetime opportunity". Tony immediately paid tribute to his playing partner, "we do bounce off each other, complimenting one another's game; it's all about teamwork and we really enjoy playing together".



Tony teeing off on the first hole

It certainly puts Heacham Manor on the golfing map. A relatively young course, that was only introduced as recently as 2009, it is not only producing finalists at a senior level but has also progressed young talents Warren Bates and Chloe Tabbard, both nurtured at Heacham Manor and Searles Golf Clubs, and now competing in national

tournaments.

The Daily Mail finals are being held at the wonderful St. Pierre Golf Club in Chepstow, 2nd - 4th October. The Welsh course, set in 400 acres of beautiful countryside, will provide a fitting final for the pair as they aim to bring the trophy back to Norfolk.

Cullington Cup

In other Heacham Manor Golf Club news, the Cullington Cup team of David Foscett, Colin Burt, Malc Plowright, Jon Gibson, Leon Espley, Tim Hoare, Nick Searle and Denny Turner are pictured here.

After a tough day against Middleton Hall at Wensum Valley Golf Club on 18th September they were runners-up in their first Cullington final. This hasn't dampened their spirits and they relish the challenge of doing it all again next year.

A huge congratulations to all involved for getting so far in the competition. Bring on next year!



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Question: Who is the only pugilist born in Norfolk to have become World Heavyweight Champion?

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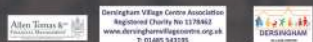
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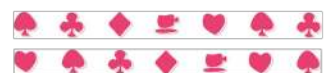
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Sporting corner with Tim Keogh

Heacham based Norseman Boxing Club opens its doors to new members

Tucked away on the Heacham Hall Industrial Estate sits Norseman Boxing Club. Ex-Army PTI instructor and Army Boxer, Leon Bolmeier, set the club up from humble beginnings with help from Michael Jackson, friends and a £200 donation from ex-Mayor, Fred Pooley, in 2000. Soon after opening, the late Lance Langan and Sean O'Quigley offered their help and experience in training and coaching. The club now offers boxing classes and lessons to all ages, genders and abilities.



From left: Lance Langan, Justin Barrett, Sean O'Quigley, Leon Bolmeier

Whilst the Monday night sessions are dedicated to licensed boxers, the club offers sessions to all age groups on Tuesday and Friday evenings.



Baz (who's face you can see) sparring with pro boxer Nathan Dale

Under the watchful eye of dedicated and experienced boxers and coaches, Justin "Baz" Barrett and Mark Rothwell, the club is inviting those interested in reigniting a passion, or just wishing to find out more about getting into boxing, to get in touch.



Leon boxing for the army in Bosnia

Boxing, or pugilism as it was known, was an Olympic game in Ancient Greece, as early as 688 BC. It evolved in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries as prize fighting, or bare knuckle combat, in the western world. This was the forerunner of modern boxing in the mid-19th century with the introduction of the Marquess of Queensbury Rules in 1867 (named as such because the 9th Marquess of Queensberry publicly endorsed the code). These were the first rules to mandate the use of gloves in bouts. The sport is divided by weight classifications. There are now 17 weight classes, ranging from the Mini Flyweight/Strawweight/Minimumweight division all the way up to Heavyweight. There are four recognised boxing bodies, the WBA, WBC, IBF and the WBO. Tyson Fury is the present WBC Heavyweight champion, whilst Ukrainian, Oleksandr Usyk holds the WBA, IBF and WBO Heavyweight belts.

Norseman Boxing Club has produced some notable boxers over the years including Ben Roberts (Eastern Counties Senior Champion), Carl Perkins (Norfolk & Suffolk Senior Champion), Justin "Baz" Barrett, Joe Lee Junior (Schoolboys Champion), Phil Vinehill, Nathan Lee (Norfolk Schoolboys Champion), Louie Thomas (Norfolk Schoolboys Champion), Richard English, Harry Nash, Danny Eastwood, Wisbech based Professional Joe Steed, Jack Pishorn, Luke Fields, Max Armiger and Anthony Parkin.

For some young boxers, the club has been a godsend, allowing them to direct their energy and tension into a sporting environment. With the growing problem of

knife crime in the country, the club is keen to promote its anti-bullying and anti-drugs stance, providing a safe and friendly environment for young boxers. There is an expectation that the boxers act responsibly outside of the club and the secure environment tends to ensure that all the young boxers respectfully heed this.

With over 20 years heritage, the club are proud to presently have their largest squad of registered boxers ever with Nathan Lee, Toby Kerr, Henry McNeil, George Webb, Josh Webb, Bobby Williams, Sam Williams, Harvey Hughes, Jordan Jackson and William White all looking to fly the Norseman Boxing Club flag this season.

The club has plans, as Leon explains: "It was always a passion of ours to set up a free Boxing Club and Gym facility dedicated to youngsters, whilst also nurturing the talent of active boxers. Baz is fantastic, the devotion and time he puts in is incredible, without which the club would simply not exist." Ultimately, the club's aim is to set up a gym in Hunstanton as well, offering free boxing sessions and facilities to the local youth. Although very much in the early stages at this point, everyone at Norseman Boxing Club are dedicated to making sure this happens.

The club are keen to acknowledge and thank everyone who has ever helped the gym, especially the unequivocal support of the boxers and coaches families.

For more information about a taster session or to find out more about the classes on offer please email justinbarrett@btinternet.com



Leon and wife Chardele with Mike Tyson



Baz and the Friday night club welcoming ex British Super Featherweight Champion Ryan Walsh (front) and brothers Liam and Michael.

Sporting corner with Tim Keogh

In the spotlight



Fellow boxers at the Norseman Boxing Club decided to nominate and pen this month's In The Spotlight feature as a posthumous gesture to colleague, Lance "Everlast" Langan, who sadly passed away recently.

Lance was dedicated to the club and was still sparring into his 70's.

A talented boxer in his day, Lance acquired the nickname "Everlast" due to his stamina and ability to go the distance regardless of the opponent.

Name - Lance Patrick Briton Langan

Age - 83

Star Sign - Aries

Where Born - Leicester

Occupation - Retired

Family - The long haired General (aka wife Pam), one daughter and one son

Team Support - Norsemans Boxing Gym & Family

Biggest sporting achievement - Schoolboy boxing Champion

Funniest sporting memory - Out working and out sparring most of the Gym members at 75 yrs of Age.

Sporting hero - Tony Sibson, also a close friend (who fought Marvin Hagler for the title)

Worst Injury - Heart attack in my 50s

Any other hobbies - Ballroom dancing

Biggest achievement in life - My Family

Favourite holiday destination - Hunstanton

Pet hate - Bullying

Three items for a desert island - Pam the Mrs., Food, Speedboat.

Best advice ever given - Defend yourself at all times

What would you change in the world - All injustice

Like to live forever - As God wills it.



Cricket season round-up



Thornham v Castle Rising

There were mixed emotions amongst the region's cricket teams as the 2022 season reached a season finale.

In the Norfolk Cricket Alliance Division Three, Bircham 1st XI came into their final two matches vying for the title, before defeats against Sandringham and Mattishall meant they fell agonisingly short, having to accept a respectable runners up spot to Mattishall. Snettisham 1st XI finished in 3rd place in the same division with Sandringham 1st XI in 5th.

In the Norfolk Cricket League Division One (West), Thornham 1st XI finished the season in a creditable 5th place, with Snettisham 2nd XI 6th, whilst Sandringham 2nd XI and Castle Rising 1st XI did not fare as well coming bottom and second bottom respectively.

In Division Three, Sandringham 3rd XI finished 8th. In Division Four, Castle Rising

2nd XI finished 2nd, with Thornham's second string in 8th.

On Friday, 16th September, Thornham Cricket Club hosted the Stragglers of Asia in an exhibition match. Arranged by Colonel Billy King-Harman, Chairman of the Taverners, this proved to be a fitting end to their season. Ron Williamson, of Thornham Cricket Club, said, "it's been a really enjoyable season for all cricket clubs, especially after what everyone, not just in cricket circles but in the world generally, have had to deal with in the last couple of years and recently". To cap a fine season for Thornham CC, Richard Skeen, received a volunteer award for his services to cricket from the Norfolk Cricket Board, whilst youngster, Nat Linsell, 18, achieved a club record by hitting over 1,000 runs in a season.



Thornham CC



*Above: Alex Patterson of Acle CC
Steve and Teresa Davey of Beccles CC
Richard Skeen of TCC on the right
Below: 18 year old Nat Linsell -
one to watch!*



Sporting corner with Tim Keogh

Positive start to the football season for local clubs



Dersingham Rovers FC 1st XI before their first home game of the season with the U10's as mascots (front row)

First XI players: Back row: Sam Peck, Alex Kittle, Kieron Nurse, Danny Williams, Jack Johnson, Zac Fountain, Andy Stables, Jimmy Williams

Middle Row: Joe Collison, Callum Swan, Gino Livoti, Lewis Curson, Jake Wiseman, Sam Johnson, Finn Howe, Albie Howe

Dersingham Rovers 1st XI have started life in the Anglian Combination Division Three well, presently unbeaten and sitting top. More recently they came from two goals down against Waveney Reserves in the cup to win 4-2 thanks to a second half hat trick from Joe Collison.

Docking Rangers have also started the season well in NWNL Division One with a 4-1 win over Clenchwarton, whilst, in the same

division, Heacham Reserves notched an opening day win over the same opposition. Also in the same division, Ingoldisthorpe FC beat Terrington Tigers before losing to Marshland Saints, whilst Castle Rising FC are still yet to play with just a walkover defeat thus far. There are certainly some mouth watering and eagerly anticipated local derby matches in this division this season.

In the NWNL Division Two Docking

TheFA

POS	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Marshland Saints F.C. First	3	2	0	1	3	6
2	Dersingham Rovers F.C. Reserves	2	2	0	0	3	6
3	Docking Rangers F.C. First	1	1	0	0	3	3
4	Heacham F.C. Reserves (Sat)	1	1	0	0	2	3
5	Terrington Tigers Youth F.C. First Team	2	1	0	1	2	3
6	Ingoldisthorpe F.C. First	2	1	0	1	0	3
7	West Winch William Burt F.C. First	2	1	0	1	-2	3
8	Clenchwarton F.C. First	3	1	0	2	-4	3
9	AKLCF	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Castle Rising F.C. First	1	0	0	1	0	0
11	Reffley Youth F.C. First	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Wattlington Res	1	0	0	1	-1	0
13	KLSC F.C. Reserves	2	0	0	2	-6	0

Rangers Reserves and Dersingham 'A' have made positive starts to their campaigns.

Heacham FC 1st XI continue to take life in the Thurlow Nunn League like a duck to water. After losing a tight opening game of the season to Framingham Town, wins against Great Yarmouth, Haverhill, Swaffham and Needham Market u23's have put them right in the thick of a promotion race.

Match of the Month - Dersingham Rovers Reserves v Marshland Saints

(3rd September, 2022)

Dersingham Reserves hosted Marshland Saints FC in their opening game of the North West Norfolk League Division One at The Pastures, knowing this would be a good test of their title credentials against the table topping visitors.

Dersingham took the game straight to their opponents, dominating the early exchanges. However, it wasn't until the 20th minute that they created a worthwhile chance to test the opposition keeper. Captain, Harry Sands, found space on the right and let rip with a 25 yard screecher, which the keeper somehow managed to palm onto the crossbar. The ricocheting ball then found its way to the onward running Sands again, who's second attempt flew over the crossbar.

Just as the Saints were starting to weave a path back into the game, the Dersingham front pair of Curtis Sharpe and Anton Ely caught the opposition defence on the hop. A great interchange between the two put Ely through on goal and he slotted the ball home with aplomb. 1-0 to the hosts. As Dersingham settled, Sharpe, suddenly found space from 30 yards out and let fly a humdinger of a shot that flew into the top corner. Cue mayhem. 2-0.

The second half began much the same as the first although Marshland were starting to gain a foothold in the game with some squirmish attacks. However, on 58 minutes, Ely broke the offside trap and, again, found the composure to put Dersingham 3 nil up.

As the game petered out, Dersingham were awarded a penalty. Cometh the moment, cometh the man, as man of the match Ely stepped up for an opening day hat trick. He duly missed. However, this did not dampen the spirits as Dersingham held out for a well earned and well deserved win. The excellently refereed game by Christopher Steele was only marred by the late booking of visiting player, Brad Foxwell, for dissent, before the subsequent foul and abusive language from Foxwell for the initial offence then led to a red card.

Ecstatic manager Owen Bell was wax lyrical about the performance, saying afterwards "very very pleased with the result and the performance, I can't fault anyone. That's a good benchmark win for us and we need to carry this momentum on into the season. Make no bones about it, promotion and a good cup run are the minimum

requirements this campaign". Bell, who joined the set up last season, seems to have found the right blend and balance within the squad that should not only challenge for honours but also support the first team in their quest for promotion as well.



Captain Harry Sands

October diary of events

Sat 1st-Sunday 2nd

Ringstead Open Studios 10am-5pm at Ringstead Village Hall. Entry Free.

Monday 3rd

Bingo Night at Anmer Social Club—Club opens at 7.00p.m. “Eyes Down” at 7.30 p.m. £6.60 for a book of 10 cards & £1.75 for a “Flyer Card”. Fully licensed bar and Raffle – Donations of prizes welcome
For further information email events@anmerclub.co.uk

Tuesday 4th

Friendship Lunch at Dersingham Village Centre. £7 for a two course meal, tea & coffee. To book call Shirley on 01485 540644

RNLI Bridge Drive at Hunstanton Golf Club. Arrive at 1pm for soup and sandwiches. Chicago bridge starts at 2pm. Beginners are welcome to play separately. Christmas cards, diaries and calendars will be on sale. Tickets: £15 per person. To book Carrie Harvey 07968 483577 carrieharvey@btconnect.com

Thursday 6th

Stanhoe & Barwick WI Andrew Tatham talk: "I shall not be away long". The First World War letters from an officer to his family. Contact Valerie 01485 576261.

King's Lynn Community Cinema Club present 'The Electrical Life of Louis Wain' at St George's Guildhall, King Street starting at 7.30pm.

Friday 7th

Coffee morning and stalls to browse 10am-12noon at Snettisham Memorial Hall. Everyone's welcome.

Norfolk Hospice Fun Quiz Night including the Question Master's Brightest Waistcoat Challenge. Dersingham Village Centre. Questions start 7pm. Max team size 6. Tickets £6 inc. snacks. Licensed bar. Info & booking Graham Eley 07901 896102 or grahamreley@tiscali.co.uk

Monday 10th

The Arts Society lecture at Sedgeford Village Hall 2pm. Sophie Oosterwijk's subject is The history and mystery of cryptoportraits in European art. New members welcome. More info at www.theartsocietynorfolk.org.uk

Thursday 13th

The Arts Society King's Lynn lecture by Jacky Klein who will present an illustrated talk about The Royal Collection at Buckingham Palace. West Winch Village Hall, PE33 0JY where ample, free parking is available. 2pm prompt. The Visitor's Fee is £10.00.

Friday 14th

Coffee Concert: Nicholas Walker at King's Lynn Town Hall as he introduces music that has never before been performed or published. From 10.30am, enjoy a cup of coffee and slice of cake with fellow audience members. Concert 11am.

[https://www.kingslynnfestival.org.uk/whats-on?vieweventdetails&eventid=956&event=](https://www.kingslynnfestival.org.uk/whats-on?vieweventdetails&eventid=956&event=Coffee-Concert-Nicholas-Walker)Coffee-Concert-Nicholas-Walker

Winter Warmers at Thornham Village Hall 6.30pm. Speaker: Jake Fiennes, General Manager, conservation, Holkham Estate. £25, including a 2 course supper and welcome drink. Booking is essential. winterwarmers@thornhamvillagehall.co.uk

Charity Bingo night in aid of Anmer WI. Anmer Club opens at 7.00p.m. “Eyes Down” at 7.30 p.m. £6.60 for a book of 10 cards & £1.75 for a “Flyer Card”. Fully licensed bar and Raffle – Donations welcome. email events@anmerclub.co.uk

6th Anniversary Concert for Classical Music Rocks in The Marble Hall, Holkham Hall at 7pm. Trio Recital by CMR Creative Director, Klio Blonz – flute, Rebecca Hepplewhite - cello & Grace Mo - piano Tickets: £25 inc glass of wine. Tickets on sale on Holkham Hall website.

Saturday 15th

North Wootton Village Market at North Wootton Village Hall 9am-2pm

Mind, Body, Spirit Fayre at Hunstanton Town Hall 10am-4pm

Monday 17th

U3a HUNSTANTON will be holding their AGM at The Community Centre, Avenue Road, Hunstanton at 2.00 pm followed by a Quiz. u3asites.org.uk/hunstanton

Friday 21st

Tabletop Sale at Snettisham Memorial Hall 10am-2pm. Tables are £5 each. Stallholders can set up at 9am. Booking: 09491 643807

Anmer Club Quiz Night - 7.30 p.m. start Club opens 7.00 p.m. Entry £2 per person. For further information email: events@anmerclub.co.uk Raffle – Donations of prizes welcome

Saturday 22nd

Syderstone Village Screen Cinema, Amy Robsart Hall, Syderstone 7.30pm Elvis (12A) The film recounts the life and music of Elvis Presley, seen through the prism of his relationship with his manager.

Tuesday 25th

Dersingham Village Cinema: Elvis. Admission £6 includes tea/coffee/squash. Bar available.

Wednesday 26th

Snettisham Gardening Club talk by Barry Gayton: Painful and poisonous plants. 7.30pm Memorial Hall, Old Church Road. Info: Gail on 01485 541279 or Addie on 01485 544754.

Thursday 27th

New Hunstanton WI. meeting at Methodist Church Hall at 2.15pm. Speaker Kate Dunbar - The Benefits of a Plant Based Diet. New members and visitors (£3.00) very welcome. Contact 01485 532174.

Friday 28th

King's Lynn Community Cinema Club present “The Worst Person in the World” at St George's Guildhall, King Street starting at 7.30pm

Saturday 29th

Anmer Club Halloween Party – 7.00 p.m. – Entertainment by Roger Williams – Jacket potato + various toppings £5 – Prize for the best Fancy Dress costume. Raffle – Donations welcome
To book please email Dorothy at anmerchair44@gmail.com by 26th October

Saturday 29th

Snettisham Flea Market at Snettisham Memorial Hall. 9am-3pm 50p admission.

Hunstanton Craft Fair at the Town Hall 10am-4pm

Barn Dance and Hot Supper at Dersingham Village Centre with Whirligig, Norfolk's premier Ceilidh Band. Tickets £15 from Dersingham PO or 01485 540271. Bar

Sunday 30th

RAF Bircham Newton Heritage Centre Open Day 10am-4pm Free entrance. PE31 6RH

Hunstanton Craft Fair at the Town Hall 10am-4pm

Looking forward to November:

Tuesday 1st – Monday 7th

Far Horizons – An exhibition by Paula Hallam at West Acre Gallery, River Rd, West Acre, King's Lynn PE32 1UA

Saturday 5th

Smithdon & Brothcross Girlguiding Autumn Hall of Stalls 10am-1pm. St Edmund's Church Hall. Free Admission. Refreshments.

Every Saturday

Hunstanton Promenade Parkrun EVERY SATURDAY 8.55am for 9am start. Meet outside Salad Bowl Café.
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The Arts Society King's Lynn

Tricia Rowlands



Jacky Klein

The Arts Society King's Lynn, TASKL, will be holding the second lecture of their new season on Thursday 13th October when Jacky Klein presents an illustrated talk entitled 'Splendours and Secrets of the Royal Collection'. The UK's Royal Collection contains over a million objects – paintings and works on paper, tapestries, furniture and jewels, photographs and decorative arts, and this talk reveals the dramatic histories, plots and intrigue of some of the most unexpected and spectacular objects that make up one of the world's most important art collections.

Jacky Klein is an art historian, writer and broadcaster, and will be a familiar to many as she has presented a range of television programmes for the BBC including 'Britain's Lost Masterpieces' and is also a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's arts review programme, 'Front Row'. Amongst her publications is a bestselling book on British artist Grayson Perry. "The subject of this lecture will surely appeal to many as we get a unique opportunity to look behind the scenes of this very special collection" explained TASKL chairman Stuart Dimmock. "We are also looking forward to welcoming such a renowned speaker to our group. We are particularly fortunate that all our lecturers are accredited by the Arts Society, so are consistently of excellent quality".

TASKL meets once a month on the second Thursday from September to May and anyone is welcome to become a member for just £52 a year or you can go along to individual lectures as a guest for £10. Anyone interested in finding out more about TASKL can visit their website at www.theartsocietykingslynn.org.uk or to join the Society contact the membership secretary on 01366 328648 or via email at info@theartsocietykingslynn.org.uk.



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The Eye of the Beholder

Lesley Nadel

Most artists will paint to give the viewer an understanding of the painting and the context in which it is created. But sometimes all is not as it seems. The art of concealment of hidden messages that only a few may understand is a centuries-old artistic pursuit. And clever 'trick-niques' which fool the eye, such as the 'squashed' image (anamorphic) of a drawing that's been made to appear normal when looked at from one point, or with a mirror or lens, and is something completely different from another. The familiar art of trompe l'oeil is created to form an illusion, a deception.

Wrangling with reality has been the experimental domain of artists from the frescoes of Pompei (150BC - 79AD) through to the visual experimenters like Salvador Dali and Magritte. Contemporary visual artists like Frenchman Bernard Pras work to deceive and fascinate. A perfect example would be his portrait of a man morphing into a humdrum pile of 'stuff', depending on whichever way the viewer is looking at it. Sometimes the artist just wants to be playful, seeking to trick the viewer by challenging their sense of reality – when is a wall not a wall? The risk is, will the viewer 'get it'? If the viewer doesn't 'get it' the whole thing can be a less than satisfactory experience.

Artistic devices of illusion were perfected by European artists in the 17th century Baroque period. It is believed that the desire to deceive the eye came about as a result of cultural anxieties, possibly because of a revolutionary period of scientific discoveries, religious upheaval and a need for a visual display of having high moral standards. Illusion was created by the art of trompe l'oeil, where the artist represents the object as true or real, but the aim is to deceive the eye. False frames would be painted, out of which the contents of a still life or portrait appeared to spill over, or a windowlike image that appeared to be a real



THE ARTS SOCIETY - ENRICHING LIVES THROUGH THE ARTS

Next lecture: **Monday 10 October 2022**
Sedgeford Village Hall at 2pm

Face Games: The History and Mystery of Cryptoportraits in European Art
Lecturer: Sophie Oosterwijk

A portrait can be much more than a straightforward likeness of a person. A 'crypto-portrait' may at first sight not look like a portrait at all, because it can be 'disguised': for example, as an Adoration of the Magi with real people playing the parts of the Magi, or as a statue of a prophet or saint with the features of a patron, or the artist's self-portrait may be hidden amongst a host of other faces. Throughout Western art we may discover such concealed portraits if we look carefully and are prepared to recognise these games that artists and patrons chose to play with the beholder.

For more info and how to join, visit our website:
www.theartssocietynwnorfolk.org.uk

or email:
info@theartssocietynwnorfolk.org.uk

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opening in a wall and ceiling. This technique was favoured by the ancient Greeks, Roman muralists and using Intarsia inlay work on choir stalls and in sacristies in 15th century Italy. The viewer would see an illusion of cupboards with different articles seen upon shelves through half-open doors. In the late 20th century, muralist Richard Haas painted the exteriors of entire buildings in trompe l'oeil in Chicago and New York City. The technique continues in the 21st century.

Illusion and deception developed when the sense of self-importance arose for the artist in Renaissance times and with it came the desire to camouflage themselves within their own paintings by creating special signatures and symbols on their canvas, a hidden self-portrait. They were usually found in reflective surfaces, such as mirrors or something else from the house. Useful as a way of sharing complex narratives and often

the views of the commissioners of the artworks, particularly if they differed from the ideologies of, for example, the Church. Renaissance artists loved to play hide-and-seek in their artworks. Three of the most famous hidden Renaissance self-portrait artists were Michelangelo, Caravaggio and Raphael.

If you would like to learn more about concealed portraits and deception throughout western art, The Arts Society Northwest Norfolk will be hosting the first lecture of our 2022/2023 season - Face Games: The History and Mystery of Cryptoportraits in European Art - on Monday 10th October 2022 at 2.00pm in Sedgeford Village Hall. New members are welcome to join our friendly Society and details are on our website www.theartssocietynwnorfolk.org.uk.

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LOCAL LITERATURE GROUP WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

A group of West Norfolk literature lovers have had a busy summer of activities and are hoping to welcome new members to their meetings.

After coming through the pandemic with online meetings and an electronic monthly magazine of members' work, Centre Poets resumed face to face activities late last year. This summer's programme included a writing day, encouraging members to creatively put pen to paper, held at Stanhoe, and an excursion across Norfolk visiting locations used in the 1970's film of L P Hartley's classic novel, *The Go Between*.

Despite the inclusion of poetry in its title, the Centre Poets programme also caters for interests in prose, drama, reading and historical research. Members decide on topics and content for the year ahead and an annual programme of monthly meetings and activities is drawn up. Still to come this year are meetings looking at narrative verse and a practical session celebrating the recent summer in words, along with a planning meeting for 2023 and a Christmas get-together.

The group has been operating since 1976,



Centre Poets at Heydon Church, one of the Norfolk locations used in Joseph Losey's 1971 film adaptation of the classic novel, The Go Between

meeting in members' homes across West Norfolk and South Lincolnshire. As they begin to look ahead to 2023, Centre Poets are hoping to recruit new members and bring membership numbers back to pre-pandemic levels. Anyone interested in literature and creative writing can contact Paul on 01553 673321 for more information about joining.



Hunstanton's Marge Blunden leads a writing workshop during a Centre Poets Writing Day at Stanhoe in July.

HUNSTANTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY VOICES

The re-branding of our choir was effective as we began our autumn meetings: we are now singing again, including of course our Christmas repertoire, which will naturally cover many seasonal pieces familiar to many.

Our autumn term began on 5th September, but we are very flexible, so if you are interested, don't worry that you may have missed too much – you won't have – and our Musical Director, Liz, will be keeping us in order and encouraging us, as always!

All lyrics are provided, the weekly subscriptions are modest, your first week will be a free 'taster' evening, and no auditions are required. We also arranged a "Singalong with us" evening on 26th September, at which visitors could either just listen, or join in with the singing. However, we will still continue to welcome and involve visitors and new members at any of our meetings, so if you think you'd like to get a flavour of our choir just come along on any Monday!

We meet in the Christian Way Fellowship Hall, Downs Close, Hunstanton PE36 5HU 7.0 pm on Monday evenings. Parking is available. For more information please contact lesley.trebbick@btinternet.com or ring on 07802 879976



Are you looking for something new to do as winter approaches? Do you want to have some fun and a laugh? How was your singing? Confined to the bath or shower?

Take the next step and join us at Dersingham choir where there are no auditions and you don't have to be able to read music. Our very capable Music Director Simon and Matthew, our Accompanist guide us through pieces from classical, Irving Berlin, Gershwin and the Beatles to name a few.

We are a friendly, welcoming bunch of people who want to sing and leave the rehearsals feeling good. We all know that singing is proven to be good for you by relieving stress, improving memory and forming friendships which combat feelings of loneliness and isolation.

So come along to Saint Cecilia's Catholic Church, Mountbatten Road, Dersingham PE31 6YE on Thursdays from 7 pm to 9 pm and see what we do. The venue is very conveniently on several bus routes, has plenty of free parking and is totally accessible.

The first week is free and our weekly fee is reasonable we will always ensure there is someone to help you and to get to know us.

Further information can be obtained by emailing ogleyns88@gmail.com.

We look forward to welcoming you to our choir.

A print magazine makes a statement. It is a powerful tool in the marketing mix and complements digital media superbly with its tangibility, staying power and ability to convey your message. Advertising in T&A makes sense.

Get in touch with the Editor on 01485 540620

or e mail: editor@townandaround.net for a media pack.

Haunted Deepdale

Spoooky halloween promenade theatre shows for adults & children, and children's theatre parties, with The Slow Theatre Company.

Children's Theatre Party 3pm Shows - Thursday 27th, Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th October

It's time to party at our Children's Haunted Deepdale Theatre Party!

Do you want to see a witch or a ghost in the story?

Especially for the children aged 11 & under we offer a chance for everyone to have fun, play the communal games and watch an improvised theatre show based on the ideas given by the audience on the day.

The show will have lots of elements for the audience to get involved in, decide the story, help create the characters and boo and hiss as often as you wish.

Come dressed up if you want, there will be time for hot chocolate, a time to solve the treasure hunt and of course watch a great fun show. This party is aimed at children aged 11 & under, there will be themes of Halloween, sounds, chances of shouting out with loud noises.

Everyone must have a ticket to enter, if you have a child under 5 please reserve a ticket for them even though you do not pay or they are in a pram. Sorry but no dogs unless they are Guide Dogs.

The Ghosthunter's Mark - Afternoon & Evening Shows - Wednesday 26th to Sunday 30th October.

Welcome to Haunted Deepdale, an outdoor spooky, enchanted theatrical happening!

A promenade performance for adults & children aged 8+* using storytelling, sound and the great outside to tell stories of myths and ghosts of Norfolk.

Come and enjoy a Halloween experience like no other. Are you up for some late night ghost hunting? Will you get lost in the spooky grave yard? The whole experience will take approximately 1.5 hours.

*There is an adult only performance on Friday 28th October.

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www.DeepdaleHalloween.co.uk

Box Office: 01485 210256

Behind the Scenes...

Welcome back to the next edition of Behind the Scenes! This edition will take a slightly different note, paying homage to the Halloween month. Get ready to learn about a ghostly tale which surrounds our theatre, alongside a deep dive into the writer and director behind our highly anticipated theatrical thriller – ‘The Haunting of Blaine Manor’ which performs here in June 2023.

Jess Smith, our technical manager, expresses that during lockdown, she was inspired to write ‘Lily is Lonely’, described as a bedtime story for young and old. It explores the antics surrounding a little girl ghost, said to reside within our auditorium. Now you may be wondering how a ghost story is fitting for a bedtime read... however, Jess’ narrative expresses what Lily represents, and whether or not you believe, this story’s charm is sure to speak to you. It was even made into a short monologue-type film by the theatre’s crew, the shoot located within our theatre.

It begins, “our ghost is not your typical ghost; she’s more mischievous”. Lily is described to play little tricks, move items, and cause mischief. Continuing, “Lily is not the kind of ghost that likes quiet, dim, lonely places, no, Lily likes it when her theatre is full of people. That moment just before every show when there is a charge in the air like static electricity. That makes Lily feel alive.” The buzz of a live audience is arguably a type like no other and is a reason why the theatre is so special. Jess supports this with her next

line, “It’s not like telly, the audience aren’t passive observers but part of something totally unique to that one moment in time. Even a show that has been performed hundreds of times will never be experienced the same way twice.”

Although Lily’s reasoning for turning up at our theatre is left somewhat a mystery, the story’s ending expresses, “many years ago, a strange little girl walked into this theatre... She was a fit, not because everyone else was like her but because everyone else was different too. A melting pot of the weird and the wonderful but all with one single thing in common; a love of the theatre.” This leads us to the closing line, “I wonder if the sheer excitement of being here did not bubble over and leave some residue or energy behind that transcended time, the ghost of a young girl dressed in black.”

It can be concluded that Lily represents a pillar of the theatre, an ever-lasting audience member, eyes eagerly on the stage, waiting for its next commander. The audience is what lights the spark of a theatre, the people that visit leave a lasting mark on its walls, an echo of emotion. Having spoken with Joe O’Byrne, the writer and director of ‘The Haunting of Blaine Manor’, his thoughts wonderfully align with the theatre’s unique and exciting mode of viewing.

When asked what he found interesting about the thriller/horror genre, when performed with a live theatre audience, he responded, “I just love that when we’re performing the play on stage you can feel the tension - the fear and dread - rippling through the audience.” This links back to that energetic feeling.

O’Byrne also spoke on what first got him into script writing, he expresses how he was a mature student at university, and with the goal of creating a show reel for his acting, he wrote a few scenes that he could perform. With his tutor’s praise of his writing, he began to write more, this leads us to ‘The Haunting of Blaine Manor’. When asked what inspired him to tell this particular story, O’Byrne writes that he has “always wanted to do a haunted house story,” and too has the ghost at his shoulder every time he sits at the keyboard.

This piece is set in 1953, and hence O’Byrne notes he didn’t want to tell ‘just a ghost story’, but ‘a period piece, something that would fit the world of M R James, Edgar Allan Poe or H P Lovecraft’. I was interested in the choice behind setting this production in 1953, which Joe explains here, “I just really enjoyed a lot of material from that period. Post WWII, there was a noticeable shift into drama - but also escapism.” He adds, “It was also quite a Hollywood Golden Age of glamour,



Jemma - Author

murder, and seduction - I thought if I juxtapose that with an English haunted manor ghost story it would be interesting.”

Lastly, I spoke with Joe to summarise what the audience can expect from this production. “The audience are going to get such a kick out of this, and the ending will really blow them away, we literally have gasps from the audience.” He even notes that his “original sound designer left due to having nightmares based around the production”, so yes there are fear elements! The final line of O’Byrne’s words emphasise why this is a performance that cannot be missed. “In short, it’s a show (the audience) will never forget and will very likely want to see again.” So, make yourself comfy on the edge of your seat, and get your tickets!



*The Haunting of Blaine Manor
ft. Joe O’Byrne*

That brings us to the conclusion of our Halloween special edition. Remember to look at the back ‘What’s On’ page to see all the exciting shows we have coming this October. Thank you to all who have supported the theatre and until next time, break a leg!



*Ghost Light, behind the scenes of
the short film.*

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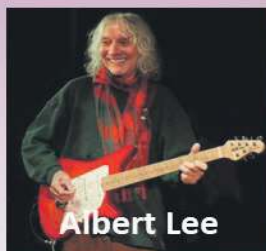
**Fibre and Mobile
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**Satellite
Broadband**

VOIP

**Equipment to
suit YOUR needs**

What's on October 2022



Albert Lee



CinemaLive



Nathan Carter



The Pitmen Poets

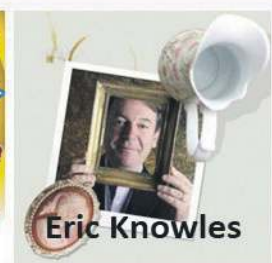
Sunday 2nd

Tuesday 4th

Friday 7th

Saturday 8th

Sunday 9th



Eric Knowles



Lisa Stanley



WHEN GIANTS FINALLY
COME TOGETHER...

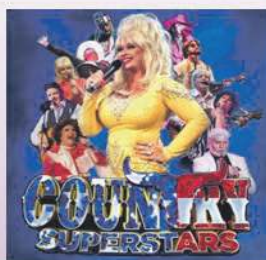
Wednesday 12th

Friday 14th

Saturday 15th

Sunday 16th

Friday 21st



Foster & Allen



Saturday 22nd

Sunday 23rd

Friday 28th

Saturday 29th

Sunday 30th

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