

Number 114

October/November 2018

Village Voice

The Dersingham Magazine



The Siege of King's Lynn
Page 18



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Editors Notes

Tony Bubb



So we have had the last night of the proms which usually means the end of summer as we know it. The children have gone back to school and Sainsburys (other supermarkets are available) is a bit quieter and less challenging. So all is set for the autumn edition.

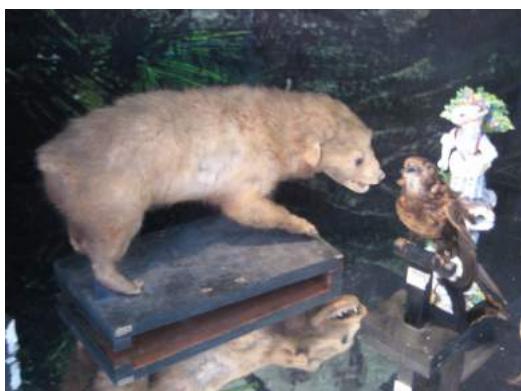
Still a bit of Scotland in these pages as is writing on moths, by-passes, sieges and VAT just to get you into the swing of this issue.

The limerick competition is proving popular, judging by the number of entries. However we will be getting a bit stricter on the scanning for our next one. Instead of giving you the first line this time there are two requirements. The first is that it needs a place name in Norfolk and the second is that the word "Christmas" must appear somewhere. Off you go then.

We have been having some trouble with articles not arriving with us so please note that the only working e-mail address to use is villagevoice@dersingham.org.uk. The "editor" one, that gave most of the trouble, has now been turned off.

I am re-starting Village Voice Live now that we have the new centre opening. Just to ease ourselves in gently there will be a quiz on November the 13th and December the 11th will see a talk on ~The Secrets of the Town Hall. All the usual attractions are back - tea, cake etc and we are promised that there is good central heating so those of you who regard shivering as good exercise will be, hopefully, disappointed.

We had a trip to Felbrigg Hall recently. It makes a good outing if you have not been there and the National Trust have improved the experience greatly since I last went there about twenty years ago. One of the galleries is full of taxidermy including a cabinet of curiosities. No one there knew what this creature was. I have certainly never seen anything like it. Measuring about the same size as a large rat, it apparently was thought to have come from the far east. Any suggestions?



I was present at a recent presentation by the Environment Agency about the River Ouse catchment area which, believe it or not, we are in. This is a vast area that is drained stretching from the Wash right back to nearly Oxford. So the man in Milton Keynes is kept safe and dry by installations like Denver Sluice and the Ouse Washes, but when work is needed to replace aging infrastructure the tricky bit is getting a contribution from him. But don't worry as if everything fails we will be high-ish and dry here in Dersingham.

Have a good autumn, it's my favourite season, gather in your nuts and berries, there seem to be lots more blackberries than I expected to see, and get ready for winter.

Happy reading.□



Dear Village Voice



Poppy Appeal



My name is Karen Bushell and I am the Poppy Appeal organizer for Dersingham and Sandringham.

If anyone would like the small wooden crosses with a regimental badge on, past or present, shown here with Royal Air Force Regiment badge on (normally seen with just the poppy on) these can be obtained for the normal donation.

Please contact me on **01485 540236** or email me on karen.bushell39@btinternet.com

I will order any crosses required on 22nd October so please contact me before then.

If anyone can spare a couple of hours in November to do a collection either door to door or standing at one of the shops please contact me.□

The Army Cadet Force is recruiting in Sandringham. The ACF is a national youth movement which is sponsored by the British army. We take both boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 18 years. Our activities cover military subjects, sport and adventurous training. We are a partner organisation to the Duke of Edinburgh award and run BTEC courses for our cadets.

Details on your local parade night :- Location: Snettisham Memorial Hall

When: Every Tuesday Night Times: 7:00PM - 9:30PM

If Sandringham isn't your local detachment, Don't worry as we have Detachments in Fakenham and King's Lynn.

Please feel free to contact me for more details on 07824 184259
7641hannan@armymail.mod.uk

2LT Martyn Hannant

**Detachment Commander Sandringham Detachment, Britannia Company,
Norfolk Army Cadet Force.**

A big thank you to all those that supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning on 8th September. It was lovely to see lots of local faces attend for such a great cause. We managed to raise a fantastic £583.50. Well done everyone.

The girls at Geoffrey Collings



Just Harmony Choir

Most of our members currently live in Dersingham, and we think our choir may be of interest to your readers.

Our choir, which was previously known as 'Sing for Wellbeing', has been around for some 10 years now, but of late has grown rather low on numbers and we would like to gain some new faces.

We are a very friendly group who believe that singing promotes health and we thoroughly enjoy singing together. We sing a capella, and enjoy a wide variety of music from World to British Folk, with the odd pop song thrown in. You do not need to read music, but you do need to enjoy singing.

We meet on a Wednesday morning from 10 to 12, at present at members' houses, but this may change if our numbers swell. To arrange for a free 'taster session', give Mariana a call on 01485 779033 or 07850 151964. "

Mariana Koziol

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

Sue Payne - chairman



Councillor Vacancy

We have some vacancies to fill by co-option. If you are interested in applying, please contact the Clerk.

Office Move

We expect to be moving in to our new base in the Village Centre soon. The office will be closed whilst the move takes place.

For urgent matters, please telephone the number below, or the Parish Council mobile. We do not know if our telephone line will be affected but please bear with us. The number will remain unchanged.

Village Centre

Please read the article which contains detailed reports and pictures, and information about the opening of the Centre - Open House and Week of Activities - in October.

Dersingham will have a fantastic venue which will support the delivery of extra services for local people as well as social events.

The Parish Council has, regrettably, had to borrow a further substantial sum, of up to £200,000, to complete the project. I am sure this will dismay many of you but, as well as an increase in the build costs, we have been faced with extra, unforeseen, fees and expenses.

A full report giving final costs will be presented to the Parish Council once everything is accounted for and we also will ensure a full evaluation and audit is carried out.

I can assure parishioners that the Precept for 2019/20 will not increase next year to cover the extra loan repayment.

Events

The next Village Event will be the Christmas Lights Switch-On, which takes place on Sunday Dec 2nd. Details will be published and advertised around the village, in Village Voice and on other media.

November 11th 2018

As stated in the last Village Voice the provisional arrangements are -

10:30am	Church service at St Nicholas
12noon	Service at the War Memorial
6:00pm	Three-course dinner, based on recipes from the WW1 era, at 6pm, in the Village Centre. Tickets £7.50. Licensed Bar will be available. To book, call 07790 349896
7:05pm	Beacon Lighting, Peel of Bells, and wreath laying at the Memorial in St Nicholas Churchyard.

Further information will be published in Village Voice, St Nicholas Church newsletter and on posters around the village.

Parish Council Meetings

Full Council and Committee meetings will be discussed in October. We look forward to seeing members of the public at meetings in the Village Centre.

Please contact the Clerk for more information on meetings and advice about Parish matters.

Tel: 01485 541465; email: clerk@dersingham.org.uk

Visit the Parish Council website: www.dersingham.org.uk □



Dersingham Evening WI

By Maggie Guest

Our WI has a break from meetings in the summer but we were lucky enough to have Diane open her garden for afternoon tea. This was well attended, very much enjoyed and the sun shone on us so our sincere thanks to Diane. Here are some photos of the afternoon.



We have 9 new members and I took the opportunity of taking a photo of the 6 that were at the July meeting. Marguerite Delphs, Stephanie Bevins, Brenda Baird, Anthea Aubrey Jones, Alison Childs and Ann Mason are featured here. We hope they enjoy the group.



Our WI have designed a new logo for local use which is separate from the WI national logo. Members were asked to submit a proposed design and the result is a compilation of submissions by Diane Neeve, Shirley Brooks, Irene Speed, Phyl Jones, Jamie Rodgers and Gerry Hodges.

We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month and our next meeting is on Wednesday October 17th at 7.15 at St Cecilia's Church (next to the Co-op)

Contacts are Peg 541162, Katrina 544773 and Maggie 542424 □



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North Runcion Art Group Knows The Secret To A Long Life

As the years roll by, older people are often asked respectfully, 'What is your secret to a long life? The answers are often predictable: 'A glass of stout every night' or 'I go for a walk every day'.

At North Runcion Art Group we have the real answer - 'Painting with friends every week.'

The proof of this statement is that of our 30 or so members, a third are in their eighties and one will reach 90 in November,

Ted Bailey, artist from West Winch, was born in Manor Park, Outer London in 1928. As a boy, he clearly remembers standing at the end of the garden watching Spitfires take off from Hornchurch Aerodrome. The runway, extended on account of the war, stretched to the end of the family's garden and from time to time Ted has recalled these childhood memories by painting a picture of a Spitfire.

By 1943, aged 14, Ted was an apprentice carpenter, later working at Fords and then the Post Office in Corby. He transferred to King's Lynn with the Post office in 1969 where he worked until retirement in 1988.



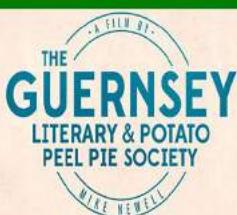
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on
30th October

7.30pm

at

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Ted has always loved painting and spent years 'dabbling at home'. He is a committed member of North Runcion Art Group and a regular contributor to the art group calendar. His work, which has a charming naïve style, can be seen at our annual exhibition in November. To honour this occasion, we shall devote a special section to Ted's work and a spitfire or two may number among his paintings on display. It is possible that a nightly tot of whisky may have assisted Ted in attaining his 90 years!

See his and our other artists' work at our annual exhibition:

SATURDAY 10th NOVEMBER 10.00 -

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The Three Peaks Challenge From Jennifer Shah

Nine parents who successfully summited the highest peaks in Great Britain in 24 hours at the beginning of this month have raised over £4000, smashing their target of £3000 and providing Ingoldisthorpe Primary with more than half the amount required to build a new Garden Room at the school.

The intrepid group of parents walked 23 miles ascending over 10,000ft to complete the challenge, which began on 31st August at 5pm.

The group would like to thank everyone involved for their generosity and support, alongside all the individual & corporate sponsors (listed alphabetically): Agrifac, Allen Tomas & Co., Burrells, Eric's Fish & Chips, the Filling Station Cafe, Minuteman Press and Ward Gethin Archer.

A special thanks to Grandmaster Pan who stepped in at the last minute as Driver but also used his Tae Kwon Do experience to provide the team with exercises and stretches during the challenge.

Donations are still being accepted on the teams Go Fund Me page or in person at Allen Tomas & Co.:



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Dick Melton from Sunny Hunny



The King's Lynn to Hunstanton railway

There has been a lot of talk of late about the reopening of the King's Lynn to Hunstanton railway line that closed down on the 3rd of May 1969, so I thought I would write a bit of history about that line. The King's Lynn to Hunstanton railway line was laid down in 1862 with stations at Heacham, Snettisham, Dersingham, Wolferton and North Wootton. Trains first ran on the line in 1863. The line was operated and owned by the King's Lynn and Hunstanton Railway Company. After two years it was taken over by the Great Eastern Railway Company (GER), then in 1920 it changed hands again and was operated by the London and North Eastern Railway Company (LNER) until it closed in 1969.

The Sandringham hotel that was owned by the railway company was built in 1875, right next to the station; it was demolished in 1967. The chief engineer who was responsible for the construction of the line was John Sutherland Valentine and in recognition of his work a road was named after him in Hunstanton. The first stationmaster at Hunstanton was a Mr Reeves. To start with there were no roofs over the platforms and no waiting rooms. HRH Prince Edward complained about this after having to stand on Wolferton station platform in the rain. So then platform roofs and waiting rooms were added to all the stations along the line.

On the 17th of August 1866 a branch line was opened from Heacham to Wells-next-the-Sea with stations at Sedgeford, Docking, Stanhoe, Burnham Market and Holkham. This line closed down to passenger traffic in 1952. In 1863 the Hunstanton to King's Lynn line had only been opened for a few months when a train was de-railed after hitting a bullock about half a mile on the Hunstanton side of North Wootton station. Early reports stated that five people were killed in the crash and this was so, but another two died later and 20 people were injured.

The whole area of the station yard at Hunstanton covered five acres and it stretched right down to South Beach Road. Within the area of the station were sidings, a goods area with an unloading ramp, engine sheds and a turntable for the engines so they could be turned round ready to go back to King's Lynn. At the entrance to the station yard in Le-Strange Terrace were some shops including a fishmongers and a greengrocers. In the station itself was a bookstall and newsagents. The stationmaster lived in the first large house down Southend Road on your right next to a row of three small cottages for railway workers. The railway company also built three rows of houses down Southend Road for its workers: these were Roseneath Terrace, Marine terrace and Albion Terrace.

When the line was first built there was only one crossing and this was from Park Road into Seagate. In 1902 this crossing was moved down to South Beach Road and an iron footbridge was erected in its place next to the signal box. There were also footbridges over the line at Heacham and Dersingham stations; and more crossing gates further down Southend Road where the line went across the road to take the truck loads of coal into the gas works. Around about this time, in 1902, there were six trains running daily from Hunstanton to Liverpool Street station (London) and their journey time was 3 hours and 7 minutes.



In 1912 there was another crash on the line: a train went straight through the buffers at Hunstanton station and crashed into the wall of the Sandringham hotel. No one was hurt in this crash. Hunstanton was getting a very popular place to visit so the railway station was very busy in the 1920s. During the summer months there were fourteen trains coming in from London every day. Hunstanton station kept busy right up till and after the Second World War. The busiest time for the station was from

1945 to 1960, and then the steam trains were done away with and replaced by diesel rail cars. On August Bank Holiday Monday in 1945, 10,135 people arrived in Hunstanton on that one day by train. In Beach Terrace Road there was an exit from the station through some large iron sliding gates and on a Sunday in the summer time, when all the excursion trains arrived between 10am and noon, all the people would rush out of these gates to get to the pubs or on the beach. This road would be so jam packed with people that you could not drive a car along it.



In 1958 the Fenman that went from Hunstanton to London every morning and back in the evening took 3 hours and 11 minutes to get to London; that was four minutes longer than in 1900. On the Saturday night of the 31st of January 1953 we had the great flood; the 7 27 pm train for King's Lynn, half way between Hunstanton and Heacham, hit water then a bit further on it hit a beach hut across the tracks and that stopped it dead. Some pipes had broken on the front of the engine so the fireman got out of his cab and wrapped some old rags around them. The driver got the engine started again and decided to shunt the train backwards to Hunstanton station. When the water went back the next day it was found that the track beyond the beach hut had been washed away by the sea, so by going back to the station it had no doubt stopped the people on the train from getting drowned, as many people did on that terrible night.

By now, in the 50s and 60s, a lot more people were coming into Hunstanton in cars and buses, so the train was not being used so much. The Heacham to Wells line had closed so everyone said it would not be long before the King's Lynn to Hunstanton line closed down, but it carried on for a few more years.

Then on Saturday the 3rd of May 1969 after 107 years of service the Hunstanton to King's Lynn railway line came to an end. On that day at 10 29 pm the last train from Hunstanton pulled into King's Lynn station. It was an eight-coach train packed with 250 people, but it was too late to protest. After many petitions and demonstrations when the line was closed attempts have been made to open it again but it has not happened yet.

One thing that I forgot to mention was all the goods traffic that came in and went out of all the stations along the line. There would be coal trucks coming in and a lot of farmers would send their sugar beet by rail. Also, a few years back you would see bags of cockles and mussels standing on the platform waiting to be taken to Billingsgate market in London. When the holidaymakers came a gang of local lads would wait at the station with the handcarts and for a small fee they would take their baggage down to their caravans. The good old days have gone forever, they will never come back.

On the move

Well what do you know, after 48 years living in the same house, No 3 Willow Road, Hunstanton, I am on the move. Yes, we are going to live in a two-bedroom bungalow on the Hopkins Butterfield estate just on the boundary between Hunstanton and Heacham.

I was born in Portsmouth and just before World War Two, when I was two months old, my mother and I moved to East Winch to live with my granny. In 1945 we moved to No 41 Dun Cow Lane (Lynn Road), then in 1947, when my father came out of the army after 25 years, we moved to No 63 Lynn Road. When I got married in 1966 we lived in Malthouse Crescent, Heacham for about 6 months, then we went to live in No 1 Seagate, Hunstanton, just 50 yards from the promenade, the beach and the sea, also right next to the blue lagoon swimming pool. Then in 1970 we moved to Willow Road. What I am going to miss most is that for the last 52 years I have had a view of the sea from my windows.

'Well that's about the lot for now, just keep a troshin. □

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The Siege of King's Lynn

Brian Anderson

On Monday 22nd August 1642, King Charles I raised his standard at Nottingham. Although there had already been some fighting, largely in the West of England, this event marked the formal start of the English Civil War. The war had been long in gestation. Over more than a decade, constitutional, economic and religious disputes had been growing. Disastrous and expensive wars against Scotland had alienated some who might have supported the King, partly because of large increases in generally regressive taxation. A corrupt (or apparently corrupt) court was regarded with hostility by his subjects. The King's interference with the rights of Parliament and the judiciary further angered many. The growing influence of Puritanism and other Protestant traditions conflicted directly with the King's admiration for the Catholic monarchies of Europe and his promulgation of new liturgies, especially in Scotland.



It is the coming together of these different strands of dissatisfaction that made the crisis of 1642 so acute. It is possible that war could have been avoided were it not for the character and temperament of the Charles himself: he was singularly ill-fitted for rule. He was obstinate, vain, aloof, deceitful, capricious and sometimes vindictive.



At the time of the formal outbreak of war, Oliver Cromwell was MP for Cambridge and was already militarily active. On 15th July he had moved that the town raise two companies of volunteers in support of Parliament. On learning that the King planned to move the plate of the Cambridge colleges to York, Cromwell secured the arsenal and seized the plate by main force thus adding an estimated £20,000 to the Parliamentary coffers.

Cromwell's first major engagement was at the battle of Edgehill on 23rd October 1642. As a captain he had a fairly junior role in the battle, commanding a troop of horse. He learnt a number of useful lessons in this battle. He noted that the Royalists forfeited their advantageous position on high ground before the battle and that their cavalry having broken the Parliamentary line galloped wildly off the field in order to loot the enemy baggage train, allowing the Parliamentary foot to regroup and force an inconclusive end to the battle. It seems clear that he resolved always to use the ground to best advantage and, perhaps more importantly, to ensure that troops under his command were well trained, disciplined and committed to the cause in which they fought. This last point caused him some difficulty with his seniors who felt that command at any level should be confined to "persons of quality". Cromwell's riposte was robust and uncompromising:

I had rather have a plain russet-coated captain that knows what he fights for, and loves what he knows, than that which you call a gentleman and is nothing else.

But the criticism continued. The Earl of Manchester, who would be Cromwell's commander at the siege of King's Lynn remarked:

Colonel Cromwell raising of his regiment makes choice of his officers not such as were soldiers or men of estate, but such as were common men, poor and of mean parentage, only he would give them the title of godly, precious men...

And so we come to the situation in the late summer of 1643 in Eastern England in general and King's Lynn in particular. Cromwell's first formal military engagement in East Anglia was in April at the siege of Crowland, which was taken with the Royalists surrendering after three days.



Cromwell had warned as early as March that Lynn was vulnerable to attack by the Royalists and consequently the defences of the town had been strengthened with addition of more arms and artillery. This proved to be an error as later events revealed.

Parliamentarians in Lynn seemed firmly in control at the outbreak of hostilities in 1642 but some of the local gentry were either firm or covert Royalists. Authority was sought to question and perhaps imprison strangers to the town. A leading Royalist, Sir Hamon Le Strange, was ordered to be detained, along with members of his family and other leading gentry although this didn't happen.

At the same time the Earl of Newcastle was campaigning successfully in Lincolnshire and by August had secured most of the county, except for Hull, which he besieged. This rapid progress alarmed the Parliamentary command, especially the Eastern Association (a confederation of the county military forces of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Essex and Hertfordshire). Emboldened by this, Royalist sympathisers in Lynn, led by Sir Hamon Le Strange staged a *coup de main* and declared King's Lynn for the King on 13th August 1643. They included Sir Richard Hovell of Hillington, the Mordaunts of Little Massingham, the Mayor Thomas Gurlyn, the Mayor elect Edmund Hudson and the Recorder Francis Parlett - these last three having kept their allegiance to the King secret. The Royalists had managed to secretly stockpile some arms in Lynn and when the *coup* was complete they also acquired the arms (including cannon) that the Parliamentary forces had provided earlier in the year. Sir Hamon was confident that his forces could hold until Newcastle could come Lincolnshire to relieve the town, as he apparently had undertaken to do. The two Puritan members for the Borough were confined (ineffectively, as one managed to escape).

The Earl of Manchester decided to besiege the town rather than storm it. Cromwell sent advance parties to secure the roads leading to Lynn and guarded the river bridges. The Navy, due to misjudgement by the King, had declared for Parliament and blockaded Lynn from the sea. Only one ship, by dint of flying false colours, made it through to the town. The first besieging forces were commanded by Captain Poe and then were skirmishes between the opposing forces with neither side really gaining the upper hand. The defenders left the immediate confines of Lynn to destroy houses and trees that might give cover to the besiegers. Cromwell now placed cannon and mortars at West Lynn and proceeded to bombard the town. The mortars fired shells filled with gunpowder (then named *grenadoes*), although the sources are not in agreement about their effectiveness. The cannon fired round shot. One such round shot came through the west window of St Margaret's and did significant damage to the stonework, though caused no injury despite a service being in progress. A contemporary account said the shot was "of eighteen pounds weight". If so, the cannon that fired it was a culverin, a large gun eleven feet long and weighing 4000 pounds. This alone gives an indication of the importance that the

Parliamentary commanders attached to taking the town as a gun of this size would have been difficult to transport.

Several times Manchester called on the town to surrender, using the formal language of the time "in order to prevent the effusion of blood". Each time the defenders refused, often in mocking terms.



But Newcastle did not come to the relief of the Lynn Royalists. There were two reasons for this. Firstly, he wanted to take Hull as it was now defended by Sir Thomas Fairfax, one of the abler Parliamentary commanders, and Newcastle feared that forces around Hull could threaten his rear. Secondly, the King decided to concentrate on the reduction of Gloucester (also then being besieged). This move was unsuccessful as Parliamentary forces relieved Gloucester in September.

Manchester finally lost patience and decided to storm the town. Boats and ladders were prepared and a new artillery battery set up at South Lynn to cover the assault. These efforts were resisted by the defenders but the toll of casualties is unclear. Manchester then informed the garrison that the town would be stormed of Saturday 16th September unless the defenders capitulated. On the Friday before the defenders sent a message to Manchester that they would discuss terms.

The negotiations took many hours but it was finally agreed that the town's arms would be surrendered to Manchester and a levy raised to prevent plunder. The rights and liberties of the town would be restored. Sir Hamon Le Strange and others would be held hostage until the terms were complied with. But things did not go smoothly. Some of the garrison objected to the surrender and it seemed that the Lynn might to stormed anyway. Order was eventually restored and a Colonel Russell entered the town and quartered his force of horse and foot in the Tuesday market-place. Manchester entered some hours later. The siege was over.

The fighting at Lynn was the only time in the Civil War that blood was spilt within the boundaries of Norfolk. Different sources give widely varying numbers of the dead - somewhere between two and eighty!

The siege does not feature in many of the general works of the Civil War. This is perhaps because it is important in what did *not* happen rather than what did - Newcastle did not move to relieve Lynn. It has been suggested that if he had, the road to London was open and the war could have been over quickly. I regard this as fanciful. Newcastle might well have broken the siege but there are too many unknown factors to predict further than that. Manchester was already marshalling his forces for a move into Lincolnshire and Newcastle would have Parliamentary forces led by Fairfax and Cromwell at his back. It is worth noting that the Royalists lost the battle of Winceby in Lincolnshire on



11th October. The Earl of Essex might have moved sooner from the west country and in London the trained bands (the most effective local militia in the country) would have proved a significant obstacle.

If the siege of King's Lynn is not well known, a second attempt to declare the town for the King is even less so. In 1644 Roger Le Strange, Sir Hamon's son, travelled to Oxford and managed to convince the King and his advisors that he could raise a rebellion in Lynn. As a result, he was given a commission to undertake such a rising. It is unlikely that Sir Hamon Le Strange was aware of this (frankly incompetent) plan - by this time he wished to live quietly at Hunstanton and attempt to manage his estate, which had been punitively taxed by Parliament. Roger Le Strange travelled to Norfolk and arrived at Appleton Hall, where he was received cordially by Lady Paston. He then sent for a man called Leaman who he believed was sympathetic to the Royalist cause, or at least could be bribed. Leaman agreed to help raise a group within Lynn with the intention of delivering the town to the King. Leaman then returned to Lynn and told the whole story to Colonel Valentine Walton, governor of Lynn and Cromwell's brother-in-law. The next day a party of soldiers came to Appleton Hall and arrested Le Strange. He was charged with and convicted of espionage, despite claiming that his commission from the King allowed him to be treated as a soldier subject to "the normal usages and ordinances of war" and condemned to death. The sentence was commuted and he was imprisoned in Newgate until 1648. On his release he tried to organise another rising in Kent. This too was unsuccessful.

I am grateful to Chris Boxall for discussions and advice, and for providing his account of the battle of Winceby. This article might otherwise have proven "a forlorn hope". □

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The Dersingham Walking Group

As summer gracefully slips into autumn, the walking season is upon us. For some reason we always have more walkers in the cooler months than we do if the weather is warm, and this summer proves the point. The hottest days brought out the smallest numbers on a couple of our July and August walks. Nonetheless, on even the warmest day there's always someone up for a walk in the Norfolk countryside and now the weather is cooling off, why not come and join us for an afternoon amble?

Looking at upcoming walks, in October we will be walking the coastal path near Thornham, always one of my favourite spots, and then on the 24th October we shall be back nearer home for an Ingoldisthorpe walk, following a quite different route from the one we walked in September. It's amazing just how many local footpaths there are! As we move into November it's important to note that we bring our start time forward half an hour, to 1.30pm, to take advantage of as much daylight as possible. We'll have an extra walk too in November, with a Sunday afternoon walk at Sandringham, led by Pat Read. There will be an opportunity to visit the Visitor Centre café after the walk if you are in need of refreshment. We will still have our usual two Wednesday afternoon walks, on the second and the fourth Wednesdays, with Fring and Massingham being our destinations. Full details of all these walks are below, including the National Grid reference if you're not sure about the exact start point. There's also information on the Dersingham Walking Group web page, which you can find on the Parish Council website at www.dersingham.org.uk/walkinggroup/. Or you can phone the leader of the particular walk to get more information.

There is no cost involved with Dersingham Walking Group walks, just turn up with your boots on. Dogs are welcome on most walks, provided they are well behaved and tolerant of other dogs. The leader of the walk will do his or her best to look after you, of course, but it is a condition of coming on a walk that you take responsibility for your own safety. As that great hiker Alfred Wainwright said "Watch where you put your feet!"

Finally, although I've mentioned it before in this column, to ensure that the Walking Group continues to thrive, we do need to recruit some more walks leaders. It's a good thing to do and you'll be helping the community and ensuring that our regular programme of country walks can continue. We have a selection of different walks that you could undertake, or you can devise your own, which is part of the fun. Do please get in touch if you can help, my contact details are below.

Stephen Martyn

Our next few walks

Wednesday 10th October 2.00pm

A circuit around the village of Thornham, including part of the coast path. Meet at Thornham Church. 4.5 miles. Leader: Elizabeth Fiddick 01485 540940. Start point grid ref: TF 733 434.

Wednesday 24th October 2.00pm

The heights and riverside of Ingoldisthorpe. Meet at the big layby near Ingoldisthorpe crossroads. 4 miles. Leader: John Ross 01485 543844. Start point grid ref: TF 683 324.

Sunday 4th November 1.30pm

Sandringham Sunday Explorer. Starting at the front of the Visitor Centre we'll explore some of the estate's woodland paths, finishing back at the Centre café where there is the option of tea and cake! Around 3.5 miles. Leader: Pat Reed 01485 540757. Start point grid ref: TF 690 288.

Wednesday 14th November 1.30pm

We will meet at All Saints church Fring on the road from Fring to Sedgeford for this

enjoyable circuit of some fine country footpaths. We tried to run this walk earlier in the year but it was rained off! 4.5 miles. Leader: Elizabeth Fiddick 01485 540940. Start point grid ref: TF 735 348.

Wednesday 28th November 1.30pm

A circuit of the Massinghams, starting at Great Massingham village green. 4.5 miles. Leader: Tony Bubb 01485 542638. Start point grid ref: TF 798 230.

PLEASE NOTE THAT the leaders are happy to organize and lead these walks but stress that each participant must appreciate that there are hazards associated with walking and take responsibility for their own safety.

Group coordinator: **Stephen Martyn** Tel: 01485 541333 Email: stephenmartyr@gmail.com

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Film Nights At Anmer Social Club

Friday 9th November - THE BROMLEY BOYS - starring Martine McCutcheon, Alan Davies, Jamie Foreman in a very funny yet touching coming of age football memoir played out to the sights and sounds of late 60's Britain. Based on the hilarious novel by Dave Roberts, it recounts the author's highs and the lows supporting the worst football team in the country at the time - Bromley FC.

Friday 14th December - THE BOOKSHOP - starring Emily Mortimer as Florence Green decides, against polite but ruthless local opposition, to open a bookshop in a small East Anglian town in 1959. Also starring Bill Nighy & Patricia Clarkson.

Admission by ticket £3 at the door. Doors and bar opens at 7.30 p.m.

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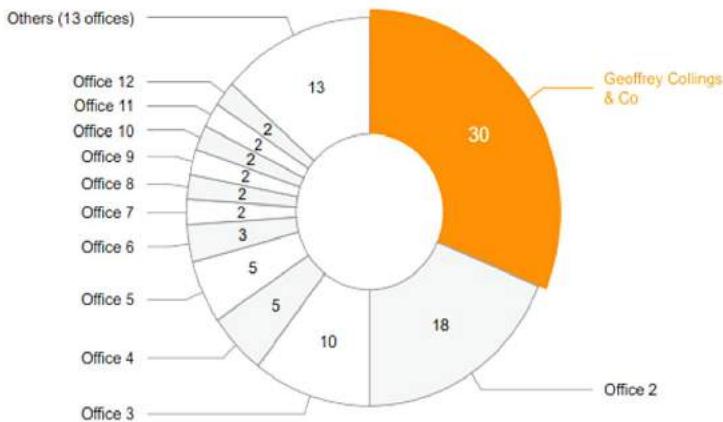
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Two CERN workers in the same Norfolk village

By Richard Owen



I live in Dersingham with my wife Ma, along with our 1 dog and 2 cats. I noted that in an earlier edition of the Village Voice there was an article by Brian Anderson about his work on the Large Hadron Collider at CERN and I thought that reader might be interested to know that I also used to work at CERN. So two ex-CERN workers in the same Norfolk village.

I visited CERN periodically from 1976 until 1983 and gained my PhD in High Energy Physics from Birmingham University in 1980. After this I was employed by Bristol University as a Research Associate.

The Creation of CERN

The acronym CERN stands for **Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire** and the laboratory was created after the second world war when there was a desire among European scientists to create a scientific project for peaceful purposes. The final choice of projects came down to building a Telescope to view the very large features of the universe or to build a Particle Accelerator to investigate sub-atomic phenomena. Accelerator technology had just come-of-age and on 29th September 1954 CERN was officially established on the Franco-Swiss border just north of Geneva. The CERN laboratory was intentionally sited on the border between France and Switzerland so as to express its neutrality within Europe. However over the years many other non-European countries are affiliated to CERN and it is now a truly international laboratory.



The CERN mission statement is as follows

"The Organization shall provide for collaboration among European States in nuclear research of a pure scientific and fundamental character, and in research essentially related thereto. The Organization shall have no concern with work for military requirements and the results of its experimental and theoretical work shall be published or otherwise made generally available"

CERN's Machines

Elementary particles, such as protons, carry positive electrical charge which means they can be accelerated in electric fields and bent (direction changed) in magnetic fields. Hence most Particle Accelerators are built of a circle of electromagnets in which bunches of elementary particles spin round many times per second reaching ever higher energies.

By colliding particles together at high energy we can investigate what is inside these particles, hence we can think of an accelerator as a very large and powerful microscope. The higher energy the collisions the finer the resolution of the microscope – i.e. the more detail we can see.

Furthermore, when particles collide at very high energies they effectively lose their identity and form a blob of energy which a split second later decays to form other particles. The higher the energy density resulting from the collision the more we are mimicking the conditions of what the universe was like at the time of the big bang. This phenomena is often expressed as 'looking backwards in time'.

The first accelerator built at CERN was the 600 MeV Synchrocyclotron (SC) built in 1957 and was about 19 metres in circumference and accelerated Protons to 600 MeV (mega electron volts – a measure of the energy of the particle. Particle physicists use the electron volt as the unit of energy. It is *very very* small. It would take over a million million electron volts to warm a teaspoon of water by 1 degree. The labels Mega, Giga and Tera refer to a million, billion and trillion electron volts respectively and are abbreviated to MeV, GeV and TeV. 1 TeV is roughly the energy of a flying mosquito but concentrated in a very tiny space). Since then many other accelerators and beamlines have been built and CERN is now a complex of interconnected machines which can accelerate and collide many different types of particle.



The machine that I worked on was called the Super Proton Synchrotron (SPS) and was CERN's most powerful accelerator at the time. Now CERN's largest machine is the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) and the SPS merely provides particles to the much larger LHC.

The SPS is buried underground inside a circular tunnel 6.9 kilometres in circumference and looks somewhat similar to the tunnels on the London Underground.



At the heart of the SPS is the beam pipe, which is a continuous evacuated metal tube about 10 cms in diameter in which the Protons travel. At regular intervals along the SPS tunnel are placed over 700 bending magnets; each one just over 6 metres long. These magnets surround the beams pipes and the magnetic field ensures that the bunches of Protons are kept focused within the beam pipe.

At one part of the SPS ring there is a long straight section (LSS), which is a few hundred metres in length and where the protons are accelerated with radio frequency energy.



So bunches of Protons are accelerated and then pass around the 6.9 km ring of bending magnets where they are eventually returned back to the LSS for the next acceleration. Each time the particles are accelerated the current in the bending magnets is increased slightly so as to increase the magnetic field which in turn holds the particles within the beam pipe. **The amazing thing is that this happens about 200,000 times per second.** After about 8 seconds the bunches of protons will have reached an energy of 450 GeV. A kicker magnet then 'scoops' the protons out of the beam pipe and directs them to a primary target where a whole variety of secondary particles are produced. These particles are then separated into their various types and sent down more beams pipes to the experimental areas above ground.

magnet then 'scoops' the protons out of the beam pipe and directs them to a primary target where a whole variety of secondary particles are produced. These particles are then separated into their various types and sent down more beams pipes to the experimental areas above ground.

Looking Inside of Protons

Now, a little bit of physics. All atoms have a nucleus with electrons orbiting around it - somewhat similar to the sun and the planets of our solar system. The nucleus of the atom is itself made up of smaller particles called Protons and Neutrons which in turn are made up of even smaller particles called 'Quarks'. The Quarks interact amongst themselves in very complex ways via a force known as the 'Strong Interaction'. Hence a Proton is not a single particle but a very complex system of much smaller particles. It was the study of the internal dynamics of the Proton for which I was awarded my PhD.

It's instructive to get a feeling of how small these sub-atomic particles are. An atom of Hydrogen has a diameter **a million times smaller than the thinnest human hair**. In fact, one tenth of a thousand millionth of a metre. The Proton at the centre of the Hydrogen atom is one hundred thousand times smaller than the Hydrogen atom itself. The detector that I worked on was called the **Omega Spectrometer** and our experiment was specially designed to study the behaviour of the quarks inside the Protons.



In fact, we were able to 'see' structure at a resolution of one hundredth of a Proton diameter. So the SPS is indeed a very powerful microscope.



In one second there would be over 10 million particle interactions inside our detector and using our fast electronic triggering system we were able to select and record to computer tape about 15 events of special interest. It's instructive to note that even at these incredibly small scales the Quarks inside the Proton appear to be point like and show no evidence of any further internal structure. This is one of the reasons that Quarks are considered to be truly elemental particles.

So I started my PhD in 1976 and at the age of 26 I was privileged enough to be working on CERN's newest detector supplied with particles from one of the most powerful accelerators in the world. I was living up in the Jura mountains of France and crossing the border everyday into Switzerland in my 1953 Morris Minor convertible sporting its diplomatic number plates. Ah, halcyon days indeed.

The Old and the New

It now makes me feel quite old when I look at pictures of the Omega Spectrometer and compare it with the sophisticated modern day detectors of the Large Hadron Collider. However, even though our detectors were much simpler than the modern day detectors the data output was far more visual **and made one feel quite close to the workings of mother nature**. The Omega Spectrometer was full of 'Spark Chambers'. You could climb up on top of the detector and look down into it and see the sparks fly - tracing out the spiral paths left behind by particles as they pass through the detector. **You felt close to the action**. In contrast, the data output from CERN's modern detectors is presented in a much more abstract form as coloured graphics on computer screens.



Next door to our experimental hall was a large building that housed the Big European Bubble Chamber (BEBC). This detector consisted of a large stainless-steel vessel, about 10 metres tall which was filled with 35 cubic metres of liquid hydrogen, which could be expanded by means of a large piston weighing 2 tonnes. During each expansion, charged particles left trails of bubbles as they passed through it. Every 8 seconds you would hear a loud 'ba-doom' and the ground would shake as the 2 tonne piston plunged downwards expanding the liquid hydrogen. I used to climb on top of BEBC and look down through the plate glass portholes at the myriads of particle trails - electrons and positrons spiralling off in all directions. Sometimes you need to see it to believe it.

When our experiment on the Omega Spectrometer finished the Birmingham University High Energy Physics Group moved on to larger and more sophisticated experiments. They went on to discover some new types of particles called 'Intermediate Vector Bosons' for which our experiment leaders (Carlo Rubbia and Simon van der Meer) were awarded the 1984 Nobel Prize.

After my work at CERN I worked for the United Nations setting up small computer networks. It was the early 80's when there was no World Wide Web or Microsoft Windows, hence there was a high demand for CERN workers who already had lots of expertise with computers. The increase in salary was also handy.

It can be quite lonely being an ex-particle physicist living in Dersingham as the chance of bumping into someone who is interested in Quantum Chromodynamics is quite remote. However now Brian Anderson and myself can sometimes be seen standing on a street corner in Dersingham, in intense conversation, sharing old stories about our time at CERN.□



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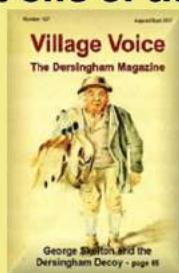
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RESCUE WOODEN BOATS

Liz Hankin, Chair



1. The Historic Fishing Boats Regatta at the end of July was hosted in Wells-next-the Sea by charity Rescue Wooden Boats, with much help from Wells Harbour. The aim was to increase awareness of these few remaining beautiful boats and their stories, as well as raising some much-needed funds for our next project - restoring Wells whelker *Bessie*, a Dunkirk Little Ship. See details of *Bessie*, her story, and how to support her restoration on

www.rescuewoodenboats.com

There were 18 wooden boats present, four whelkers, 13 crab boats and one mussel flat.
Whelkers - Knot, Sally, Harvester, Salford

Crab boats- *Miss Britain*, *Billy Witch*, *Calico Jack*, *Welcome Messenger*, *Our Boys*, *Michael Edward*, *Amanda Lynne*, *Auk*, *My Girls*, *Early Rose*, *Joan Elizabeth*, *Valerie Teresa*, *Jonathan James*.

Whelker Knot was the oldest boat there built in 1938 by R E Emery. *Whelker Sally* was built in 1939. The latest boats were crab boat *Valerie Teresa* built by David Hewitt in 1989 and *Auk* also built by David Hewitt in 2014

The **flotilla on Saturday evening** was a spectacle as the boats steamed out of the harbour into a squall and then back again.

Many visitors took great interest in the boats and some fishermen were there in their former boats. Roger Seago was in crab boat *Jonathan James* and was 'over the moon', Andy MacCallum was in Whelker *Knot*. *Our Boys*, now owned by Robin West, was built by the Emery family in Sheringham. Jonathan Emery was aboard and said 'My first trip in a family-built boat, *Our Boys* was built 1950 by my grandfather and two uncles'. You can see films of many of these people, as well as the restoration of crab boats and whelkers on our website www.rescuewoodenboats.com/films/films-films

2. The Maritime Heritage Centre in Stiffkey continues to open till end **October (weekends 11-4)** and the popular trips afloat from **Wells** in restored Dunkirk Little Ship and former Wells lifeboat ***Lucy Lavers*** also continue until the end of October. Book via Wells Tourist Information Office, 01328 710885.

3. Trustees and Volunteers

We are delighted to welcome **Robert Smith MBE**, Wells Harbour Master, aboard as a new Trustee. We know we will greatly benefit from his experience and wisdom. Liz Hankin is now Chair of the team of volunteer Trustees. We need more Trustees as well more Volunteers to help at the Maritime Heritage Centre - and more.

If you are interested in offering time or skills to conserving our maritime heritage (no previous experience needed!) do contact at info@rescuewoodenboats.com

Photo of Historic Fishing Boats Regatta by **Reg Holl**

Sandringham Newsletter

By kind permission of the Sandringham Estate

Compiled by Helen Wach



The last few weeks have been very busy ones on the Estate. The blackcurrant harvest has been completed, with excellent yields in spite of the long dry spell, and the cereal harvest has started. Green manures are now being sown, including clover, vetch, radish, oats and stubble turnips; green manures cover the ground to help keep down weeds and will later be cultivated into the soil to help build good structure and add fertility.

After the Flower Show in late July, at the height of the hot spell, Sandringham Park was the venue for the Food and Drink Festival in August and the Game and Country Fair in September.

In the Gardens, the hot dry weather meant that there was less need for mowing but it kept the gardeners busy watching irrigation lines carefully, as well as carrying out the annual summer trimming of the yew and box hedges in front of Sandringham House. The Visitor Centre has been as busy as ever during the school holidays. A new addition to the Sunday lunch menu has been Sandringham lamb, from the flock raised near the blackcurrant fields. The first Discovery apples are now being picked at the orchards and are available ready-bagged from the Plant Centre; Pick-Your-Own apples (Cox and Bramley) will start on Saturday 15th September.

Finally, a reminder that this is the time of year when Seasonal Canine Illness (SCI) can start to appear in dogs walked in woodland. SCI is a mystery illness affecting dogs during the autumn, and which can prove to be fatal. Cases have occurred at Sandringham as well as in woodland in other parts of the country. The cause of SCI is unknown, but it can affect dogs of any size or shape and either sex and it causes dogs to become very ill, very quickly after being walked in woodland. The most common clinical signs are sickness, diarrhoea and lethargy typically experienced within 72 hours of walking in woodland. If dog owners suspect their dog is showing signs of SCI then they should contact their vet immediately. Dog owners visiting Sandringham are advised to keep their dog on a lead at all times and to stay in the grassland areas.□

A Wolferton lady called Mary
Had always wanted to look like a
fairy

But with a stud through her nose
And a tattoo that shows
She just ended up looking quite
scary

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11th November 2018 Dersingham Remembers

Rev Mark Capron Rector of Dersingham, Anmer, Ingoldisthorpe and Shernborne



This year is significant for 11th November for two reasons, firstly it is the 100th anniversary of the end of the first world war and secondly 11th November (Armistice day) falls on a Sunday. With this in mind for Dersingham I called a meeting with representatives of those who have been involved in previous years with a view to having a co-ordinated united Dersingham Remembers on 11th November 2018.

There were representatives of the Royal British Legion, Guides and Scout movement, Methodist Church, Catholic Church, St Nicholas Church, Dersingham Parish Council as well as members of our community who read out the names of the fallen at services. I am pleased that together we can confirm the plans for this year's Remembrance Day which incorporates three parts.

The main village church service will again be at 10:30 in St Nicholas Church, with a piper leading the uniformed procession that will gather earlier at 10:15 beforehand at St Nicholas Court. I am pleased that the Rev Steve Oliver (Dersingham Methodist Church) will be preaching, with myself leading the service. There will be a practice on Saturday 10th November in church at 6pm for those involved in the colour parties and laying of wreathes.

The second stage of remembering on the day will be at the Village war memorial at the cross roads next to Station Road, for those who wish to pay their respects there. The time of this will be confirmed in the due course so there is time to allow people to work their way up from St Nicholas after the service.

Thirdly in the evening at 7pm there will be a short act of remembrance with prayer and citation at the War Memorial in the front of St Nicholas Churchyard opposite the Village centre; during this the bells will be rung out as part of a national initiative. Straight after this the beacon will be lit over the road with a ticketed meal available in the village centre seeking to replicate the food of the war years.

Thank you to all those involved as we unite together on 11th November pausing for the fallen and those affected by the horrors of war and conflict as Dersingham Remembers 2018.
www.stnicholasdersingham.org.uk

Anmer Social Club

Beetle Drive

Saturday 19th October
7:30p.m. for 8.00p.m.

Entry £2.50 per person

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NEW MEMBERS WELCOME

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Barn Dance
Featuring
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Saturday 27th October
7.30 – 10.30 pm

In
The Dersingham Village Centre

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At:
THE VILLAGE CENTRE, DERSINGHAM

On:
19TH OCTOBER 2018

Time:
10.00 – 12.00
Tombola
Cakes
Craft Stalls



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in aid of D.V.C.A.

Sunday
At 12.30 pm 21st October 2018
In
The Dersingham Village Centre

Three Course Lunch - £12
includes tea/coffee

Tickets: Sign Up
(list in back of church or at
Post Office)

Or Buy in Advance From:

01485 540271/07790 349896



TWELFTH ANNUAL **Norfolk Family Walk** at Holkham Hall, North Norfolk for

BRAIN TUMOUR RESEARCH & SUPPORT

**SUNDAY
7th
OCTOBER
2018**
10am-4pm



Please join us for a special day out at this beautiful venue,
at the same time helping to raise funds for research into this
devastating disease by asking friends and family to sponsor you.

The 2018 "World Walk" for Brain Tumours is a project of the International Brain Tumour Alliance (IBTA) and is in its twelfth year. We hope to achieve enough mileage world-wide to encircle the Earth at the Equator many times. The "World Walk" symbolically unites all those around the globe whose lives have been touched by a brain tumour.

Go to www.astrofund.org.uk to download a sponsorship form
and for a link to create a justgiving page or contact via email
treasurer@astrofund.org.uk or telephone 01485 525279

Organised by the Norfolk Branch of Astro Brain Tumour Fund, charity no. 1133561





Dersingham Village Centre



We now have a wonderful Village Centre, which will support the delivery of new services for residents of Dersingham and nearby villages, as well as providing a fantastic venue for social events. St Nicholas Church Hall stood for over 100 years, and we hope the new building will last until well into the next century.

It has been a long, and not always easy, journey. Discussion started on providing a new facility well before the Millennium and various options were considered by the Parish Council.

It was not until 2013 that work started in earnest to look at using the St Nicholas Church Hall site for a new Centre.

A small working group was set up, which then became a Parish Council Committee, and a village-wide survey was commissioned to assess the need for a new building and what services were wanted and/or required.

The Parish Council was fortunate in successfully applying for a Big Lottery Grant and were awarded £550,000 plus a small Development Grant. Other grants – WREN, Geoffrey Watling Trust, Norfolk Community Foundation - and generous donations, including the Sponsor a Brick scheme, helped us, together with levies on the Precept for three years and a Public Works Loan, in achieving sufficient funds to meet the proposed cost of the new build. Recently, we became aware that we would have a shortfall, due to unforeseen extra costs, and applied for a further loan.

This does mean that parishioners will have contributed half the total project costs.

However, the whole community will benefit from the services and activities which will be available.

I would like to thank all the people who have helped over the past five years – with gathering data for and helping with the Lottery and other applications, consultation events, fundraising, and supporting the Parish Council.

Special thanks to June Mularkey at Dersingham Pottery, for designing and creating the mural containing the sponsored ‘bricks’. We also thank the architects, Atelier Associate and the builders, TM Browne, and all partners who have had to deal with a myriad of alterations and local government bureaucracy.

The Centre will be managed by the Dersingham Village Centre Association who will work with the Parish Council to ensure we meet the aims and objectives identified in the business plan.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Open House event on Saturday, October 20th, and we hope you will visit the events during the following week (please refer to the programme).

Sue Payne



When construction work started on the new Centre at the end of last year with the award of the contract to TM Browne on 17th November 2017, the schedule showed that the works would be completed by 14th September 2018. Few people believed that we could keep to that ambitious programme, but here we are in the last few weeks of the contract and construction work is substantially complete. Passers-by will have viewed works to the outside of the centre and see that, as required by Historic England, we have

retained the front façade. On closer examination you will see that the window frames have been rejuvenated, and new double-glazed units have been installed, so that we get the maximum benefit of natural light in the Centre. The original turret is also back in place, after renovation and repainting, so the central part of the Centre will still look familiar to previous Church Hall users.

New disabled parking areas have been constructed at the front of the Centre and



additions can be clearly seen, in particular the ground floor meeting room on the right of the building. This well-lit and cheerful room will be used for Parish Council meetings, and is also expected to be used by groups who may feel a little lost in the large Hall.

The Hall can accommodate 150 people seated for social events including wedding receptions or birthday parties, and 200 theatre-style for plays, film. It is also ideal for conferences, training events or indoor markets. The underfloor heating will make the Centre a comfortable and welcoming venue during the winter months. We are installing a

solar PV system so electricity costs will be reduced.

Many previous users will recall the original kitchen ceiling, but people are certain to be impressed with the vaulted ceiling which was hidden behind the boards, and is now a feature in the Hub area. A spectacular new feature is a candelabra donated by St Nicholas Church, which has been transformed into a chandelier that has been installed in the Hub. Work has started on the installation of the new kitchen. All the cupboards and equipment have been delivered and assembly of the units started. This work is expected to be completed by the middle of September.

The upstairs meeting room suite is complete and provides some independence from the other rooms in the Centre with its own kitchenette and toilet facilities. This will be particularly attractive to some groups who want some privacy or calm surroundings for their activity. It has views over St Nicholas Church and open farm scenery.

There still remains some external work to tidy the site and to prepare the car park area. All will be completed by the end of September, ready for the groups who are booked to the Centre in October.



Chris Davey

As mentioned above, our cracking new Village Centre facility will be up and running in October and we are looking forward to welcoming groups, some old and some new, in to the building. Already the calendar is filling up and there will be no shortage of activities available to all of us. These include, but are not limited to, Pilates, Fitness, Yoga and Dance which will benefit from the sprung wooden floor; also Dog Training, monthly Film Club (moving from the Social Club) and Village Voice Live which resumes after a break.



We would like to thank the Social Club for hosting the Film Club over the last year. Anyone wishing to use the facility should contact us via bookings@dersinghamvillagecentre.org.uk or telephone 01485 540271 to discuss your requirements.

To celebrate the Centre's opening, a programme of special events and public taster opportunities are planned from October 20th to October 26th, the finale will be a Barn Dance with live band on Saturday 27th. See the programme for more details. Many other events are planned, including a Children's Light Party on October 31st, Community and Charity Lunches, Tea Dances. Film Club evenings start Tuesday October 30th, Village Voice Live talks from Tuesday November 13th, and more Wow! What a programme.

Finally, thanks to all who have supported the Association over the past year, particularly our volunteers who have helped with events and fundraising, and those who subscribe to the Village Centre Lottery, which will continue.

Lottery winners for August were numbers 63, 42, 60; for September 21, 41 and 60.

David Collingham

A Wolferton lady called Mary
Lived up to her name "quite contrary"

It was yes and then no
Stop and then go

Her whole life was quite "airy fairy"

A Wolferton lady called Mary
Was a big fan of Julian Clary
She saw all his shows
From Hythe to Montrose
And from Cardiff to Rockford St
Mary



Dersingham Village Centre

Open Week Events

October 20th to 27th

Open House - Saturday October 20th, 11am to 4pm, with special guest the Borough Mayor, Cllr Nick Daubney, attending.
Includes **Activities Market Place** with local organisations.
Refreshments available.

Charity Lunch - Sunday 21st October, 12:30pm
£12 for three courses. Booking essential



Pop-In Week - Monday 22nd to Friday 26th October.
Come and see what is, or could be, on offer.
Taster Sessions for all ages, including —
Beetle Drive, Bridge, Dance,
Jazzercise, Cookery, Crafts, Games
Flower Arranging, and more
Refreshments available all week



Tea Dance - Friday 26th October, 2:30-4:30 pm
£5 includes tea & cake



Barn Dance - Saturday 27th October, 7:30-10:30pm
Includes Hot Food
£9 in advance, £10 on the door

For more information on the Open House, contact Dersingham Parish Council on 01485 541465 , or call 01485 540271, 07790 349896.

To purchase tickets for the Charity Lunch, Tea Dance and Barn Dance, call 01485 540271 or 07790 349896.

Alternatively visit : www.dersingham.org.uk
www.dersinghamvillagecentre.org.uk



Dersingham Carpet Bowls

On the 26th of June five members travelled to Methwold to combine delivery of the long outstanding Summer League runners-up trophies and a friendly match. Methwold play in a very nice hall with plenty of parking and served a mean home-made sausage roll as part of the refreshments.

On 27th of June cars gathered in the car park to take part in what is becoming an arrival tradition, the car treasure hunt. Twenty-seven participants set off at staggered intervals from 6.30 on route that took in Dersingham, Ingoldisthorpe, Snnettisham, Old Hunstanton, Hunstanton and finally Heacham again for a buffet meal. Enroute we had to search for deviously hidden clues and work out anagrams. Despite careful planning by organisers David and Judith Hart several of us went "off piste", not helped by the lack of phone reception in Hunstanton for those of us trying to make "Help – where are we and where should we be?" phone calls. We all eventually arrived at the correct destination and the results were:-

1st- Jan and Dave, 2nd- Joy and Frank, Booby - Charlies Angels

A great fun evening and hopefully David and Judith can be persuaded to organise another next year.

On the 3rd of July a group of six members enjoyed an afternoon of crazy golf at Blackbeards Adventure at Hunstanton. Organised by Social Secretary Maureen the group then went for a meal at The Honeystone where they were joined by two further members whose dodgy knees prevented them from participating in the crazy golf. The golfers split into two groups and the winners were Janet and Maureen.

On the 15th of June Jenny O, Ulla, Ray and Fred travelled to Mundford for their annual charity match. On a scorchingly hot day the hall was actually reasonably cool and comfortable. Due to last minute withdrawal due to ill health by Methwold only two matches were played of which we drew one and lost one, both good tight matches. The day completed by a large raffle and pleasant drive home.



On the 26th July six members attended the West Norfolk Carpet Bowls Association (WNCBA) AGM at the Wembley Room at Lynnsport. On a blisteringly hot day the air-conditioned meeting room was a blessing. Business was conducted quickly, and the election of officers was held. Joy Stephens stood down as Chair and Elaine Brandon was elected. Vice Chair and Secretary: David Hart. Treasurer: John Heely. Committee: Judith Hart, Angela Gee and Val Gooding. Trophy presentations were then made, including to Dersingham's Eddie Marsh. Ulla Aldridge, Rita Pickin and Jenny Oliver who were winners of the Lynnsport Fours 2017/18.



Friday evening roll ups continued during this time except on the 26th of July which was cancelled due to the extreme heat and humidity.

On the 14th of August we made the final "delivery of overdue trophies" trip, this time to Hilgay which was a lovely little club that meets and plays in the Methodist Chapel. A pleasant evening with the usual friendly matches, raffle and refreshments.□

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1st Dersingham Guides head to Paradise

Elizabeth Wheeler

The start of the summer holidays saw the 1st Dersingham Guides head to Hautbois Activity Centre - the Girlguiding centre in Coltishall - for a Paradise themed camp. This year's camp had a twist, as instead of sleeping in tents the Guides stayed in the Reedcutter's Village area - wooden shepherd huts with bunk beds inside! The girls still enjoyed traditional camp activities, despite some less traditional sleeping arrangements; they made washing up stands using poles and bamboo canes, cooked on wood fires, collected water and toasted marshmallows.



On our first afternoon, we visiting the Girlguiding Norfolk Archive Resource Centre, where the girls explored and found out all about the centre. They also unwrapped items ready for cataloguing and had the chance to dress up in 1940s cap dresses, learning how to fold the tie in the correct way. We were very lucky to be shown an extract from a Division Commissioner's Log Book



detailing her visit to the 1st Dersingham Guides in December 1948, when Mrs Stanton and Miss Spaxman were Captain and Lieutenant, it said that she talked to the Guides about St Andrew's Day and the Olympic Games.



We also took advantage of the adventurous activities provided at Hautbois, so the girls took part in Orienteering, Archery, Canoeing, Crate Stacking and Bridge Building. The girls worked together, helping and supporting each other, especially during Crate Stacking and Bridge Building where teamwork was vital. There was also a day trip into Wroxham on the Bure Valley Railway, where the girls were

able to visit the shops, feed the swans and enjoy a picnic lunch in brilliant sunshine.

In between activities and trips, there was time for crafts, games and a Paradise-inspired campfire with grass skirts, flower garlands and fruit cocktails.

All the girls and leaders had a fantastic four days.□



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Dersingham Library Events in October & November

**For further information about events and to book please call 01485 540181
To be added to the mailing list please contact Kerry Lingwood by emailing
Kerry.lingwood@norfolk.gov.uk**

Dersingham has Open Library, meaning you can access the library **between 8am and 7pm Monday to Friday and 10-4 Saturday and Sunday**, as long as you are registered. This gives customers self-service access to library materials, public computers and quiet, creative spaces even while the building is unstaffed. Please contact the library for more information and to find out how to register for Open Libraries.

Weekly events:

Scrabble club - Mondays 1.30-3pm, Jigsaw club – Wednesdays 2-3pm, Knit and natter - Thursdays 10.30-12

Volunteers needed!

Could you sing nursery rhymes to preschool children?

Could you spare some time to help tidy up the **library garden?**

Could you help develop ideas for events held at the library as a **Library Friend** and promote the library and its services within the local community?

Please contact Kerry at the library on 01485 540181 if you'd like to find out more.

Peer support group for Carers led by the Alzheimer's Society – Tuesday 2nd October 1pm-3pm

For further information contact the Alzheimer's Society on 01603 763556

Colour yourself calm – Wednesday 3rd October 10.30-12

Just bring along your colouring books and pens. Tea and coffee is available.

Friends of Dersingham Library meeting – Thursday 4th October 16.30pm

Come along and help support your library by being a 'friend of the Library' Help us by promoting, supporting or organising events.

Crime Book Club - Monday 8th October 5.45-6.45pm

New members always welcome! Ask staff for details of the books being discussed.

Coding club – Thursday 11th October 5pm-6pm

Come along and learn how to code or improve your existing coding skills. The coding club will consist of scratch based coding and Micro:bits.

Book Club - Monday 15th October 5.45-6-45pm

New members always welcome. Ask staff for details of the books being discussed

How To save a Life- Tuesday 16th October 7pm-9pm

Join Carl Smith (critical care paramedic) at Dersingham Library for an informal, friendly demonstration on what to do if someone has collapsed or gone into cardiac arrest and how to use a defibrillator. This is a free event but booking is essential, please call the library on 01485 540181 to book your place.

Walk and talk group – Thursday 18th October 2.30pm

Join our volunteers for a short walk around the village and then refreshments at the library afterwards. This walk is perfect for those wanting to gently build up their walking stamina.

Dersingham writer's group- Tuesday 30th October 1.30pm-3.30pm

Did you enjoy writing at school? Do you enjoy writing now? If so come along and join our friendly writing group and take part in some fun activities. This event happens in open library time so please see staff for details how to sign up or call 01485 540181

Peer support group for Carers led by the Alzheimer's Society – Tuesday 6th November 1pm-3pm

For further information contact the Alzheimer's Society on 01603 763556

Colour yourself calm – Wednesday 7th November 10.30-12

Just bring along your colouring books and pens. Tea and coffee is available.

Crime Book Club - Monday 12th November 5.45-6.45pm

New members always welcome! Ask staff for details of the books being discussed.

Book Club - Monday 19th November 5.45-6.45pm

New members always welcome. Ask staff for details of the books being discussed

Walk and talk group – Thursday 15th November 2.30pm

Join our volunteers for a short walk around the village and then refreshments at the library afterwards. This walk is perfect for those wanting to gently build up their walking stamina.

Dersingham writer's group- Tuesday 27th November 1.30pm-3.30pm

Did you enjoy writing at school? Do you enjoy writing now? If so come along and join our friendly writing group and take part in some fun activities. This event happens in open library time so please see staff for details how to sign up or call 01485 540181

Need help with your computer or tablet?

Why not book a one-to-one session with library staff? Charges apply. Please ask staff for details.

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MAKING TAX DIGITAL: GET READY FOR VAT CHANGE

By Kathryn Gigg Chartered Accountants, Hunstanton

What you need to know now: only 6 months to go!

Making Tax Digital (MTD) is certainly one of the most ambitious changes to the system of taxation that HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) has ever proposed. Its aim is to make the UK one of the most digitally advanced tax administrations in the world.



MTD fundamentally changes how taxpayers will maintain their tax and accounting records and how they will report to HMRC. Records will have to be kept digitally, and there will be a requirement to update the Revenue much more frequently than at present.

The Revenue believes that keeping digital records, followed by automated filing direct to HMRC through MTD compatible software will help reduce errors, cost, uncertainty and worry.

MTD for VAT will be introduced in April 2019, but MTD for other taxes, including Income Tax, has been delayed until 2020 at the earliest, pending further government announcements.

MTD for VAT will be mandatory for businesses whose taxable turnover is above the VAT registration threshold (currently £85k), and will apply from the first VAT period starting on or after 1 April 2019. Such businesses will, by law, have to keep their VAT records in digital form and file their VAT Returns using commercial MTD-compatible software, submitting directly to HMRC's online system.

MTD will remain voluntary for VAT registered businesses below the VAT threshold until 2020 at least.

Going forward, for businesses that are not yet liable to register, but subsequently become liable, MTD will automatically apply from the date of registration.

HMRC's VAT Notice 700/22: MTD for VAT was issued on 13 July 2018. This notice provides guidance on the digital record keeping and return requirements for MTD for VAT.

It is increasingly common for business records and accounts to be kept digitally, on a computer, a tablet, in a smartphone application or stored using a cloud based application. Under MTD the software that a business uses must be able to:

- Record and preserve digital records of the information specified in the regulations
- Provide HMRC with information and returns direct from data held in those digital records by using the HMRC Application Programming Interface (API) platform
- Receive information from the Revenue via the API platform.

Note that HMRC will not be offering software and hence businesses will need to invest in third party software products that will perform all of the functions listed above.

Not all software will be able to do this. For example, a spreadsheet will be capable of recording and preserving digital records but will not normally be able to provide/receive data to/from the Revenue. In such a case, the business owner will need to invest in suitable bridging software in order to transfer or exchange data within or between programs. Transferring data manually including "cut & paste" is not going to be acceptable under MTD. Each piece of software must be digitally linked to other pieces of software and onwards to the Revenue.

For the first year of mandating (VAT periods commencing 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020)

HMRC will allow a “soft landing period” and businesses will not be required to have their digital links in place other than the transfer of data to the API enabled product for the purpose of submitting the 9 Box VAT Return data to HMRC. The transfer of data to this product must be automatic without having to be re-keyed.

It is vital that businesses get their preparation for MTD underway without delay.

If you will be within the scope of MTD on 1 April 2019, and all or part of your business records are currently maintained manually, you should urgently consider how best to digitise them, whether by the use of spreadsheets, or by investing in a cloud or desk based accountancy software package.

Likewise, if you will be within the scope of MTD on 1 April 2019, and you currently maintain your records on spreadsheet, please remain aware that you will need to use third-party bridging software which is a digital tool (incorporating relevant MTD APIs) that will be needed in order to connect accounting software to HMRC systems, allow the required VAT information to be reported digitally to the Revenue, and, also, for information to be sent back digitally to the business by HMRC.

Even if you currently use accounting software such as Sage, Quickbooks or Xero to maintain your records and submit your VAT Return you may still need to upgrade i.e. to ensure that the program is MTD compatible.

The Revenue published an updated list of developers with MTD for VAT products at a prototype stage on 30 July 2018 but this list is currently quite short. Businesses already using other accounting software should speak to their software supplier to check functionality for MTD for VAT or to ascertain the timetable for the release of such products. It is understood that HMRC are currently in discussion with more than 130 potential suppliers of MTD for VAT software, including some who expect to develop products that will facilitate the use of spreadsheets.

The date of your first MTD VAT submission will depend on your quarter end dates:

Quarters Ending	First Quarter End under MTD	First MTD VAT Filing
March/June	30 June 2019	7 August 2019
September/ December		
January/April	31 July 2019	7 September 2019
July/ October		
February/May	31 August 2019	7 October 2019
August/ November		

How we can help

If having read through the above, your eyes glaze over at the mention of “MTD compatible” or “bridging” software, or you are worried because you are not already digitally engaged but now realise that you will be subject to the new regime because your taxable turnover exceeds the VAT Registration threshold, please contact us without delay. We can then promptly review your current position and advise you of the changes you need to, and/or may choose to make, in order to deal with MTD.

We can guide you in your choice of software whether this be cloud based, or a desk top application, help you to set this up and provide you with training for both you, and your staff as relevant.

Alternatively, if the whole process fills you with horror, please consider outsourcing your bookkeeping and VAT function to us.

Please contact Kathryn Gigg Chartered Accountants, Hunstanton on 01485 534800/ email kate@kathryngigg.co.uk if we can assist in any way. Mrs K H Gigg FCA



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RINGSTEAD VILLAGE HALL

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

The November meeting will be a talk and demonstration from Cherry Tree Chocolates.

The December meeting will be a demonstration of Christmas flowers.
Refreshments are available and we hold a raffle at each meeting. □

Nar Valley Ornithological Society (NarVOS)

**Indoor Meetings at the Barn Theatre,
Sacred Heart Convent School, Swaffham.
Access and parking from Sporle Road.**

Peregrines and Sculthorpe Moor with Zoe Smith

Tuesday 30th October 7.30pm

Zoe Smith is Peregrine Project Officer at Sculthorpe Moor Reserve. As you probably know the Hawk & Owl Trust runs the reserve as well as Norwich Cathedral's Peregrine Project which has enjoyed such fantastic publicity and interest. Zoe is particularly interested in the development and expansion of urban Peregrines. As NarVOS has its own breeding Peregrines this should be a fascinating talk from Zoe.

Blue Cows and Orange Cats – The Wildlife of Northern India with Paul Fuller

Tuesday 27th November, 7.30pm

NarVOS member Paul Fuller has come up with this tantalising and enigmatic title for his presentation. Do you know what Blue Cows or Orange Cats are? Don't worry, the second part of the title should be enough to whet your appetite sufficiently to come along to this meeting to find out more from Paul. Should be good.

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



A Wolferton lady called Mary
Her driving's quite honestly scary
Off to Ireland she went
Wheels buckled and bent
And it's a long way to Tipperary

A Wolferton lady called Mary
Took tea with a male dromedary
She asked "one lump or two?"
He said "just one thank you-
But two lumps for my secretary"

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The Daily Doing of Mrs. Dolittle

"I seem to do nothing but bark and furr since those extra pills" I said in passing to Remote Control man. "I had noticed" he replied absentmindedly as he fiddled around on his smart phone. "I always know where you are in Sainsbury's now." Hmm.

I seem to be upping on the Spoonerisms these days.

I'm fed up with getting old and all the attendant aches,pains and gripes and even more fed up with mosquitos and flies that bite. I am itchy and scratchy all over and want to know how they can crawl up my trouser or pyjama legs to play havoc with my knees. We had so many flies zooming around indoors that we resorted to the dreaded fly papers and still have the nasty sticky things rotating like Christmas decorations throughout the kitchen and living rooms, dotted randomly with corpses. Serves them right. And I want to know HOW they bite? Do they have teeth, or do they have some kind of needle, injecting itching powder? I'd like to know. I did Google, but didn't come up with anything helpful, other than they can get you through your clothing - so they didn't crawl up my trousers after all then.

"I'm going to put the carrots in their pages" was the next thing I said and then, "I can't be bothered with pester tots". The latter because I am far too impatient when it comes to choosing paints to do the walls. I know what colour I want - I see it in my mind, so go and find the nearest I can to that colour, knowing that it is seldom the same on the pot as it is on the wall - but just to pay five quid for a little pot, go all the way home with it, try it on the wall and then have to trail back to the shop again whatever the outcome infuriates me. So, I buy a large pot of paint, hoping to goodness it will be okay, and of course, it never is.

I've got a little therapy room that I had decided to repaint. I'd got some pink 'fashion statements' like the couch, box files and a couple of 'bar stools' that I sit on at the end of the couch when I am giving Reiki. I thought the small wall at the end of the couch would also look nice in pink. A nice relaxing, peaceful colour. I painted the other wall next to it grey. It looks rather Barbie Doll now but at least it is clean. It is not the colour I had envisaged - rather vivid - but there we are. I should have known. Did know. Excuse me while I itch.

I met some nice ladies in the wild, wild woods, who recognised me as being Mrs. D. They were all smiling and lovely and I introduced them to Frightful Florence and Rascally Rosie then burst into tears. Remote Control man had said we must get rid of them because I was always screeching and getting in a state with them, so telephone calls were made to rescue homes and I couldn't stop crying. I can't bear the state the dogs get me in, but I can't bear the thought of them going. I left the ladies in the woods, and went back home and said, "They are not going!" Florence had made that clear the previous day in any event, for a nice lady had come round with a view to having her, and Florence promptly and politely bit her! Not hard enough to break the skin, but it was clear to me that she understood what was going on, and did not wish to leave this establishment. I have to say that for a few days the dogs behaved with exemplary manners, but soon slid back into their old ways, except they didn't pooh on the sofa any more. But the darn cat began to! What kind of conspiracy is this?

I might have mentioned I am interested in astrology, and I have always drawn up the astrological charts of any animal we are considering having. I ignored the fact that Florence had Mars in Aries, and had forgotten that fact when we got Rosie, for she had that planetary positioning as well. With a human being, Mars in Aries would give that person a lot of passion and drive, prone to anger when provoked and that person would

need a lot of action as pent up emotions and energies could ensue. Think dog. I want to fight, I want to bite, I want to run, I want to be top dog, I want to kill chickens, I want to be the leader. I want things my way. I want. Show teeth and snarl.

With one dog with that placement, well, busy but copeable. Two dogs, well mayhem WILL ensue. I don't know why I didn't take note of this in the first place, but my heart was ruling. These two are undoubtedly fond of each other, but are play fighting in a serious kind of way, snarling and snapping and making a horrible din. My senses are exhausted. When I do manage to totter off with them to the wild, wild woods, they are as good as gold, as this is what they want.... but when I don't, even with wild dashes around the garden it makes no inroads to their energy outtake. Did I say garden? It is no longer a garden and depending on the weather is now a dusty/muddy race-track with little lawn left at all. I hate to see my once peaceful and pretty garden so ruined. But there we have it. I can't let them go and so I have to live with the consequence - but my old age is not a happy one. I have a dog walker coming tomorrow and we will take them out together and see how she gets on with them. I am sure that they will be fine with her, and perhaps this will make all the difference.

Now, the cat. I've never seen such a clumsy cat. He doesn't seem to be able to gauge distances when he jumps. My arms show many scars where he has miscalculated. He came home half an hour after I had let him out early one morning. Blood everywhere and a horribly swollen foot. I phoned the vet up at 5. am. and took the cat to the surgery. Four puncture wounds in his paw. Probably a rat. But what had worried me was that I had seen a rather beautiful snake in the garden during that hot weather, and I did wonder if the boy had been tempting fate with that. I seem to do nothing but worry these days. That set me back £157.00

What else? I've been tripping down memory lane again...all those hopes and dreams. I've always been romantic, and one of my loves was a policeman, met in London where I used to work, but the romance never got off the ground, though I hoped of course. However, his family home was near to mine, so I was ever hopeful that I would run into him, which I never did. He had told me that his Mum worked in Woolworths, so I would get on the bus and wander around that large shop, looking at all the assistants and wondering which one was Mum. I was far too shy to ask the question of the lady I thought might be the one, but how stupid is that? I loved from afar, got the occasional date, and eventually realised it was never going to happen. Years later, when out with my husband, I spied the ex handsome devil plodding down a local street. Fat and his good looks gone. I jumped out of our vehicle, just to say hallo, and realised I had had a narrow escape. I heard that he was always on the booze, frequently vomited up the stairs and that was that. Love's young dream.

I went out with another policeman, but I wasn't romantically involved, though he was a really nice fellow. We were invited to a party by a 'posh' friend (who had taught me lots of polite things one should know, like eating peas from the back of a fork). I was out in the kitchen eating sausage rolls when I heard a lot of kerfuffle, things being said, like "Oh it has to be Val". What has to be me, I wondered as I went back into the thick of things. There had been a disaster - a girl had lost her maidenhead in the greenhouse and for some reason everyone thought it had been me. Certainly not! The cad that had taken advantage of the tipsy upper-crust young lady immediately offered her marriage, even though they had only met that evening.... how times have changed! Can you imagine that happening these days? The girl declined the offer, but the party was engulfed in the awful occurrence and scandal. I was just annoyed that people had presumed it was me - and in a greenhouse? For goodness sake! Times and situations have changed so much over the years.

I've just had a friend round for a heart to heart, and she had been telling me about some

difficult times she had been going through. "Oh," I said kindly, "You've really been through so much strubble and trife." This is getting embarrassing.

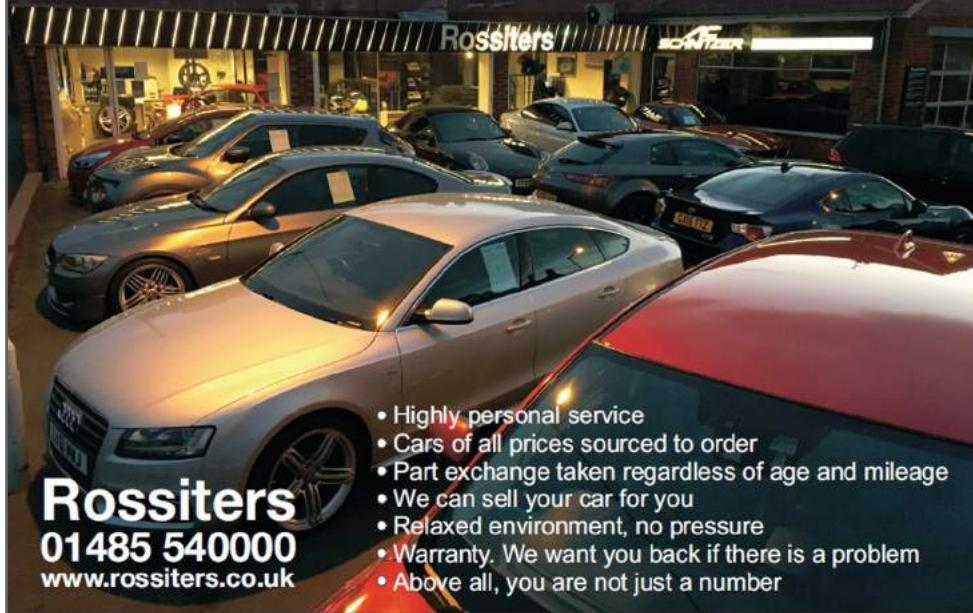
I'm now into my 80th year. How exciting. I've moaned about my old age of course, but generally I am quite perky and optimistic, so I intend to go all 'Molly Parkins' (that eccentric designer) and wear silky sequinned turbans with a peacock feather thrust in its folds, billowing shot taffeta extravagant over-coat thingys that hide my three-stone stomach, yards of clanking bracelets along both arms, plus copious long and rattley bead necklaces. Sequins, feather boas, trailing scarves and so on, though unfortunately I can no longer wear stiletto heeled shoes on my diabetic feet, so will have to make do with coloured wellingtons, though they will mainly be covered by the billowy coat thing. We used to call them 'duster coats' in the 1950's. All colours bright and bold and utterly over the top. You'll know it's me by the spoonerisms.

Think that's it this time around. Christmas is not far away now - dare I put up decorations with my rampaging menagerie? Which reminds me, all those awful Christmas jingles, and now my washing machine plays a jolly little tune when it's finished its cycle, and so do my deaf aids when the battery is about to give up the ghost. All the beeping things did around the house was bad enough, but tunes now. I give up!

Until next time then, Mrs. Dolittle.□

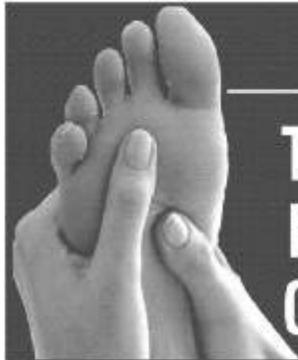
A Wolferton lady named Mary
Was convinced what she saw was a
fairy,
She said it had wings and big teeth,
Curled boots and named Keith,
And when he smiled she said he
looked scary.

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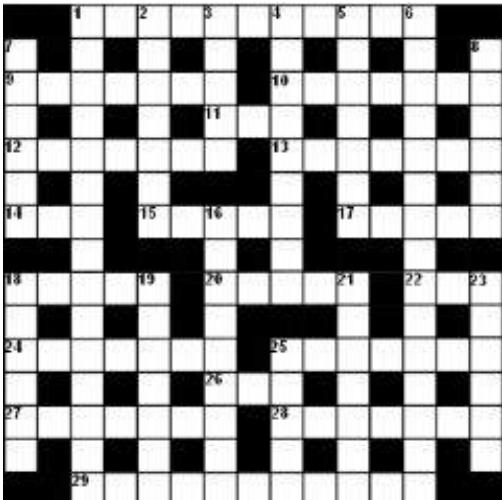
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PUZZLE CORNER

Crossword 12 by
Philip Neal

Across

- 1 Sandwich Ray ate followed disciplinary box (7,4)
- 9 Aircraft and cars demolished resulting in false reports (7)
- 10 First man and soldier stand determined (7)
- 11 Reserves Republican sailor (3)
- 12 Measure ten directions on manoeuvres (7)
- 13 Working overtime in cabin for plant derivative (7)
- 14 Main concern whilst travelling west in aesthetics (3)
- 15 Storm centre of universal voice (5)
- 17 Supply lost new equation (5)
- 18 Carbon leg fitted for ascent (5)
- 20 Fundamental reading at British Academy (5)
- 22 Ferret among head office boffins initially (3)
- 24 Bishop and one Queen caused leg problem (7)
- 25 Ram cart into trolley bus (7)
- 26 Look in the fascia window for instruction (1,1,1)
- 27 Alan got round question for member of largest State (7)
- 28 Pop group lost book by Doctor Noel Ormer (7)
- 29 Ken had skin itch everywhere – everywhere except this? (7,4)



Sudoku

Down

- 1 Comma seen fluttering up mountain track (11,4)
- 2 New darts needed for part of strait (7)
- 3 51, Back Street South recorded in directories (5)
- 4 Primarily your essential annual reading bibliographies of outrageously known scenarios (9)
- 5 Chartered Accountant rises in busy bygone years to form chemical response (7)
- 6 Where Sir Roger got a ticking off? (7,3,5)
- 7 Canoes can be upset on these (6)
- 8 Scout got plastered on 4th March needing dehydration mixture (6)
- 16 Halt by N.I.R. ground to enter maze (9)
- 18 Firm support needed for reptiles (6)
- 19 Hazardous risky bet around unknown breast (7)
- 21 Dad surrounded by gossip on 4th April – Pancake Day? (7)
- 23 Misbehaving rabble nearly rang for this drink resident (6)
- 25 Airline in U.S. for Mr Clemens? (5)

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

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WORD WALL BY Philip Neal
Sort the following into 4 groups of connected words

JFK	STIRLING	ROOSEVELT	WELLINGTON
FALL	JACKSON	LA GUARDIA	MARK
HALIFAX	JOHNSON	LADY	KENNEDY
WILSON	LINE	IDLEWILD	LINCOLN



Our Lady of Perpetual Succour & St Edmund Hunstanton

with St Cecilia's, Dersingham



Unfortunately, due to a shortage of volunteers, our annual September sponsored walk had to be cancelled. The next ladies shared lunch at St Cecilia's will be on Saturday 10th November, starting at 12 noon. The speaker is Veronica Welham talking about the Leprosy Mission in Nepal. All ladies are welcome, whether Catholic or not, just bring a small plate of food to share. If you would like to volunteer to help with this or any of our social occasions please speak to May Davey.

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

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

All social events will be well publicised in the weekly bulletins and on the website. Everyone, whether Catholic or not, is welcome to all of our services and social occasions. We have refreshments after the 11am Mass every Sunday and after 10.15am Mass every Wednesday. There are also refreshments after the 9am Mass on the first Sunday of the month at Dersingham. Everyone will be most welcome.

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

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

If you require a Priest urgently please telephone V. Rev Canon Peter Rollings on 01553 772220 or email; parishpriest763@gmail.com

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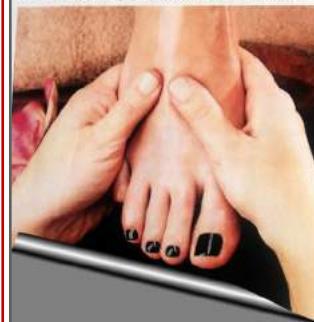
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A Wolferton lady called Mary
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She replied it's because
They've got too many legs



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Gardening with Disabilities

Gardening made Easier from May Davey

We have had an interesting summer. Our meetings have been well attended and we now have 45 Members.

On 21 May, twenty-four Members and guests went to Peckover House in Wisbech and had a very interesting garden tour and a delicious tea.



On 15 June Peter Bourner from the Royal Sandringham Sawmills told us about the history of the sawmills, the last surviving royal sawmill in Britain. They have a very varied range of products, all using local wood from the Estate. Next year we hope to tour the sawmills as there was considerable interest in his talk. Members brought very many interesting items made from wood from all over the world.



On 20 July we had our own Flower Show at Park House, with lots of entries in all the categories. Members had gathered flowers from their own gardens. John and Doreen Hannant were particularly successful, winning several categories.



Afterwards we had a cream tea.

In August 31 Members had tea at Chris and May Davey's garden. The weather was kind and lots of lovely cakes and scones were brought for a real feast.

On 14th September a visit for 34 Members and guests by coach to Elgoods Brewery in Wisbech for a tour of their extensive gardens and a cream tea.



On 16 November we will be visiting the brand new Dersingham Village Centre for the first time for a demonstration of wrapping up Christmas gifts using plant materials by Joanne Randall. Do come! It promises to be a very enjoyable afternoon.

We always welcome new Members and guests. Tea and a raffle ticket at the door cost £2.00 and a year's subscription is £12.00. Please contact me - 01485-544953 for more details.□

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Destination Ben Cruachan – The Hollow Mountain

By Ron and Grace Cossou

Once we had decided to spend a week near Oban, Scotland we knew there were two places we wanted to visit. One was Ben Cruachan – the Hollow Mountain, and the other the Crinan Canal. We were staying at a place called Inverawe (mouth of the Awe) original home of the Campbells. This is about 12 miles inland from Oban and set at the foot of Ben Cruachan. Our cottage was one of two, separated by a courtyard, and attached to Inverawe house, and was where the butler once lived, with a connecting swing door through a vestibule to the hall of the main house. This door reacted whenever a door in the house was opened or closed. Our dog discovered that if the door was pushed it would open, and one day made her way into the hall of the house.

Inverawe House has a lot of history, including a transatlantic ghost story, and a resident ghost called Green Jean. Various sightings have been reported, and even sheep were said to have parted to let her through. The last sightings were in 2001 when the house was being re-roofed and a woman was seen on the landing, in the smoking room by two different people. A third guest was kept awake all night by banging doors. Once the roof was completed all was quiet, though to this day there are still doors opening and shutting! Perhaps this is why the door in our cottage kept reacting!



With regards to the transatlantic ghost story, known as "The Ghost of Ticonderoga", and which involved the Laird, Maj. Duncan Campbell. The story was that the family gave



refuge to a fugitive who had touched the hearth stone and, keeping true to the unwritten law of the Highlands, meant the family were obliged to give him shelter. It turned out that he had actually killed a member of their family. The ghost of the dead man kept appearing and complaining to the laird whilst he was sheltering the fugitive. The laird eventually took the fugitive to a safe cave on Ben Cruachan, and away from the home. The ghost appeared once more and said "I'll see you at Ticonderoga". Years passed, and history has it that Maj. Duncan Campbell's regiment – the Black Watch – was involved in the Battle of Carillon in N. America in 1758. The evening before the attack took place the

ghost appeared again. The Major was killed in action and was buried near the site of the battle, the grave stone still remains. The Indian name for Carillon was "Ticonderoga"!

The Campbell Prestons have been living in the house since 1962, and the present descendant and occupant of the house, also a Campbell Preston, along with his wife took over in 1980. The family run a business including a smokery, shop, café, fishing centre, and country park. There is an exhibition (small museum) explaining the history of the family and the business. It was an ideal place for us, with two small fishing



lochs we could walk our dog around. One was called the Lily Loch due to the abundance of water lilies covering the surface, and the other was called Inverawe Loch. In this loch was a particular trout, which in the evenings could be seen swimming just under the surface. We used to look for this trout on our evening walk around the loch. There was also a riverside walk, with a swing bridge spanning the river, though we thought "sway bridge" would have been a more accurate description! Anyone who has crossed a rope bridge will know what we mean. School children from Inverawe had to cross this bridge daily to get to school

Finally, our visit to Ben Cruachan – the Hollow Mountain. This is between Loch Awe and Loch Etive, Argyll. Buried 1 km into the mountain it has at its centre a massive cavern, high enough to house the Tower of London. Opened in 1965 by the Queen', this working power station was the first of its type to be built. It is set in a stunning location and Scottish Power didn't want to spoil the scenery with a normal power station. Here enormous turbines convert the power of water into electricity. The water coming from a reservoir at the top of the mountain passes through the turbines down to Loch Awe. Off peak the water is then pumped back up to the reservoir ready for the next day. These turbines can be up and running in two minutes. We were lucky to get a tour inside as it had been closed for maintenance and was only opened again that week, for two days. We enjoyed our time in Scotland, and so did our dog. However, it's nice to be back in Dersingham.□





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DERSINGHAM DAY CENTRE

As you read this Dersingham Day Centre will be back at Ingoldisthorpe Sports and Social Club after our August break. We hope to be in Dersingham at the new Village Centre mid-October.

We had a busy July with the usual scrabble, card games, dominoes, knitting and of course plenty of chatting! On 11th July we went to the United Services Club in Hunstanton where they served us a delicious roast dinner and choice of desserts which everyone really enjoyed and afterwards we held our raffle.

Our quiz on the 18th July was as always great fun and made us think with many whispered discussions between team members - we are all highly competitive! However the Quiz Setter is "very strict" and there are no arguments over the answers! We're all looking forward to the next quiz.

Our "very strict" Quiz Setter, Alice Worth, retired from the Day Centre Committee in July after 18 years. She has done so much for the Day Centre during this time and we will all miss her so much, not only for all her hard work but also for her wonderful sense of humour. She announced her arrival the other week with a blast on a referee's whistle! However, Alice has promised to come and see us still and she will continue to set the quizzes.



Alice was appointed Honorary President of Dersingham Day Centre and Ann and Maggie presented her with a beautiful bouquet of flowers and a cheque from us all. Also Alison had made one of her splendid cakes – decorated with little faces and appropriate phrases such as "Please stay", "She's only been here 18 years", and "We shall miss her". And yes, the cake tasted as just as good as it looked.

If you would like to know more about joining Dersingham Day Centre then please contact Ann Saunders on 01485 542885. □

A Wolferton lady called Mary
Whose friend was uncommonly scary
She dressed like a bear
Then danced with a chair
Her ideas were really contrary.

A Wolferton lady called Mary
Like her namesake, was quite contrary
The folks want to know
How does your garden grow
"With manure from cows at the dairy"



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Crossword Answers

Across

1.PENALTY,AREA 9.CANARDS 10.ADAMANT 11.TAR 12.ACTIONS 13.BOTANIC 14.SEA
15.SALVO 17.RATIO 18.CLIMB 20.BASIC 22.HOB 24.BANDIER 25.TRAMCAR 26.I,A,W
27.ALASKAN 28.ABALONE 29.KITCHEN,SINK

Down

1.PUNCTUATION,MARK 2.NARROWS 3.LISTS
4.YEARBOOKS 5.REACTOR
6.AGAINST,THE,CLOCK 7.OCEANS
8.STUCCO 16.LABYRINTH 18.COBRAS
19.BRISKET 21.CHAPATI 23.BARBEL
25.TWAIN

Sudoku Answers

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

Word Wall Answers

New York Airports: Idlewild, JFK,

Kennedy, La Guardia

U.S. Democratic Presidents: Jackson,
Wilson, Roosevelt, Johnson

Land: "Lady," "Fall," "Line," "Mark

RAF WW2 Bombers: Lincoln, Halifax,
Stirling, Wellington



Notes from Sandringham Parish Council from Ben Colson

The Parish Council met on 5th September, and six of the seven Councillors were present but this time there were no members of the public in attendance.

We discussed issues that were brought forward from our July meeting as well as new ones which had arisen between then and this most recent one. Brought forward from July in particular included the lack of bus service from King's Lynn after 4pm during the week, which had not only highlighted the difficulty faced by people returning from work or college in town, but also visitors to, and those working at Sandringham, wishing to return home to Dersingham and beyond. We had taken this matter (and related issues about bus stops at Elizabeth Cottages in West Newton) to the County Council, and whilst they had raised the issues with the Lynx bus company, nothing had yet been resolved to our satisfaction. County Council officials have assured us that they will continue to make the case for a later bus from Lynn running through West Newton and Sandringham to Hunstanton.

We have been required to complete surveys for the Borough Council to indicate the extent of problems with dog fouling and general littering. We highlighted spots in West Newton where dog fouling is especially a problem, as well as the litter coming from the Cliff Edge and Scissor car parks in Wolferton. The Borough Council has asked anybody seeing waste that has been fly tipped to report it to their hotline phone number so that they can take action.

The Borough Council appears set to take back in-house the running of sports, leisure and entertainment facilities from the charity Alive Leisure. Meantime, we have completed a survey for Alive on the recreational and sports facilities in the parish. Separately, we have queried the fact that the much heralded placing of road names in the parish by the Borough has yet to be completed.

The County Council is examining ways of improving safety on the A149 which passes through the parish. Their original intention had been to erect average speed cameras between Knights Hill and Heacham, but we and other parish councils expressed the view that speed alone was not the sole cause of the more serious accidents along the route. We are therefore pleased that the County has taken notice of this and is now looking at the bigger issue of road junction layout as well as speed and will present a changed plan sometime soon. We have asked that the layout of the junction with the B1439 Lynn Road, where right turning traffic going on to the A149 mostly wrongly uses the left side of the grass triangle at Butlers Cross be reviewed as part of this exercise. Sadly, there was yet another accident at the junction of the A149 with Folly Hill leading to Sandringham on Sunday 2nd September showing again the incidence of these accidents is at junctions and not necessarily related to speed.

Finally, Councillors continued their discussions about whether we should raise a Precept (a small amount added to your Council Tax bill to enable us to fund our own local priorities), discussions which started at the July meeting. It was reported that there have been conversations taking place that may enable the Parish Council to continue to function, but without the need for such a tax, and that more information will hopefully be ready in time for the November meeting.

The next meeting of the parish council is being held at Wolferton Social Club at 6.30pm on Wednesday 7th November and all are very welcome to attend.

Commemorating the centenary of the end of World War 1 on 11th November 2018

The centenary of the end of hostilities in World War I is on 11th November this year, fittingly a Sunday. It means that the annual Remembrance Day services, in churches and at war memorials up and down the country, will take place on the actual day rather

than the nearest Sunday. "The eleventh hour of the eleventh day in the eleventh month" has taken a special place in the national psyche ever since the Act of Remembrance was introduced in 1919 or 1920.

"We shall not forget them", and in particular we don't forget those of this parish who lost their lives in this and subsequent wars. The biggest single loss of men from here was of all but one of the hundred or so of E Company of the 5th Territorial Battalion of the Royal Norfolk regiment. All were men from the Sandringham Estate, who had grown up and worked together, led by the Captain, Frank Beck, who, in peacetime, was the King's Agent. Their first experience of battle was on 12th August 1915, at Gallipoli, in the Dardanelles campaign, and having charged forward they were all lost without trace. The toll on the community must have been immense and it is right and proper that we remember them and their families at this time.

As elsewhere we shall commemorate the ending of World War I on Sunday 11th November. The day will start with a lone piper playing the classic retreat march "When the battle is o'er" outside Sandringham Church at 6am. There will be a Remembrance Day family service at Wolferton Church at 9.30am, and the Act of Remembrance at Sandringham this year will start at 10.50am.

At 6.50pm – the exact time of the end of the war – there will be an Act of Remembrance outside Sandringham Church with a bugler playing the last post. This will be followed by the lighting of a beacon in the park as part of a national programme.

We are grateful to the Borough Council and Norfolk Community Foundation for the granting of a small fund to assist the preparation and holding of the events on this important day of Remembrance.

Wolferton village news

St Peter's Church services are held at 9.30am on the second Sunday of each month, which are followed by coffee and biscuits, making it quite a social occasion which draws from adjacent parishes. Next services are on 13th October (Mattins), 11th November (family Remembrance Day service) and, to be confirmed, 9th December (carol service) - please see next Village Voice for confirmation. Holy Communion is held at 8am on 28th October and 25th November.

The Church Roof project group has made an application to the Norfolk Churches Trust and other funding bodies as it moves towards the start of the essential work to repair the roof to protect other vital timbers in the building. It has received, and gives thanks for, a really helpful significant contribution to the fund from a local charity event. This has given the fundraising a really good kickstart and other activities will start to follow later in the year and into next year.

The Social Club remains an active centre for village activities and especially the popular folk club and prize bingo held there. The club is open Wednesday to Saturday evenings and Sunday lunchtimes and all are welcome.

Eyes down for Prize Bingo is at 7.30pm one Tuesday a month, on the following dates:

October: 16th

November: 20th

December: 18th

The Wolf Folk Club meets at 8pm alternate Thursdays at the Club and advertises its "music on the wild side" and 'singarounds'.

Dates for the rest of the year are:

October: 11th, 25th

November: 8th, 22nd

December: 6th, 20th

A Wolferton lady called Mary
Spent hours in her local library
She loved cowboys and wagon trains
And horses with flowing manes
Galloping out on the prairie

DERSINGHAM METHODIST CHURCH

By Elizabeth Batstone

Building work to repair the floor and walls of the corridor between the Church and hall will be taking place during September. We hope the works will be completed within three weeks, but this will depend on whether further damage is found when the floor boards are removed. This means some of our week -day activities and lettings in the hall will not be able to take place. Church services will continue to take place as usual.



Harvest Festival services are on Sunday 7th

October, 10.30 a.m. Revd Catherine Dixon and 6.00 p.m. Harvest Songs of Praise with Revd Mark Capron. We will be collecting items for the King's Lynn Food Bank.

Saturday 27th October coffee morning, funds raised will be church funds and for 'Revving it up' supporting Revd Julie Boyd to fund a new community support centre and meeting place at St Faith's Church.

We look forward to welcoming you at all our events.

Elizabeth Batstone, pebatstone@gmail.com tel: 541068.□

Dersingham Works

The Skills Service working with

**Dersingham Parish Council and Dersingham Village Centre
Association**

The next **FREE** Business Breakfast will be held on Tuesday, October 2nd at Dersingham Village Centre

A light breakfast is served from 7:30am, presentations at 8:00, informal networking from 8:45.

If you would like more *information, or wish to attend, please contact Jacqui Farrell at the Skills Service (details below).*

Dersingham Works brings together representatives from local businesses, self-employed people, and would-be entrepreneurs with training providers and advice agencies, to discuss common issues including recruitment, apprenticeships, business development, and marketing.

We also wish to develop our links with local schools to help better prepare young people for employment and work with adults to improve their employability.

Jacqui Farrell

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 Had a very colourful canary
 It was striped red white and blue
 And it pooped on the shoe
 Of a visiting Royal - how contrary!

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The Song of the Moth

Elizabeth Fiddick



It is such a little fellow, this moth, just 12mm long with a wingspan of 18-24 mm. about the size of a thumbnail. With its light brown colouring you would probably hardly notice it even if it was resting on the Bog Myrtle its staple diet. Yet it has an impressive name which occupies more space than it does, *Choristoneura lafauryana*. In the 1980s this tiny creature with the long name became notorious, provoking furious debate, angry letters and newspaper articles nationally and especially here in Dersingham. It became the villain of the piece during the arguments put forward to prevent or at best drastically change the construction of the bypass around the three villages of Dersingham, Ingoldisthorpe and Snettisham.

Anyone in the village now who was here during the 70s and 80s will remember the problems caused by the massive and continuing increase in road traffic. On most days, and most especially on a fine Sunday in the holiday period, there was a continuous line of cars, motor cycles, lorries, caravans and coaches passing through the three villages. It was sometimes reduced to a slow crawl but there were many times when the 30mph limit was just a dream. It became an act of bravery and daring to attempt to cross from Chapel Road over to the paper shop or Thaxters as traffic lights were still a thing of the future. If you had parked your car or bike outside the shops the attempt to rejoin the line of traffic was only managed with extreme care and there were several accidents. I well remember walking down to fetch my Sunday paper and the time to cross the road taking longer than the rest of the journey to and from my house. Another memory I have is of a severe winter when the heavy fall of snow closed the main road in both directions. I walked down to see how bad it was and if I would be able to get into work. It was the silence I remember. The constant noise of traffic had become so familiar that I no longer noticed it but its absence that morning was just wonderful.

The possibility of building a bypass had been first suggested about 1930 and was regularly raised in the following years. But the governments of the day always seem to have far more urgent priorities so that the money needed could not be allocated just at that time but, we were assured, would be considered again in the very near future. So you can imagine the delight when in 1982 the proposal was raised again and



preliminary plans were published. Consultations were set in motion and everyone was invited to study the proposals and put in writing any objections. This opened the floodgates of course and letters poured in.

So step forward little *Choristoneura lafauryana*, your time in the spotlight has come.

The area where the bypass would be built was across all the land on the left as you enter the village from Lynn.

Where the roundabout is now, during the last century you could turn left into a very pleasant picnic site as many visitors to the area did. They would at one time have been able to buy a tray of tea and sandwiches from the lady who occupied the cottage next to it which still stands today. The land all about this site was known on the old maps as Cranberry Fen. It was used as pasture and it was common practice in the past, at the right time of year, for the villagers to gather the cranberries that grew there in profusion. Here there was also a working sand quarry and the cottage mentioned was known as Quarry Cottage. The late Mr. Stanley Lines told me than when he was a lad he and his friends used to play in the tunnels that ran from the quarry under the main road and into Sandringham woods.

Beyond that fen were the marshes that stretched to the waters of the Wash. Nearer the village you would pass Badger Fen and the land granted to the village under the enclosure acts as I wrote in my last article. Whilst on your right was the heathland we know as the open and shut-up commons.

The bypass today, cuts through the area now designated Dersingham Bog, the larger site administered by Natural England and the smaller Dersingham Fen owned by the village and administered by Dersingham United Charities.

When the plan to build a bypass was published three different routes, Blue, Red or Green were suggested at the Dersingham start whilst five were possible at the Snettisham end. A

questionnaire was sent out in May 1982 asking among other things for recipients to indicate which route they favoured. Other comments were then invited.

Objections flooded into the Council offices from The Nature Conservancy Council, the R.S.P.B. The Norfolk Naturalist's Trust, Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society, Heacham and West Norfolk Natural History Society, Norwich Green Party, Broadland Friends of the Earth, University of East Anglia Students' Union, Friends of the Earth, Norfolk Moth Survey, and several private individuals.

I will quote from much of this correspondence.

It was stated that Dersingham Bog was a nationally important conservation site representing the best and most extensive example of an acidic valley mire in East Anglia. It was a vital refuge for rare wild life and was the only site of its kind in Eastern Britain. In fact acid bogs were becoming increasingly rare. As a result Dersingham Bog was listed in the Nature Conservation Review as a Grade 2 site of National importance and the heathland site was also rated Grade 2 for its heathland interest. The bog including our fen was designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest, SSSI, under Section 28 of the Wildlife Countryside Act 1981.

All the groups drew attention to the numerous rare species that could be found there; the Common Cotton grass, round leaved Sundew, Bog Asphodel, Cranberry, and many unusual mosses. Some of the mosses were extremely rare being confined to just a few sites in S. England and Yorkshire. In fact Dersingham Bog was the only mire site to support one particularly rare bog pool community (*Sphagnum cuspidatum*).

These rare and unusual plant communities supported a rich variety of insects and other rare species.

The first to be listed was our friend, the micro moth *Choristoneura lafauryana*. Dersingham Bog was cited as the only known UK locality to support this moth which fed on the Bog Myrtle. Many groups drew attention to the large number of other rare insects that could be found here. The Black Darter Dragonfly was only known in East Anglia at this site. The bogs here supported the marsh grasshopper thought to be extinct now in



its former haunt of Broadland and the presence of the rare peat bog beetle (*Hydroporus morio!*) was considered most unusual. The list of these creatures is long indeed and I can't help noticing the smaller the creature the longer and more impressive is its name.

The groups wrote that because of the plant communities that flourish here and support creatures found elsewhere only in N. Wales, N.W England and Scotland as well as Southern species of plants and insects the site is unique in Britain and possibly in Europe.

The R.S.P.B. drew attention to the breeding nightjars and I quite recently was guided around the Bog one late evening to have the great pleasure of hearing and seeing these amazing birds. They also drew attention to a large population of breeding Shelduck. Dick Melton remembers the Shelduck that once nested on our commons and fen. He recalls that they made their nests in old rabbit burrows and would fly straight into their burrow without leaving foot prints to alert predators to the site. When the young Shelduck were about a month old the hen duck would take them from the burrow and walk them down to the sea. I would love to have seen that.

There were also many overwintering birds of prey including a hen harrier roost.

Many of the individuals who wrote made the point that too many areas of wetland had been destroyed and that SSSIs were created to preserve the remaining fragments.

It was feared the road would cut through the site separating off the main body with a 10m. wide sterile gap leading to loss, damage and change. By this time the options for the start of the bypass had narrowed down to just two. The roundabout could be built on the old picnic site or at the junction of the Main Road and Heath Road. All the groups mentioned favoured the second option as the road would then affect only the fringe of the site.

The council decided that the first option having the roundabout at the picnic site was the best. Starting the road from the Heath Road junction would mean the crossing of common land, our heaths. Any common land taken would have to be replaced by other land which is what had happened during all the past enclosures when land was set aside for the villagers as compensation for that lost. This would add considerable extra expense to the budgeted cost of £4.62m and considerable delay so the council gave permission for the bypass to go ahead starting from the old picnic site.

An interesting aside is to be found in the council's argument against the lengthy delay. They remarked that the exercise to provide alternative land to replace that required for a new fire station here had already taken 2 years.

All the residents of the three villages were delighted when news that the council had granted planning permission but they had not reckoned with the power of the moth. In 1984/5 the plans were put on hold for further consultations to take place.

For some reason it was the tiny moth that dominated the headlines especially when Nicholas Ridley, the then Secretary of State for the Environment, recommended that the planning permission be revoked because of the presence of a rare moth on Dersingham Bog.

This made headlines in the Daily Telegraph "Tiny Moth halts £7m road plan".

"Councils unite in battle over micro moth." "Is this moth a red herring?" "Message is: No Minister" were just a few that appeared elsewhere.

A furious letter, one of many that were printed, in the local press stated, "Once again the mighty (but unseen) moth of the bogs of Dersingham strikes fear into the residents along this part of the coast."

Letters of protest flooded into the Minister and a local paper of the time, The Citizen, led the campaign with editorials and angry headlines.

The Dersingham Youth Club sent in a petition demanding the "go-ahead" be given as they considered "the safety of people to be more important than the saving of a few moths".

Henry Bellingham M.P. had a meeting with Mr. Ridley and made it clear that further delays would cause considerable hardship to the residents of the area.

Local councillors Ian Stockwell, Roy Hipkin and George Pratt objected rigorously. The villagers organised a protest march from the village along the main road to the picnic site which stopped all the traffic. Banners and placards were waved.

Don't nick our bypass Nick! We want our bypass now!

They were successful and as we know the construction of the bypass went ahead . It was completed six months ahead of schedule. One month before the road was opened for traffic a charity run was held along its whole length with some 400 runners from all over the country.

On November 6th 1990 Leslie Potter, Chairman of the Norfolk County Council, cut the ribbon at the official opening ceremony before getting into his car to lead a motorcade of councillors and other VIPs along the completed road.

Victory lay with the villagers and Choristoneura lafauryana had to admit defeat.

But while we enjoy the obvious benefits of the bypass today the objections raised to its construction highlight the immense importance still of both the Dersingham Bog (Natural England) and our fen, managed by the United Charities. All the matters raised are still relevant today and although much work has been carried out to maintain our unique site by the United Charities there is still much that needs to be done on the fen and on our commons if we are to safeguard our heritage.

But next time you take a walk around our fen keep a watch out for a tiny brown moth resting on some bog myrtle. If he is still there he has quite a history! □





The West Norfolk Members' Group invites you to:-
Illustrated talks:

Norfolk Chalk Streams: Threatened Treasures

by Jonah Tosney
of the Norfolk Rivers Trust
Thursday 25th October - 7.30pm

and

Tiger Country

by Seamus & Pat Griffin
a photographic ramble through the tiger reserves of Central India
Thursday 22nd November - 7.30pm

Venue: Hunstanton Methodist Church Hall, Austin Street
Cost: £2.50 members / £3.00 visitors

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Forthcoming Village Voice Deadlines and Publication Dates

For articles, reports of events, meetings, advertisements and details of forthcoming attractions:

Issue	Copy deadline mid-day on	Publication date
No 115 (Dec/Jan 19)	Tuesday 6th Nov 2018	Monday 26 Nov 2018
No 116 (Feb/Mar 19)	Tuesday 15th Jan 2019	Monday 4th Feb 2019
No 117 (April/May 19)	Tuesday 11th March 2019	Monday 1st April 2019

Advertising in Village Voice

Around 2,500 residential and business properties in Dersingham receive a copy of Village Voice with another 600 available to subscribers, businesses and shop counters around and about. It is also available online from our website at dersingham.org.uk. Please support the services advertisers provide and mention where you saw their advert. Our advert prices are £18.50 for an eighth page, £28.50 for a quarter, £55 for a half and £110 for a full page. Discounts available for block bookings paid up-front. VAT is no longer payable. Full details and booking forms can be downloaded from our website or obtained from the Parish Office or email: clerk@dersingham.org.uk and returned together with payment by mid-day of the copy deadlines given above at the latest.

Articles and Non-Profit Making Promotions for Village Voice

These should be preferably emailed directly to the Editor:

villagevoice@dersingham.org.uk or posted to **The Editor, % Dersingham Parish Council Office** (address below), ideally well ahead of the above copy deadlines to stand a better chance of inclusion. Available space for articles is governed by both the physical limitations of the publication as well as the revenue received from advertising. We like Village Voice to be special for our primarily Dersingham readers, so articles should try to be customised accordingly and not just part of a round-robin Press Release to all local publications. Dates of forthcoming events mentioned must take place after the publication dates listed at the top of this page. Items/fliers purely to advertise non-profit making events should aim to fit (and be readable) within a quarter page slot. We hope you will provide photos/graphics/logos etc to accompany promotions or articles. Digital pictures need to be 300 dots/pixels per inch (about 118 per cm.). Most Office document and picture file formats are accepted.

The Editor reserves the right to amend and edit as necessary. Any contributions will be accepted on the understanding that, unless requested otherwise, names, addresses, etc, may be included and maintained on the Parish Council's database. Published material will also appear on the Parish Council website. Copyright of all articles remains with the author. The editor and the Parish Council do not necessarily agree with opinions expressed, or accuracy of statements made, by contributors. □

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VILLAGE VOICE LIVE

Tuesday November 13th

Our first evening in the new venue



£5.00 per person, on the door
Maximum 6 people per table
Bring your own bottles & cans
Tea and Coffee will be available

Ring

Judy Collingham 540271
or Tony Bubb 542638
to book a table.
7.30pm start

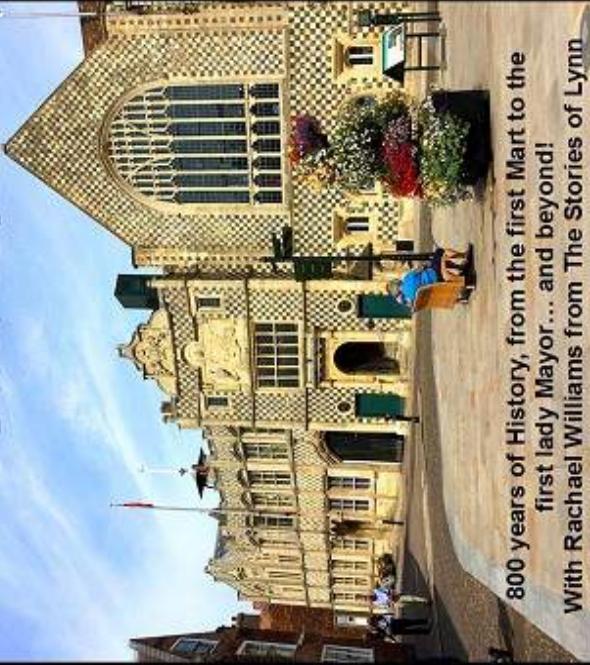
Dersingham Village Centre, Manor Road,
Dersingham

Dersingham Village Centre, Manor Road, Dersingham,
7.30 pm Admission £5.00 including refreshments & raffle

VILLAGE VOICE LIVE

Tuesday December 11th

Secrets of the Town Hall



800 years of History, from the first Mart to the
first lady Mayor... and beyond!
With Rachael Williams from The Stories of Lynn