

Number 117

April/May 2019

# Village Voice

The Dersingham Magazine

**Walk the Coastal Path with Steve Davis  
Page 35**



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## Editor's Notes

Tony Bubb



I am just back from one of our occasional, elderly relation related visits to Swindon. You may not be surprised to learn that there is almost nothing to recommend the place. It is a town of mainly three parts.

The Old Town is set upon higher ground and has a few old buildings well past their best surrounded by a lot of rundown property.

The New Town has all the Great Western buildings and, taken in isolation, is not too bad but it is surrounded by an uninspiring shopping centre with all the usual suspects and some more very run down property. I can, however, recommend the "Steam" Museum.

The third part of town is all the new building. There is loads of it. Some of it is more attractive than other parts. Now if you think King's Lynn traffic is bad well you ain't seen nuthin'. Seemingly no thought went into getting about the place. No grid system for Swindon, no system at all in fact. There is no direct east west route across town, neither is there a north south one. All the roads curl about with frequent roundabouts and light controlled junctions. It is a nightmare! I can only think that if you do want to get about you are expected to drop down to the M4, travel to the next junction and pop back into the scrum to get where you want to be. Makers of Satnavs are on to a winner here.

I cannot remember an edition when we have had so much good material to fill our pages. For your delectation there is a tour of the coastal path, as flagged up on the cover, a remembrance of the railway and its closure 50 years ago, a past vicar's history gone into, a short story and most of our regular contributors have kept at it as well.

The village open gardens weekend is coming towards the end of May and ahead of that there is an organised litter pick on Sunday May 19th to make sure we look as good as we can. Bags, pickers and any other equipment will be provided, we just need people to turn up at War Memorial corner of the recreation ground at 10.00am.

We have a lot of organised activities advertised this time, it must be the influence of spring, and with the clocks going forward as well, the bowlers are coming out of hibernation and are offering taster sessions. As it looks so easy, why not have a go?

It is nice to see some of the local wildlife, well some of it. I set my camera trap to find out what was eating lots of green shoots in the garden and it was, as suspected, a Muntjac. I recently acquired some canaries for my aviary which yesterday attracted the attention of a male Sparrowhawk. He can't get at the birds but did succeed in frightening one of the canaries to death. A persistent creature, he hung about for a couple of hours in spite of being regularly shooed away. Our cat took little interest in these proceedings, possibly he was still basking in the glory of presenting us with a dead rat last week. His results in relation to mice still leave a lot to be desired. Recently I have trapped 7 mice, he has caught none. His job description comes up for review soon though.

Enough from me then, there are 84 pages for you to enjoy so I will detain you no more.

□



## Dear Village Voice



In the February edition of The Voice, Mrs Dolittle asked 'Do Women not cook from scratch anymore?' I can confirm that, yes, they do. My wife and occasionally myself have been cooking healthy and nutritious meals for our son for the last 16 years and we know many others who do the same. I agree that many children are fed on the wrong foods, but I don't think that it automatically means every mother's shopping trolley is full of Pizza and fizzy drinks.

Also, the pink and purple 'stuff' Mrs Dolittle referred to is named 'Slush Puppy' which was in fact introduced back in 1974 and is not a new product designed to poison our children but something that has been around for many years.

I realise that this regular article is light hearted and fun with occasional sections written with 'tongue in cheek' and that no offence is ever intended, but I couldn't help but feel that, that particular paragraph was dipping its toe into the realms of ageism

**Mark Leslie**



I have a photo for you of the summerhouse that used to stand on the foundation you mentioned in the December issue of this magazine. The summerhouse was destroyed in the floods of December 2013 and the strong platform was probably constructed for a replacement summerhouse which has never been built. I love the magazine which I manage to get even though I don't live in the village - it is by far the best magazine around here - excellent.

**Mary Hamilton**

Don't forget our Village Centre Lottery, which gives you the chance to win cash prizes when you support the Centre charity. Although we're up and running there are still many things that need doing to ensure that the Centre is the state-of-the-art building we all want. Of course, all these things cost money, so please help as much as you can.

You can join the Lottery from the Fundraising page on [dersinghamvillagecentre.org.uk](http://dersinghamvillagecentre.org.uk)

**Margaret Mann**

As Dersingham Data is not to be published and distributed to Dersingham residents any more, the main platform for clubs and organisations in the village to publicise contact details is now the village website - [dersingham.org.uk](http://dersingham.org.uk)

It is also a good place to find out about information on when Parish Council meetings are held and their eventual minutes make interesting reading. But I noticed recently that the information about some of these village groups such as contact details, time and place are a little out of date. So, this is an appeal to Secretaries or Chairpersons to check their details on the website and if they require updating please use the contact page on the website to request our webmaster to amend your details. You never know there may be eager new members just waiting to join you.

**Cllr Kate Hathaway, Communications Committee, Dersingham Parish Council**

## Parish Council Report

Sue Payne, chairman



### Council Tax 2019/20

The Parish Council managed to achieve a reduction in the precept despite allocating funds to complete outstanding works to the Village Centre and an amount to cover Parish Council use of the Centre's facilities.

By the time you are reading this edition of Village Voice, the Council Tax bills will have been distributed by the Borough Council.

### Bus Stops

We are very pleased that the County Council and Lynx buses have agreed on sites for new bus stops on Manor Road. The stops will be outside St Nicholas Church (King's Lynn bound, and the Village Centre (Hunstanton bound). These new stops will help people, including residents of nearby villages, get to the Health Centre & St Nicholas Court, the Church, and the Village Centre.

Funding has come from a budget held by County Councillor, Stuart Dark, and the Patients Participation Group, with the Parish Council meeting any shortfall. (Sandringham Parish Council have donated their County Council allocation to the bus stops).

### Annual Parish Meeting

This will take place at 7pm, Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, in the Village Centre. It is an open meeting for all parishioners, who set the Agenda.

Please contact the Office if there is anything you would like to see on the Agenda.

### Annual Parish Council Meeting

This is different and separate to the Annual Parish Meeting, and must be held within two weeks of the election on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Parish Council Meetings

All Full Council & Committee meetings now take place in the Village Centre. Full Council meetings are held in The Garden Room, Committee meetings in The Loft.

Meeting dates and Agenda are published on our website, or you can get details from the office. We are always pleased to see members of the public at Full Council and Committee meetings. Following comments from parishioners we will look at amending the layout for Full Council meetings.

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

Tel: 01485 541465; email: [clerk@dersingham.org.uk](mailto:clerk@dersingham.org.uk) Visit: [www.dersingham.org.uk](http://www.dersingham.org.uk) □



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# Dersingham Artists Welcome You

## SUNDAY & MONDAY 26th—27th MAY

*with over a dozen artists around the village. All kinds of different art and craftwork on show, large and small. Most of our gardens are open too, so call in for a look round!*



Paintings, prints, pottery, glass,  
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Welcome to the Dersingham Art Trail!

**Dersingham Open Gardens 2019**

[DersinghamArtTrail.org](http://DersinghamArtTrail.org)

## Dersingham Institute Bowls Club by Jan Rawstron

It's hard to believe that within a few days of this issue of the Village Voice being published, our bowling green will be open for the 2019 season and we look forward to seeing our members after the winter break. This special centenary season commences on April 6th, at 2pm, when our President, Bob Meredith, bowls the first bowls of the season. This will be followed, weather permitting, by a roll-up, and a finger buffet.

At the end of the 2018 season we held an Open Day, which was a great success, so much so that we are holding another on April 14th. If you are new to bowls, and would like to give it a try, or are an existing bowler, perhaps looking for a change, please feel free to come along and say hello. You will be made most welcome.

On February 7th, many of us said our last goodbyes to our dear friend Helen Chamberlain who passed away in January. Helen was a wonderful lady and will be sorely missed both as a fellow bowler and friend. Our thoughts are with Albert, Steve and all extended family at this sad time. It was also with great sadness that we heard of the passing away of Pam Skerritt, wife of long-time former member Jim.

Well, by the time the next issue is published, our season will be in full swing. The Leagues will be under way and plans will have been made for our Centenary celebrations, so watch this space. □

# OPEN DAY

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Below is a summary of the regular events held at the Dersingham Village Centre. In addition we welcome enquiries for one-off hirings for celebrations such as wedding receptions, parties, children's events and other celebrations. All information can be obtained by going to the website, [www.dersinghamvillagecentre.org.uk](http://www.dersinghamvillagecentre.org.uk)  
 Don't forget to subscribe to the Village Lottery, held each month-further details on the website. Finally, all residents are welcome to attend the Annual General Meeting held at the Centre at 6pm on Tuesday May 28th. Many thanks for all your support! □



The following activities take place at the Dersingham Village Centre on a weekly basis unless indicated otherwise. Information relating to activities marked 'A DVCA Activity' can be gained by contacting [enquiries@dersinghamvillagecentre.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@dersinghamvillagecentre.org.uk) or by ringing 07707 832295. For more information about all other activities please contact the individuals shown below.

<b>Monday</b>	<b>08.15 – 08.45</b> <b>09.00 – 10.10</b>	<b>High Intensity Interval Training</b> <b>Yoga</b>	<b>Suzie Povey</b> <a href="http://www.Suziesfitness.co.uk">www.Suziesfitness.co.uk</a>	<b>07900 818311</b>
	<b>10.00 – 12.30</b>	<b>Coffee Club</b> <i>Drop in for a Cup of Tea or Coffee, chat, read, or relax.</i>	<b>A DVCA Activity</b>	
	<b>10.30 – 11.30</b>	<b>Exercise Class for the Over 50s &amp; Less Able</b>	<b>Shelley Ross</b>	<b>01485 533273</b>
	<b>11.45 – 12.45</b>	<b>Fit 'n' Dancing with Marenne Dance</b>	<b>Margaret Quick</b> <a href="mailto:pechunter@tiscali.co.uk">pechunter@tiscali.co.uk</a>	<b>01485 541162</b> <b>07930 556675</b>
	<b>13.00 – 13.45</b>	<b>Plates</b>	<b>Elke Martin</b> <a href="mailto:Contrology8@gmail.com">Contrology8@gmail.com</a>	<b>07971 440539</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>10.00 – 14.00</b>	<b>Lavender Lacemakers</b>	<b>Lyn Hallifax</b> <a href="mailto:m.hallifax@btinternet.com">m.hallifax@btinternet.com</a>	<b>01485 533611</b>
	<b>15.00 – 17.00</b>	<b>Dersingham Carpet Bowls Club</b>	<b>Jenny</b> or <b>David</b>	<b>01485 543201</b> <b>01485 543678</b>
	<b>12.30</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays (from 1<sup>st</sup> April)</b> <b>Community Friendship Lunch</b> <i>£5 for 2 Courses with Tea or Coffee – Open to All</i>	<b>A DVCA Activity</b>	
	<b>19.30</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month</b> <b>Village Voice Live</b> <i>£5 Admission including Refreshments &amp; Raffle</i>	<b>A DVCA Activity</b>	
	<b>19.30</b>	<b>Last Tuesday of the Month</b> <b>Dersingham Village Screen</b> <i>A Different Film every Month</i> <i>£5 Admission including a cup of Tea or Coffee</i>	<b>A DVCA Activity</b>	
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>09.00 – 15.00</b>	<b>Dersingham Day Centre for the Elderly</b>	<b>Ann Saunders</b>	<b>01485 542885</b>
	<b>10.30 – 11.30</b> <b>11.30 – 12.30</b>	<b>Ballet for All</b> <b>Rock your Baby Dancing</b> <i>both with Marenne Dance</i>	<b>Margaret Quick</b> <a href="mailto:pechunter@tiscali.co.uk">pechunter@tiscali.co.uk</a>	<b>01485 541162</b> <b>07930 556675</b>
	<b>17.45 – 18.30</b>	<b>Plates</b>	<b>Elke Martin</b> <a href="mailto:Contrology8@gmail.com">Contrology8@gmail.com</a>	<b>07971 440539</b>
	<b>19.30 – 20.30</b>	<b>Jazzercise</b> <i>Pulse-pounding, beat-pumping fitness</i>	<b>Hilary Mayes</b> <a href="mailto:hilary@jazzercise.net">hilary@jazzercise.net</a>	<b>07909 282165</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>10.00 – 11.00</b>	<b>Pilates</b>	<b>Elke Martin</b> <a href="mailto:Contrology8@gmail.com">Contrology8@gmail.com</a>	<b>07971 440539</b>
	<b>From 18.00</b>	<b>Ballroom, Latin, Sequence &amp; Swing Classes</b> <b>18.00 Gentle Pace;</b> <b>19.00 Beginners;</b> <b>20.00 Beyond Beginners;</b>	<b>Vai Kershaw</b> <i>'Take the Lead'</i> <a href="mailto:info@taketheleadance.co.uk">info@taketheleadance.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.taketheleadance.co.uk">www.taketheleadance.co.uk</a>	<b>07789 957071</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>14.30 – 16.30</b>	<b>Last Friday of the Month</b> <b>Tea Dance</b> <i>£5 Admission including Refreshments</i>	<b>A DVCA Activity</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>19.30 – 22.30</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Month</b> <b>Ballroom, Latin &amp; Sequence</b> <b>Dance Nights</b> <i>Open to anyone who would like the chance to just dance!</i> <i>All Levels Welcome.</i>	<b>Vai Kershaw</b>	<b>07789 957071</b>
	<b>10.00 – 14.00</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the Month</b> <b>Lavender Lacemakers</b>	<b>Lyn Hallifax</b> <a href="mailto:m.hallifax@btinternet.com">m.hallifax@btinternet.com</a>	<b>01485 533611</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>19.00 – 20.30</b>	<b>Sundays in Term-Time</b> <b>'Elevation'</b> <i>Christian Youth Group with St. Nicholas Church</i>	<b>Rev Mark Capron</b>	<b>01485 297293</b>



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## Dick Melton from Sunny Hunny

### Village hall

I went to the new village hall and I was quite impressed by what has been achieved, but as I walked through the door I said to my mate, "Where has the stage gone?" I spent a lot of time in the hall when I was a boy and when I was at the bottom school we used the stage a lot for our plays, Christmas shows and prize giving

After I left school I joined the Dersingham Players which was run by Mr Sid Willis and his wife. Mr Willis was headmaster at the top school and we used the hall and the stage to practise on and to perform. It was a nice big stage with plenty of room, so I was a bit upset to see it had been done away with. Maybe someone will write in the Village Voice explaining why it was taken away.

### Scouts and cubs

I had a good look at the picture of the scouts taken in 1968. By then I was living in Hunstanton so I could not recognize anyone in the picture. I was never in the scouts but I was in the cubs for a little while. The scout hut them days was in the back of the old hall and I think it was shared by the cubs, scouts, brownies and the girl guides. I know that after these groups moved out, as the old hut was getting past its sell by date, it was used by a chap from the old hall to breed rabbits in.

Whilst I was in the cubs we went camping on some weekends in the summertime. We would set up camp on the fen just at the bottom of the second hill; we also would camp on the plain at Wolferton - a lot of other groups would camp there. I also remember us camping on a field down near Snettisham beach. Good old days.

### Schooldays

I was born in Portsmouth in July 1939. My father was in the army so when the war broke out my father was sent to France. My mother and I moved to East Winch to live with my granny. I started school at East Winch when I was five in September 1944. We lived in Station Road and the school in Church Road was at the other end of the village. Even in those days the A47 was a very busy road what with all the army and RAF traffic. So my granny or my mum used to take me back and forward. Not many of us went home for lunch so we took sandwiches. Even though there is twice as many people living in East Winch these days there are not many children in the village so the school shut down a year or two ago.

In 1945 my mother and I moved to Dersingham to live in a bungalow in Lynn Road, right next to my aunt, uncle and my cousin. I was six years old then and I started going to Dersingham Primary School (bottom school). My cousin went to the same school so she would take me there and back. There were no school dinners there them days so we went home to dinner. It was just a basic school that taught reading, writing and arithmetic with some religious instruction. One afternoon each week we would be taken over the pastures for what was then called games (PT). We had five teachers: Miss Robinson, Miss Crow, Miss Hudson, Miss Boyce and the headmaster, whose name I cannot remember. Whilst I was at the bottom school the headmaster retired and Mr Carr took over. Our day would start at 9 am with a prayer, then the teacher would read out your name and you just shouted out, "Yes," if you were there and your name was ticked off in a book.

One of the highlights of the day would be at 10.15 am, when we had the mid-morning break and everybody



was given a small bottle of milk, about one third of a pint. Then at 12 am the bell would go and we walked home to dinner. You had to be back in school by 1.15 pm for the start of lessons. We had a fifteen minute break at 2.30 pm, then school finished at 3.45.

In 1946 my mother and I moved house: we went to live at 63 Lynn Road (*Restu*) nearer the common but it was no further to walk to school. In the wintertime the school classrooms were very cold as there was only one coal fire in each room. So most of us would sit there all day with our coats on. The toilets were through an alleyway out the back near the bike sheds. Right in the middle of the school playground was a very large horse chestnut tree (conker tree). We would gather up the conkers in the autumn time when they fell off the tree, then we would make a hole in them, thread them on a boot lace and challenge each other to a game of conkers. In the winter at break time we would go through the gate at the top of the playground, and if the pond in the Emblems was frozen over we would slide on it till we heard the whistle.



I always remember the winter of 1947 as, from the January for about three months, we had lots of snow with big drifts and a lot of villages got cut off. So a lot of children could not get to school, but I managed to get there most days. In the summer time, when you got to the age of nine, one day a week a bus would take you to Hunstanton to the Blue Lagoon for one-hour swimming lessons,

The bottom school as we called it, being at the bottom of Dodds Hill, was a good school and I liked being there. The only teacher I did not like was Miss Hudson: if you done wrong she would hit you over the knuckles of your hand with the sharp edge of a ruler, and that hurt, whereas all the other teachers would hit you over the flat of your hand with a cane. Another thing I liked about the bottom school: we had a small vegetable garden that us boys would look after. When you got to the age of eleven and you did not pass your eleven-plus to go to the grammar school at King's Lynn, you went to St George's School (the top school) at the top of Dodds Hill. This had been built as a school in 1938 but it did not open until 1945/46, as during the war it was used as a billet for soldiers who were stationed in the area. It was a much bigger school with children coming to it in buses from other villages in the area. There was inside toilets, central heating, four large classrooms and also a woodwork/science room and a cookery room for the girls. In the middle of the school was a large hall that was used for morning prayers and assembly, PT; and also the dining hall with a kitchen attached, so this meant we did not have to rush home and back for lunch.

The teachers at this school were the headmaster, Mr Willis, Mr Bell, Mrs Bell, Miss Swift, Miss Fyfe, Mr Perry, Mr Townsend and Mr Gee. When you done wrong here they all used a slipper and hit you across the backside, except Mr Bell, the woodwork teacher, who would use a length of plywood. Another punishment you got was staying in after school and picking up stones off the playing field for an hour. There was a four-acre playing field so we had a football pitch and a basketball pitch for the girls.

I do not know why but I never did like going to the top school; I was very happy at the bottom school but not at the top one, so a lot of the time I would try to skive off. I worked on a smallholding and as an errand boy before and after school and at the weekends.

When I was 13 I done a lot of damage to my hands when I was on a soapbox trolley coming down Heath Road and I tried to stop it with my hands. I spent a lot of time in King's Lynn and the Norfolk and Norwich hospitals, so I never went back to school much, and I was very pleased when I left school at the age of fifteen. I have always said that I learnt a lot more sitting in the Albert Victor pub listening to some of the old boys of the village, especially the late Ken Martins.

Well that's all for now, I am off to Swaffham to do a day's troshin for nothin' □



## Fake News/Good News



Fake news or good news - such a question for our times. In this age of spin, fake news and misinformation, it's hard to know where the truth lies.

When we browse our favourite news stream, check out Twitter, read a paper or watch the news on TV, we're increasingly less sure that what is being presented to us is actually true. And a lot of people see the Christian faith – in particular the resurrection of Jesus like that - fake news. However writer and Bible teacher Michael Green said: "If the resurrection is false, you can dismiss Christianity. If it is true, the consequences are enormous."

Christians believe that Jesus is alive, and there is good evidence for that fact. In Saint Paul's letter to the Corinthian church (1 Corinthians 15: 3-6), he maintains that Christ died on the cross, was buried and then rose again appearing to many people at different times. He appeared to Peter, he says, and to the rest of the disciples. He appeared to more than 500 of the believers at that time. The early followers of Jesus were so convinced of his resurrection they became bold in sharing the good news, despite the imminent threat to their lives.

The Resurrection of Jesus is at the heart of the Christian faith and it is The Good News that Jesus is alive that we celebrate each Easter – come and join the celebration! During Holy Week (the week leading up to Easter) we will have an Evening Service on Maundy Thursday (20<sup>th</sup> April) at 7:30pm with foot washing, helping to lead the worship will be the church choir. If you would like your shoes shined in the morning I will again be in the Co-op at Dersingham from 10-11:30am as a modern day version of Jesus kneeling before his disciples.

On Good Friday the churches of the village will be sharing together in the Good Friday walk of witness. This year we will begin with a short time of worship at St Nicholas at 10am before leaving carrying a cross and going via the symbolic green hill, then the Catholic church before concluding at the Methodist church. It was excellent last year to see so many from all the churches together and of all ages in the walk of witness. The celebrations on Easter Day will begin at the Benefice Sunrise Holy Communion service outside Shernborne Church at 5:30AM, (inside if wet). On Easter day there are services at all four churches in the benefice, please check out the website or the April church magazine for services. This Easter lets have joy in our hearts as we celebrate the Good News of Jesus' Resurrection. Happy Easter!

Rev Mark Capron - Rector of Dersingham, Anmer, Ingoldisthorpe and Shernborne  
[www.stnicholasdersingham.org.uk](http://www.stnicholasdersingham.org.uk)

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April – 9am to 12noon there will be a GRAND SALE in the Dersingham Scout & Guide HQ, Manor Road - Books – Bric-a-Brac & General Houseware. Refreshments will be available.

### Easter Services

Monday 15<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> 7.3pm Compline; Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday Communion 7.30pm; Good Friday – 2pm Service – "Hour at The Cross"

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Easter Sunday

5.30am – Sunrise Communion at Shernborne Church, with coffee & hot cross buns

11.00am – there will be Holy Communion at Dersingham, Anmer & Ingoldisthorpe Churches. □

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## Dersingham Day Centre

Well hasn't the weather been beautiful? We all feel that Spring is on the way, especially as we have had small vases of daffodils on the lunch tables at Dersingham Day Centre. We've had all our usual activities of cards, dominoes, scrabble and a quiz, but the handicraft table has been particularly busy with knitting, crochet and cross-stitch. We were delighted to welcome June Denton back to the Day Centre after her stay in hospital. She brought in some dolls to show us for which she'd knitted beautiful outfits – the boy doll sported a sailor's outfit and the girl dolls had such pretty outfits with lace edgings on their undies!

We celebrated the birthdays of Pauline Walker and Shirley Daniels in January and in February it was the turn of Jean James and Victor Byles. The latter brought in one of his delicious homemade cakes for us all to share.

At the beginning of February we held our AGM. All the Committee Members were happy to stand again and were all voted in unanimously. Ann Saunders gave the Chairman's report and Richard Fettes gave the Treasurer's report. Ann welcomed new members, Jean James, Doris Sullivan and Margaret Boston to Dersingham Day Centre. She also spoke about one of our members, Pamela Skerritt, whom we sadly lost at the end of last year, and expressed how much we miss her. At the end of the AGM Joyce Lowe gave a vote of thanks to all the Committee Members for all the sterling work they do.



On 27<sup>th</sup> February we went out for our lunch to the United Services Club in Hunstanton. As usual we had a really delicious roast dinner with a choice of beef or pork, followed by apple crumble

or custard tart. Everyone had a truly enjoyable time.

If you would like to know more about joining Dersingham Day Centre then please contact Ann Saunders on 01485 542885 or Hilary Judd on 01485 543204 Or 07887 486739□

## DERSINGHAM

### Annual Parish Meeting

With the Chairman of Dersingham Parish Council

7pm, Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April

Dersingham Village Centre

This meeting is for all residents of Dersingham, who can ask for any item to be added to the Agenda.

Please inform the Clerk of any agenda items by 5pm Tuesday April 16<sup>th</sup>

For Information, contact the Parish Office:

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# Dersingham Evening WI

By Maggie Guest



For our speaker in January we had Carl Smith from the Norfolk Accident Rescue Service (NARS). He gave us an interesting talk on this voluntary organisation that was started in 1970 to supplement the ambulance service. It is a voluntary organisation depending on donations. Carl and his colleagues are well trained and able also to give telephone advice which can take pressure off the ambulance. Carl has not only given us advice on cardiac arrests but is coming to spend an evening training any members who want to attend on resuscitation in case the situation arises, and they are on hand. NARS is an amazing organisation working in three counties and they are to be congratulated on their service.



The Competition theme in January was 'Something Yellow' and was won by Wendy who submitted a basket of yellow cleaning items. Yellow rubber gloves and other kitchen items shone out like the sun, so it was a well-deserved win. The monthly competition is light hearted and just 'food for thought' for anyone interested in taking part.

A group of members went to Thaxters for afternoon tea. Quite a few people went but we are all keen on our food!

Sharon generously had a coffee morning at her home and Diane rather bravely had a Soup

Kitchen taking the place of a coffee morning the following month. Our thanks to both of these members. These events are great for getting to know people and having a chat.

Stephanie continues to run the MAD (Make A Difference) knitting group. Items knitted are sold for charity or given to needy people. They do an amazing job so 'Well Done' to them!

Babs continues to run two craft groups a month. She teaches the groups assorted craft skills and all members of the groups have something (mostly) lovely to take home. Both the knitting and craft groups are very sociable with a chance to chat and get to know people.

As if we don't eat, drink and talk enough, Lyn and Cyn run a dining group! Our last visit was to the newly opened Black Horse at Castle Rising. A lovely evening with food and a glass of wine for those not driving!



For the February meeting we had Nicola Porter who is a qualified Holistic Therapist talking about the therapies she can provide. She works at different places and one is Serenity in Dersingham. The group were very interested and Nicola had no problem getting volunteers to demonstrate on. She clearly provides a caring service getting medical backgrounds before treatment. The Reflexology sounds good to me! After the talk members were keen to speak to Nicola asking questions which she was happy to answer.

The competition was 'Your Favourite Remedy' which was won by Pat.

At that meeting we also had a sales table which is a good way of re-cycling unwanted items and proved popular. On the subject of re-cycling, we always have a book stall where members take in unwanted books which are sold for WI funds. Very useful!

**Our meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.15 pm at St Cecilia's Church next to the Co-op in Mountbatten Rd**



April 17<sup>th</sup> is our Birthday which is a 60s themed evening with food etc  
May 15<sup>th</sup> Cheese and Wine while we discuss WI resolutions which are issues of national interest.

If you want to try us out one evening you will be welcomed at the door but we do ask for a small donation to our funds. The June meeting sounds very interesting with Gill Blanchard talking about 'Behind the scenes of Who Do You Think You Are' □

## 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.

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April, Andrew England will be talking about War Memorials of Norfolk. There will be the annual plant sale and coffee morning in May, please note that this will be on **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May** in the village hall from 10am till midday.

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June, Steve Collin from the Norfolk Wildlife Trust will be speaking about Ancient Woodlands.

Refreshments are available and we hold a raffle at each meeting. All welcome □

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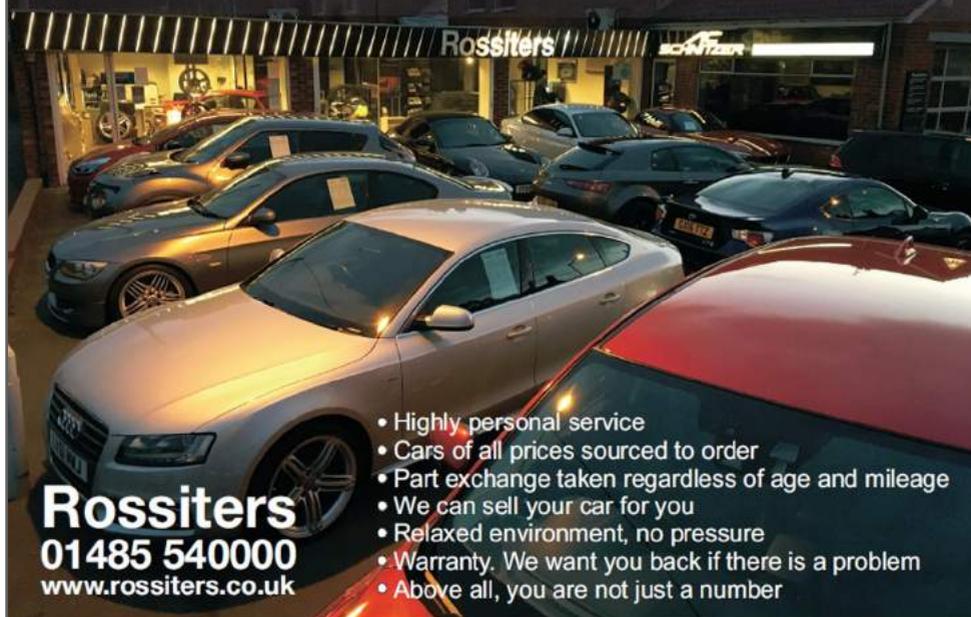
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## Dersingham Methodist Church Elizabeth Batstone

Here are details of forthcoming events:

**Easter Services: Good Friday** 10.00 a.m. united service at St Nicholas Church followed by village walk of witness.

**Easter Sunday 10.30 a.m.** Service with Barbara Foster. **4.00 p.m.** Easter Praise at Hunstanton Methodist Church.



**Concert** – An evening of Classical Guitar music with **Estevao**

**Devides. Friday 26th April 7.00 p.m.** Doors open 6.30 p.m. Light refreshments served during the interval. Tickets £7.00 in advance, £10.00 on the door. Email: [stewardsatdersingham@gmail.com](mailto:stewardsatdersingham@gmail.com) or telephone Paul on 01485 542241.

**Flower Festival** — Theme – Craftsmen’s Art. **Thursday 23rd to Saturday 25th May**, 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Coffee, lunches, teas. Stalls: books, cakes, cards, gifts, plants, Fair Trade products. Children from the local schools will sing at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday and Friday.

**Sunday 26th May** 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. tea and cakes, no stalls.

Sunday services to celebrate 129th Church Anniversary - 10.30 a.m.

Songs of Praise 6.00 p.m.

Proceeds for Church funds and Karibuni Children, Kenya.

We look forward to seeing you all to enjoy the flowers, the delicious cakes and lunches, buying something from the stalls and sharing in our Festival. □

### *Just a thought.....* By Steve Oliver



“Jesus Christ is risen today”, words sung and said throughout the Easter period, but what does it mean?

It is hard for us to understand how Jesus rose from the dead. We know what happened...the stone was rolled away, the burial clothes were left inside, and an angel was awaiting those who searched.. We know that, when the women ran to tell the disciples Peter had to be the first to put his head in to see if it was true and after that we know that Jesus appeared to Mary in the garden. These facts we know, but what happened inside the tomb before the stone was rolled away we will never know.

Of course that leads us to a dilemma, because those who doubt need physical proof, and unfortunately we cannot offer it them. But we can tell them what it really means to know that Jesus rose from the dead, to know that death has no more hold over us and that eternal life in the love of our Lord awaits us.

That knowledge is not about physical proof, but about faith; it is not about the mental capacity to think but about the capacity of the heart to believe and to love. Our faith in Christ is heightened and strengthened by the words He spoke to Thomas when he said “Happy are those who did not see **and believed**”. And it is to those words we turn to show those who doubt that we do not need to feel the hands and feet for His wounds because we are His hands and his feet here on earth. We believe in Him because of what He did for us at Easter; the cross was supposed to be the end, but it was only the beginning and now we share in the glorious moment of new life in Christ. □



## The Dersingham Walking Group

Looking ahead to the walks over the next few weeks we have three ambles to tempt you, all of them traversing some lovely springtime countryside. In April we shall be walking some of the many footpaths in the Grimston and Hillington area, all of which are well known to our leader on this walk, local historian Elizabeth Fiddick. I very rarely go on one of Liz's walks without walking on a footpath that gets me thinking "I've never been on this path before!"

In May we have two walks planned. The first one we will share with the local Ramblers group, when Keith Starks will lead us round the permissive paths of Courtyard Farm, Ringstead. There should be plenty of wild flowers at this time of the year, notably cowslips. Later that same month, Tony Bubb will take us up to the coast with a walk around the Burnhams, starting from the car park at Burnham Overy Staithe. On a Wednesday in May it shouldn't be too busy, but space can be limited so you might like to try and car share. I once led a walk from there in mid-August and the car park was packed to the proverbial gunwales with cars and camper vans, making it very difficult for us walkers to find a space. My name was mud, which was actually very appropriate for where most of us had to leave our cars – on the mud!

All our planned walks will appear here in Village Voice and can also be found on our page on the Parish Council website and in the Calendar on that website. Our page is at [www.dersingham.org.uk/walkinggroup](http://www.dersingham.org.uk/walkinggroup)

I've noticed lately that there are quite a few new walkers among the regulars who appear on most walks. Often these are folk who are new to the village of Dersingham, having moved here from another part of the country, perhaps because they came here on holiday and liked it! Joining the walking group is a great way to meet some of your fellow villagers, and to explore the local area. You'll probably discover footpaths that you never knew existed and maybe views that will give you a fresh appreciation of the local landscape. So if you haven't walked with the group before why not join us for an amble through our wonderful countryside. Most of our walks are between 4 and 5 miles long and take around two hours, with a rest stop at some point. There is no cost involved, 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!"

*Stephen Martyn*

### Our next few walks

#### **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2.00pm**

A circular walk from Hillington to Grimston and return. Meet in the big lay-by on the A148 opposite the road from Sandringham. 4.5 miles. Leader: Elizabeth Fiddick 01485 540940. Start point grid ref: TF 712 253.

#### **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2.00pm**

Courtyard Farm abounds with wild flowers at this time of the year, particularly cowslips. Enjoy them as we walk round some of the farm's many permissive paths. Meet at the car park on the road from Ringstead to Choseley. 4 miles. Leader: Keith Starks 01485 542268. Start point grid ref: TF 721 405. We will be sharing this walk with the local Ramblers group.

## Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2.00pm

Coast and countryside with a chance to visit some of the charming villages of the Burnhams. Starting from the car park at Burnham Overy Staithe. 4.5 miles. Leader: Tony Bubb 01485 542638. Start point grid ref: TF 844 443.

**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. If you want more information about any particular walk then please contact the leader.

Group coordinator: **Stephen Martyn** Tel: 01485 541333 Email: [stephenmartyn@gmail.com](mailto:stephenmartyn@gmail.com)

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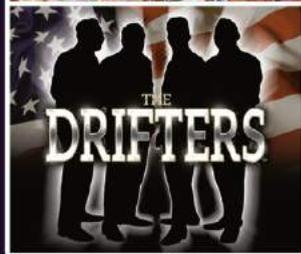
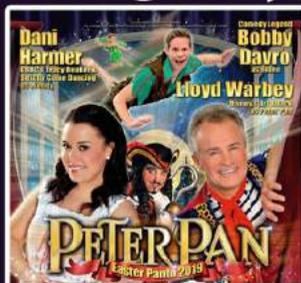
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- Thu 11 April - Peter Pan - Easter Panto
- Sun 14 April - Sing-a-long-a The Greatest Showman
- Wed 24 April - Stewart Francis
- Thu 25 April - Bringing On Back The Sixties
- Fri 26 April - The Illegal Eagles
- Fri 10 May - An Evening with Pam Ayres
- Sat 11 May - The Masters of The House
- Fri 24 May - The Drifters
- Sat 25 May - The Dreamboys
- Sun 26 May - Paul Merton's Impro Chums
- Tue 28 May - Brainiac Live!

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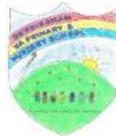
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The Early Years site are very fortunate to have the support of parents, friends and members of the wider community to support children's learning. The wide range of additional activities could not be offered to the children without this valuable support. Fortunately for us KLFM offered the opportunity for the school to nominate one of our amazing volunteers for an award in recognition of her services to the school. We were thrilled to learn that Judith Simmonds was selected as one of the three finalists for volunteer of the year in late 2018. Judith has supported the children at the Early Years site over a number of years. Judith leads our Forest school provision on a Friday, offering the children the opportunity to be outdoors, build dens, light fires, cook outdoors and learn about all that nature has to offer. Judith has also arranged for trips to True's Yard and the RSPB nature reserve at Titchwell. To our absolute delight Judith was awarded Volunteer of the Year at an award ceremony at the Corn Exchange in King's Lynn. Congratulations Judie!



Year 1 have returned to school after the half term break to find that aliens have crash landed on the field! The children are excitedly planning their new topic, thinking about outer space, how the earth was formed, rockets, astronauts, the moon and much more! Beegu, a friendly, lost, alien is going to help them on their journey... Before the holiday, Foresters performed a sensational assembly to family and friends, celebrating their learning, followed by a Valentines tea party.

Squawkers re-enacted the story of The Gruffalo for their performance and wowed the audience with their fantastic acting skills. The children have grown in confidence so much during the short time they have been in Year 1 and their final term is going to be an exciting one!

Skywriters, (Year 2), have had a super half term learning from a story based in a cold, snowy Northern European setting. They had a fantastic time visiting a climbing centre, learning to climb a wall to help them with their writing. This half term is a complete contrast, as they are now learning about the African Savannah and the animals that live there, in particular lions.



Bone Crushers, (Year 3), have been doing lots of fun science in their topic Mighty Metals in Motion, which is continuing until Easter. The children have loved exploring forces such as gravity, magnetism and air resistance, with experiments including making and comparing paper helicopters. The focus text is The Iron Man, and the children will be making robots, including light up eyes, which will work from circuits constructed by the children! At the end of all this, learning will be showcased in a class assembly. The class



dance is coming along brilliantly!  
 At the beginning of the term Borrowers, (Year 3), went to Sandringham woods and park to investigate all the forces that were used to move and play on the equipment. It was great fun, especially going into the café to warm up with a hot chocolate. At school, the children followed up by investigating forces, making parachutes to see which size of chute would be best to float down. Mr Crump, the caretaker, helped by dropping the



parachutes from the school roof. Using 'The Iron Man' text the children became journalists to report all events of a giant beast falling from space. They also wrote diaries from the point of view of one of the characters 'Hogarth' in the book and then poems about how the Iron man moved, using similes to help the reader imagine.

Year 4, Revellers, are taking a walk on the wild side, learning about food chains and teeth, leading to dissecting owl pellets. This will be alongside

their class text 'The Wolf's Footprint', leading to fabulous opportunities for writing in character. The text is set in the Middle Ages, so we will finish this term galloping through the dark and deadly 14th century Britain, sword and shield at the ready, pledging allegiance to King and Country.

Howlers Class, (Year 5), have been working on Ernest Shackleton's journey to the South Pole. Children have had the opportunity to become some of the men who embarked upon this epic journey by researching them and then writing in character in order to produce personal statements and a piece of poetry, as well as constructing lucky charms and personal artefacts that the men may have wished to take with them.



Science has also been linked to this topic, with children working together to insulate a cup and study the effects salt has on ice. Many children have been particularly engaged by the effect that humans are having upon this unique ecosystem, and what we can do to ensure we safeguard it for the future.



Year 6, Villagers and Islanders, have now started early morning breakfast and revision club, serving toast and hot chocolate, whilst asking questions and filling any gaps in learning in preparation for their end of year assessments. The school works on the theory of creating a happy, relaxed atmosphere, where children do not feel pressured and laugh daily, enjoying their learning. It is well known that exam pressure

can have a detrimental effect on children and the anxiety can have negative implications. We want our children to have a confident, 'can do' attitude, but also enjoy the range of other enrichment activities we have to offer.

Learning to read is one of the most important things to learn at school, it opens doors to all other subjects and to wonderful opportunities. The staff have been putting lots of energy into making sure the children enjoy reading, developing a love of books. There have been three incredible visits from authors to inspire the children, they have completed reading challenges, taken part in battle of the books alongside the usual teaching of reading in lessons. The school is thrilled to say pupils have responded incredibly, with a staggering 83% of children saying they love reading and wish to read more. World Book Day provided a fantastic opportunity for children to dress up as their favourite characters and our amazing Harry Potter event caused a magical stir around school. It is hoped this excitement and motivation will continue as the year progresses.



Finally, we wish our group of musicians from Years 4, 5 and 6 good luck as they go forward to the Music For Youth, regional finals. As an ensemble they have been together for just a few months, practising during break and lunch. The school are confident their performance will be incredible and there will be lots of parents and staff there to cheer them on!□



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## Sandringham Parish Council news from Ben Colson

The Parish Council met on 6<sup>th</sup> March at Wolferton Social Club, with all but one Councillor present. Two members of the public attended.

Matters of particular importance that we discussed were:

*Precept* – it was confirmed that alternative arrangements are in place to fund reasonable and unavoidable expenses incurred by the Parish Council. This means that unlike most across the country, you will not be charged extra on your Council Tax to fund the parish council.

*King's Lynn & Hunstanton railway line* – there is much debate about the future of this line and also about traffic levels and safety on the A149. Norfolk County Council has developed what it calls its "Greenway" plan for the route, which would turn it into a foot and cycle path. It seemed that little thought has been given to where the route would go in places which have been built over, and how to cross the A149. Two Councillors attended their consultation and were a little bit unimpressed, and we'll report our views to the County Council.

*Parish Council website* – all public authorities are required by government to have a website, and for those of us without a precept they provided a grant to fund the cost of running it. Without notice, they ended that last April, so the site has continued using private funding sources until now. From April or May it will be incorporated in the Sandringham Estate website's new 'community' section and at a suitable date after that ours will be closed down.

*Parish Assembly* – we are also required by government to hold an annual Parish Assembly, to provide an opportunity for clubs and societies and other community facilities to highlight their work. We plan to hold our first such assembly before the Annual General Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> May at the Sandringham Club in West Newton. We'll be asking a number of groups to provide a written account of their activities during the past year, together with contact details for those of you who want to contact them.

*Postal addresses in the parish* – we all received a letter from the Royal Mail during February telling us that our postal addresses had changed to include the road name as well as the house. This follows on from the naming of roads undertaken – to an extent against our will – by the Borough Council, to comply with central government legislation. Spare a thought for the one resident, just one, in Wolferton who has also got to contend with a change to their postcode. Hopefully this will be the end of the matter.

*A new postal service for West Newton* – we have been contacted by the Post Office to confirm that their new van service will visit West Newton, parked by the Church opposite the shop, on Monday afternoons from 4pm to 5pm and Wednesday afternoons from 1.30pm to 2.30pm. This is exceptionally good news and it is really important that the service is used, so please do all you can to spread the word and use it yourself. Wolferton is also eligible on the Post Office criteria to have a visit but the earlier attempt by the Post Office to provide a service there came to nothing.

*Later bus from Lynn to West Newton and on to Hunstanton* – this is an important matter for a small number of residents but also for a larger number of visitors and staff at Sandringham. Until 2017 there was always a bus on what is now the 35 route from Lynn at about 5pm routed via West Newton and Sandringham to Hunstanton. In 2018 it was suddenly dropped with the demise of Stagecoach on the route. The parish council received a number of negative comments and addressed them to the County Council which got agreement from Lynx to provide one from this Summer. They have now not included it in their Summer schedule, and the parish has again brought this to the attention of the County Council, being the responsible body.

*A149 road safety issues* – a lot has been said and written about this for a considerable time, and the County Council eventually voted to broaden its initial plan just to install average speed cameras from Knights Hill to Heacham, to include two sections with a lower speed limit and to look at redesigning some of the more accident blackspot junctions. One of the lower speed limits will apply from Babingley Cross to Dersingham Roundabout, and the Parish Council wholeheartedly endorses that change. We are waiting for the County's officials to show us and take our views on its plans to change the design of junctions in the parish and will go back to them with our local view as soon as

we see what they have in mind. We are completely in support, in principle, of the range of measures now proposed by the County Council.

*Sandringham Women's Institute* – is holding a Memorabilia Exhibition in West Newton village hall on 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May from 10am to 5pm, promising crafts, stalls and refreshments. For more details contact Yvonne Browne on 01485 540255.

*CarersMatterNorfolk* – this is a service to support unpaid young and adult carers alike, across Norfolk, which has been arranged by the County Council and local NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups. The service is being delivered by Carer Connectors, people who will work with carers in their own homes or a place of their choice. It helps you find your way around the local services available to you, benefits, housing etc and provides emotional support and assistance. CarersMatterNorfolk provides:

- 7 days a week Freephone advice line
- Emotional wellbeing support in the carer role
- Education and training in carer responsibilities
- Grants for local groups
- Other services

*Local elections* – the four yearly election of Councillors to the Borough Council is being held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Following the change to the boundaries, we will be part of the Dersingham Ward. That makes no difference to the Parish Council's work which will continue, it is just that we are represented at the Borough in a different way. The seven Councillors who make up the Parish Council are also up for election on the same day and nomination forms for both elections can be collected from the Borough offices in King's Lynn and have to be returned there by 4pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2019. Our March meeting was therefore the last of the Parish Council as currently established.

### **Wolferton village news**

There's a growing list of events taking place in Wolferton, some are long-established but others are being planned this year to raise money for the urgently needed repairs to the roof of St Peter's Church. The church needs about £90,000 to carry out the immediate repairs, and have so far raised over £50,000, which is quite a milestone. The fundraising group is confident that it will get that up to over £70,000 during the Summer, and plans to arrange a roofer to start work in the Autumn.

A number of events is being planned specifically to raise the extra needed, and then start the process of raising about another £150,000 needed to fully repair the building, so make sure they're in your diary, to include:

**26<sup>th</sup> April** – a Spring Quiz and BBQ in the Social Club. Food at 6.30pm, quiz at 7.30pm. Tickets at £7.50 each from Dr Judy Scott on 01485 542887.

**11<sup>th</sup> May** – a plant sale held on the village green from 10am to 4pm. At the same time, refreshments, including a raffle, sale of books, sponsor a tile etc in the Social Club.

*During the summer months* – a number of events are in planning, more details once finalised

**11<sup>th</sup> October** – the ever popular Harvest Quiz and Supper in the Social Club. More details to follow.

Church matins or family services at St Peter's will be held at 9.30am on the second Sunday of each month, followed as always by tea or coffee, biscuits and the chance for a good chat.

The Social Club continues with its various activities, including room hire at competitive rates. Special events include:

The Wolf Folk Club meets at the Social Club fortnightly on Thursdays. Forthcoming dates are 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April and 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

**Cash Bingo evenings** in 2019 will be held at the Social Club on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 9<sup>th</sup> June, 7<sup>th</sup> July, 4<sup>th</sup> August, 1<sup>st</sup> September, 6<sup>th</sup> October, 3<sup>rd</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December

**Prize Bingo evenings** in 2019 will be held at the Social Club on 16<sup>th</sup> April, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 18<sup>th</sup> June, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 20<sup>th</sup> August, 17<sup>th</sup> September, 15<sup>th</sup> October, 19<sup>th</sup> November and 17<sup>th</sup> December. □

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The pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday at St Cecilia's was very well attended and £177 was raised for church funds. Thanks go to all who made pancakes and who helped in any way.

During Lent the Stations of the Cross will be celebrated in Hunstanton, followed by a simple lunch, each Friday alternating between the Catholic church of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour and the Anglican church of St Edmunds, beginning at 12 noon.

There will be a Ladies' shared lunch in the Garnett room at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Hunstanton on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May starting at midday. This is an open invitation for all women in the area to come along and join us for an enjoyable social occasion, just bring a plate of food to share

*Foodbank supplies* are still required, items can be left in the porches of both churches. Please ensure that all items are well in date. Thank you for your continued support... There is a *Fair Trade Stall* at St Cecilia's after the 9am Mass on the first Sunday of every month. Please support this very worthwhile cause by buying fairly traded goods to support families abroad trying to earn a living. For more information please contact Caroline Brooks on 01553 673069.

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

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

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

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



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## Coastal Perambulations by Steve Davis



My love of walking has been a feature of many of my articles over the years but I'm never happier than when trekking our coastlines, or those of any of the other few countries I've visited for that matter. Here in Norfolk we are particularly blessed with some glorious coastal stretches of beaches and cliffs and, as of last week, my wife, Lindsey and I can now proudly boast of having covered the entire Norfolk coastline that is accessible on foot and extending on into adjoining counties. Admittedly this has been over quite a prolonged period, as we've fitted together walks along various random sections of the coastline jigsaw, not necessarily in the same direction and with certain sections covered many times over. In all I reckon we have, so far, walked the approximately 136-mile coastline from Sutton Bridge in Lincolnshire through to Thorpeness in Suffolk, save for a 7-mile section between King's Lynn and Wolferton, which we trust will be made accessible to us in the not too distant future.

Any sort of walking, especially out of town, and preferably off-road is good but, for me, there is something very tranquil and easy-going about following a coastline, be it water's edge, beach, sea-wall promenade or cliff-top, requiring the barest minimum of concentration on direction or map-reading skills. Finding oneself at one end of a sweeping bay, I find it very compulsive to want to walk to the other end. Then of course, one just needs to take a little peek around the headland to reveal another bay, and so on... The occasional obstacle such as uncrossable creeks, private property, docklands or cliff-rock-fall can make the inevitable, though hopefully minimal, inland diversions necessary but, for the most part, you simply keep the sea on your left, or right as the case may be, and when not taking in and admiring the view can be totally lost in thought.



Back at the start of 2001, whilst Lindsey and I were still living in Kent, we resolved to walk the entire length of the Kent coastline during the course of the year, starting from the banks of the Thames at Dartford and following the coast around as best we could to Camber Sands in Sussex, calling it *2001 a Kent Coastal Odyssey*. I kept a diary which I supplemented with still shots from footage taken with our recently acquired early digital camcorder, which you can view or download by following

the link [tinyurl.com/epicwalks](http://tinyurl.com/epicwalks). As you would see, things didn't quite go according to plan when, in February 2001, the nation was plagued by the dreaded Foot and Mouth epidemic and access to country footpaths including coastal pathways was severely restricted and discouraged for some while after. Nevertheless, in August 2002 we completed the last of our 20 jaunts ranging from around 5 to 15 miles at a stretch, with a warm inner sense of purpose and achievement, a total of some 170 miles altogether



In April 2004, my good walking friend and colleague Patrick and I drove up from Kent to walk what was then called the North Norfolk Coastal Path from Cromer to Hunstanton. Combined with the use of campsite bases at Stiffkey and Burnham Deepdale, Coast Hopper bus, train and car shuttles we walked the 38-mile route in four unencumbered stages over three and a half days. Sadly now, no diary to look back on for this one, but photographic evidence of our trail, including a chance just-in-time arrival at Morston Quay to take a boat trip to see the seals at Blakeney Point, can be found at [tinyurl.com/norfolkcoast2004](http://tinyurl.com/norfolkcoast2004) , or made into a video (with slightly eerie background music) on YouTube at [tinyurl.com/norfolkcoastpath](http://tinyurl.com/norfolkcoastpath) . As of December 2016, the official Norfolk



Coast Path runs the 83 miles from Hunstanton to Hopton-on-Sea, beyond which is the Suffolk border, though still needs some 25 miles or so in front of that to bring it right back to the Lincolnshire border, most of which is accessible.



It was December 2006 when Lindsey and I came to live in Dersingham, one of our best decisions for many reasons we see now, though at the time, the close walking proximity to the Snettisham RSPB coastal reserve, where I have

since spent several years past as a volunteer walk leader, played quite a part in our choice. I still walk down there once or twice a month and, several times over the past year, have simply turned right at the beach and carried on along the five miles of coastline up into Sunny Hunny, before catching the bus home, or vice versa.



In 2007, Lindsey and I caught the bus to Sutton Bridge to embark on the Peter Scott Walk out along the east bank of the River Nene and around the fairly long and largely unvarying south bank of The Wash around to the West Lynn Ferry, a total distance of nearly 14 miles.

Although Lindsey felt that perhaps once was enough, I managed a repeat performance of it with friend Patrick in 2010. Also, if you park along Cross Bank Road to King's Lynn Docks road off Edward Benefer Way, you can walk to the end along the east bank of the River Ouse Lynn Channel, onto a track through a nature reserve area and up as far as the mouth of the Babingley River, but sadly no further at present.



Throughout our time here, various afternoon jaunts with the Dersingham Walking Group, and mid-week camping, static caravan or holiday apartment breaks we have spent based at Cromer, Sidestrand and Trimmingham, have enabled us to steadily work our way around the coast in dribs and drabs to just past Eccles-on-Sea. Then eighteen months ago,



during a stay on a delightful static houseboat at Wayford Bridge, we covered the stretch from Sea Palling along the vast swathes of glorious sandy beaches and dunes including Horsey Gap with its massive grey seal colony, through Winterton, Caister and on into Great Yarmouth and down the dockland peninsula to the northern bank at the mouth of the River Yare – still not quite all of Norfolk though!.

During the same period, there have been several occasions whilst staying at Dunwich or Minsmere that we have walked the interesting and at times very bleak Suffolk coastal stretch between Southwold and Thorpeness.



It was however only last week (end of February) whilst spending a mid-week break, in a so-called Safari Lodge at 'The Hollies', Kessingland, Suffolk ([thehollieskessingland.co.uk](http://thehollieskessingland.co.uk)) with its own attractive stretch of sandy coastline backed by some interesting sandstone cliffs, that we managed our final easternmost stretch of Norfolk coastline. We'd spent our first bright and sunny full



day there, walking the ten miles south from Kessingland to Southwold, which included a one and a half mile back-tracking detour up and over cliffs to avoid an impassable rocky obstacle on the beach just when we were within spitting distance of Southwold Pier! But the following equally sunny day we walked northwards via Pakefield, Lowestoft and Corton, back over the border into Norfolk at Hopton-on-Sea and on to Gorleston and the southern bank at the mouth of the River Yare, our second complete county coastline finally nabbed – well, save for the bit

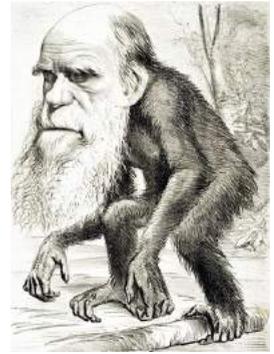
between Wolferton and King's Lynn Docks, but that's something we look forward to. Photos of this recent trip can be found at: [tinyurl.com/Kessingland](http://tinyurl.com/Kessingland) .

So there you have it – a very abridged selection from our personal perambulation portfolio. Shally Hunt wrote a book called simply '*The Sea On Our Left*' chronicling the ten month journey that she and her husband made around the entire British coastline in 1995. I found it an inspiring read and you can still find used copies available quite cheaply online through Amazon. But with such wonderful coastline to be thankful for here on our very doorstep just crying out to be experienced in all its moods, whether you seek the peace and solitude of a remote sandy stretch or a simple stroll along the all-weather promenade between Hunstanton and Heacham, with the drama of a high springtide or catching a calming sunset over the sea from our country's only west-facing bit of coastline on the East Coast, it's all yours for the taking. □



## Origins By Allan Coleby

The meanings of phrases in common use, such as “Keep your shirt on”, are known to everyone. It is, though, fascinating to discover how they came to mean what they do in modern English usage. The objective of the game “Origins” is to identify the one correct explanation of the three possible derivations which are offered for each phrase. Answers are on page 67.



**Phrase: “Knocked into a cocked hat”** (meaning: to be well beaten in a game of skill).

**Origin (a):** One of the punishments given to criminals in olden times was to have to sit for a time in the stocks. This kept the criminal secured in one place, unable to move his (or her) arms and legs, so that they could be insulted or spat at by passers by and they could not retaliate. Often, they also had rotten fruit and vegetables thrown at them, so that the smell and mess on their faces and clothes were extremely unpleasant. Sometimes, however, some malice and hostility began to appear, and hard vegetables capable of cutting or injuring the victim might be used. As some protection from this, the wearing of a substantial hat, covering the hair and forehead, was permitted, so that if the victim looked downwards at the last moment, this would prevent injury or bloodshed. Such hats would be in smelly and battered condition by the end of the punishment, and so someone who had suffered such treatment would have been “knocked into a cocked hat”.

**Origin (b):** In the game of ninepins, nine skittles are set upright at the end of a channel in which the game is to be played. The object is to roll a ball at them in order to try to knock down as many as possible in one go. This was rarely achieved, and so many more attempts were made until no skittles were left standing. When they are set up at the start, three skittles form a triangle in the middle, the shape of a “cocked hat”. When all of them had been knocked down except these three, the set was said to have been “knocked into a cocked hat”.

**Origin (c):** In medieval times, unfaithful women were sometimes punished by being made to walk along a street wearing a conspicuously tall hat. Bones, bad eggs and other produce would be thrown at the hat, so that at the end of the walk, it was well and truly battered. Thus, if anyone had been “knocked into a cocked hat”, they had been the object of such physical and verbal abuse.

**Phrase: “dyed in the wool”** (meaning: to be truly what it is said to be, authentic, genuine).

**Origin (a):** The use of wool from sheep to make textiles has, historically, formed a large part of the economy of this country. Sheep are therefore a valuable asset, and the ownership of them in flat farmland which is fenced or enclosed by hedges is easy to establish. This type of agricultural land exists mainly in East Anglia and the Midlands. In other areas where sheep are numerous and can profitably graze, such as the Scottish and Welsh mountains, the Yorkshire dales, Derbyshire and the Lake district, it is not so easy to control them, and therefore to identify their owners. In these areas, they usually roam over very large tracts of unenclosed land and ownership has to be established by unique identification marks. These consist of an indelible dye which is soaked into patches of the wool down to the skin. Thus, wherever they wander, sheep can be claimed by farmers if they carry a particular colour of dye personal to that farmer: they have been “dyed in the wool” by him.

**Origin (b):** President Andrew Jackson became well known for rewarding the loyalty of members of his own political party by giving them executive appointments. The best example of this was his appointment of Martin Van Buren as minister to England. New

York senator William Marcy made a famous defence of Jackson's policy in a speech in 1830, and first used the phrase "dyed in the wool" to mean true and unchanging in his beliefs. Jackson and Van Buren, who later became President, coined such political phrases as "party line", "party machinery" and "wire-puller" as well as "dyed in the wool" in their speeches from 1830 to 1837. This may be why "dyed in the wool" often has political connotations when used nowadays.

**Origin (c):** For many centuries in Britain, the wool-producing areas, such as East Anglia, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, were also the locations of the textile industry: just one example is Weavers' Way in Norfolk, where Flemish weavers in the thirteenth century came for the high quality local wool, and stayed to make textiles. When the wool had been cut from the sheep, it was spun into yarn, often by the women living on the sheep farm: when these women had done this hard work for so many years that their prospects of marriage had diminished, they were known as "spinsters". The yarn was woven into cloth, and when it had been sewn and stitched into a garment, it was coloured, either for attractiveness or identification, or both, by dyes. Such dyes used in clothing manufacture, however, varied in colour and quality according to how they were made or stored or according to their source. It was best for sales, though, to keep a consistency of colour and quality during manufacture. The best uniformity and consistency were achieved if whole fleeces were dyed in the same tub immediately after shearing and before spinning. If not, there would be variations of colour later in the manufacturing process. Cloth and garments made from wool that had been dyed as a whole before spinning were said to be "dyed in the wool" and therefore of one true colour.

**Answers:** found on page 67



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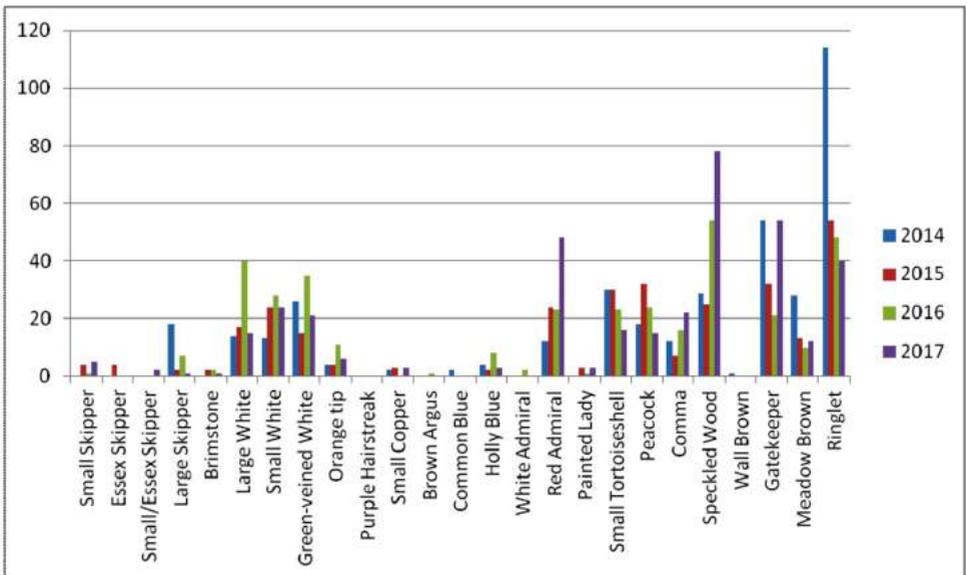
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## Butterfly report for 2018

from Brian Anderson

2018 was a year of peaks and troughs of optimism and pessimism. A mild early spring was swept away by the now infamous "Beast from the East", causing some concern about the fate of early-emerging butterflies. Then the rest of the spring and most of the summer was warmer, drier and sunnier than usual, which led to some species doing very well but also to concerns about the desiccation of caterpillar food plants. Whether those concerns are well-founded the coming year will reveal. As in previous years I am merging most comments from the transect (the old railway line from Ingoldisthorpe to Dersingham), the Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey (Sherborne and Ling House Roads and Prisoner's Belt), the Garden Butterfly Survey and casual sightings. The Wider Countryside Butterfly Survey is confined to just four visits a year but reflects the general form of the transect data.



Brown Argus

### Comments on selected species.

#### The Whites.

The Brimstone maintained its low abundance of just a few a year, although there were more pre-hibernation butterflies around in October. The Large White showed a significant increase over last year, coming close to its peak on transect recording. The Small White showed a massive increase and over-topped the previous maximum by nearly a factor of four. This was true for all recording methods and seems to have been replicated nationwide. Green-veined Whites and Orange Tips were recorded in more or less average numbers.

## The Blues and Coppers.

In the report for 2017 I confidently predicted that the Holly Blue would suffer a decline in 2018. This didn't happen. I should have been more careful looking at recorded data. The parasitism effect can often take two years to peak - we will have to see what 2019 brings! On a different note, I have recorded three species of blue and the Small Copper since I started the transect in 2012. 2018 was the first year I have recorded all four species in the same year - Holly Blue, Common Blue, Brown Argus and Small Copper. There are only two



Holly Blue



other blue species recorded in Norfolk - the Silver-studded Blue (found much further round the coast around Kelling) and the Chalkhill Blue, found at Warham, probably the result of unauthorised introduction.

## The Aristocrats.

All these species did poorly in the transect counts. The Red Admiral in particular declined hugely from 48 in 2017 to 11 in 2018, the lowest total recorded since the transect was started. There were further declines in Comma, Small Tortoiseshell and Peacock. The Painted Lady bumped along the bottom as usual. This experience does not seem to have been the general

experience nationally (except for the Red Admiral) but we await final data totals. The lack of significant continental migration of the Red Admiral probably accounts for the low numbers. At least in some areas, the lack of suitable caterpillar foodplants may have had an effect - although the Stinging Nettle is an exceptionally common plant, it suffered severe desiccation during the hot weather of July and August, making it unsuitable for the caterpillars.

## The Browns.

The Speckled Wood did very well again, although numbers were down a bit on 2017 - still, it's the second highest total recorded on the transect. On the WCBS it was the highest recorded. The Gatekeeper dropped back to the long term average. The Meadow Brown and Ringlet recovered slightly.

## The Silver-washed Fritillary.

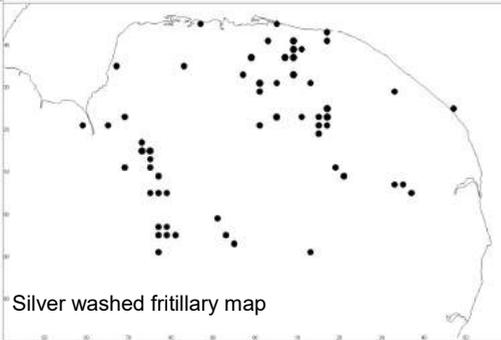
Last year I reported on the sighting of a Silver-washed Fritillary at Ken Hill Wood in Snettisham. This year we saw two at almost exactly the same location. It seems to be becoming established in the wood. I was sufficiently intrigued by these sightings to look at the records history of this species in Norfolk. I have a set of butterfly distribution atlases, some just for Norfolk, some national. Some of them include historical records. There is a scattering of records pre 1940 and a similar number for 1940 - 69. There are no more than nine in total, although some of the locations may have recorded more than one individual. I contacted the Norfolk butterfly recorder to see what sightings had been made in more recent years. I can do no better than quote his reply verbatim:



*Silver-washed [Fritillaries] were first reported as a little flurry in 2006 - when they were seen in seven locations from Holt to the broads. Then nothing until 2010, when there were 37 reports. I suspect that they were breeding during those years but at a low level where they went undetected. Nowadays they are our most common fritillary in terms of area (although Dark Green probably still outnumber them). I suspect they're more widespread, a lot of woodland is private and/or unvisited in the centre of the county.*



A map of sightings in the County from 2011 to 2017 is attached.



We have examined the location where both 2017 and 2018's Silver-washed Fritillaries were seen - it is one of the few areas in the wood (with public access) where Common Dog-violets can be found in the spring. Since this is the foodplant of the caterpillar, it's the most likely place where you would expect to see them.

*I am grateful to Andy Brazil for the information on the Silver-washed Fritillary in Norfolk. □*

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## Dersingham Carpet Bowls

After the many activities, social events and eating opportunities of the pre-Christmas period, the first two months of the New Year have been less frenetic.

With a gratifying number of people coming along to give carpet bowls a go we are now regularly using all six carpets on Tuesday afternoons and have had at least twenty new fully signed up members. David, Judith, Alan and others have been

manning a "Learners mat" to give newcomers a chance to learn the finer points (it's a little more complicated than you think) so they can be assimilated into the friendly matches and inter club matches at Littleport but, as the Winter season draws to an end, the Summer League and club matches will begin.

The first two months of 2019 saw several members making good use of the N.H.S "spare parts department". Rosemary with a new hip, Jenny O with cataract surgery and Jenny P hopefully undergoing knee surgery as I write this report. The first two have been successful and we wish Jenny P a speedy recovery. □

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## The Sandringham Club

### Bowls Section



#### Bowls Registration Forms for 2019

##### New Members Welcome

Bowls registration forms for the 2019 season can now be obtained from the bar, just ask the bar staff.  
New members are very welcome.

We open our green on Sunday 7th April 2019 with our customary Colmore Shield Competition. We have seven teams in four leagues playing evening matches throughout the season as well as roll-ups from 11.00pm to 13.00pm during the day on Mondays, Wednesday, Fridays and Saturdays.

Sunday Competitions are also run approximately once every three weeks starting at 2.00pm.

New members are most welcome from beginners to the more experienced players, further information can be obtained from the Chairman, Bernie Amos on 01485 540089 or the Secretary, David Lang on 01485 609157



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## Terry by Alan Coleby

Terry Jackson's father was a deck officer in the Merchant Navy. He had met and married Terry's mother within one month's shore leave twelve years ago. She had been captivated by the glamour of the uniform and enthralled by stories of his long voyages to Panama, India and Singapore. Indeed, once or twice, just after the marriage, she had flown out to join him on the homeward journey, and she had loved the novelty of it all.

With the arrival of Terry, mother and son had to spend long periods at home on their own. While he was in the toddler stage, they were happy. He was for her an all-absorbing interest. Mrs Jackson loved to read him stories, and she taught him to read and write. She also encouraged a natural love of drawing, buying vast quantities of paper and crayons to keep him busy.

But as Terry grew older, and had no brothers or sisters, his mother became indifferent, even a little resentful. She was a vivacious woman who needed people around her, and whose moods depended on whom she was with. The house became a focus for the many friends who called, and drank and chatted, leaving Terry to sit quietly in a corner of the room, drawing scenes of the harbour and seashore that he loved. As he listened to their banter, and thought how much prettier was his mother than all the other women, Terry wondered if she, like him, was wishing that his father's leave would soon be due and they could all three be together again.

Terry loved his father not just because he gave him money, a bike, a smart phone and binoculars. It was for the time they spent together, wandering through the woods, where his Dad told him amazing things about badgers, hedgehogs, squirrels and tree-creepers; or through the fields, where he told him about moles and where to find the best mushrooms; or along the mud-flats by the shore where he showed him the difference between the redshanks and ringed plovers and oyster catchers. He felt simply that his Dad knew all there was to know. He understood silences as well as words, and Terry was happy just to be near him.

However, there came a time when the number of people who called at the house to see Terry's mother dwindled to two or three, and finally to one, a man, and when he came, his mother always sent Terry to bed.

When the text message came saying his father would arrive home later that afternoon, Mrs Jackson, instead of dancing Terry round the room, as she always did years ago, rushed upstairs and packed suitcases.

"I'm going away for a while," she said in answer to Terry's look of blank bewilderment. Her voice seemed strained as she told him not to go out until his father arrived. Then she put an envelope on the mantelpiece. "Ask your Dad to read that when he comes home," she said in a faltering voice. As she moved past him to the door, Terry reached out his hand imploringly. She bent and hugged him quickly. "Be a good boy," she whispered as her lips brushed his cheek. Then the door closed behind her and she was running down the drive to a waiting car. She did not glance back or wave to Terry as he stood holding aside the curtain, forlornly watching. His soft brown eyes were shattered, like pools whipped up by the wind and the water spilled.

When his father arrived and hugged him off his feet, Terry pointed to the envelope. Mr Jackson read it with a puzzled frown. He turned to face out of the window as he re-read it. Then he stood for some time while Terry gazed at his back. Suddenly, he swung round.

“I’ll just get changed and then we’ll go and have some tea at your Auntie Maureen’s,” he said.

It was a busy leave. There were many outings and a lot of meals taken with Auntie Maureen, who had a house overlooking the harbour and salt-marshes. It helped Terry’s anguish at his Dad departing, when he learnt that he was to stay with Auntie Maureen because his mother was not coming back. On the last day, his clothes and toys, paper, crayons and binoculars were packed. After he had watched his father stride up the gang-plank, wave and disappear from sight, Terry asked his aunt if he could go for a walk on his own. She agreed, in exchange for a promise to be home in time for tea.

Now that his father had gone, he wanted to be alone to sort out this strange business about his mother. He felt vaguely that she had let him down. He walked past the small yacht basin where the masts nodded and kissed and crossed, and along the salt-marsh where the crooked fingers of small streams touched the sea across the sodden land. He passed the soft-green coastal vegetation, gently topped on this late autumn day by a purple mist of sea-lavender. Finally, he reached the desolate flatness of the shore, where the gulls and terns wheeled and screamed, and the waders picked their way through the tidal pools. His lone state engulfed him, but not with sadness. He let the peace of the moment wash over him, and as he watched the sea melt away from him he felt the gnawing acid of meanness towards his mother leaving him.□

He turned and walked more briskly towards the town. He soon picked out his aunt’s house, and as he saw the light from the fire flapping in the front room window, a sense of peace filled him and warmed him.□



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## Dersingham Library Events in April & May

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**. To use this service, you need to sign up to open access at any library during staffed times.

### Weekly events:

#### **Scrabble club - Mondays 1.30-3pm**

Join in a friendly game of scrabble and a cuppa.

#### **Just a cuppa – Wednesdays 6-6.45pm**

Fancy making some new friends? Come along to this FREE drop in session for a chat and a cuppa.

#### **Knit and natter - Thursdays 10.30-12**

Join the friendly knitters for a cuppa, conversation and some knitting.

#### **Bounce and Rhyme – Thursdays 10-10.30am**

Join us for rhymes and songs for pre school children.

### **Volunteers needed!**

Could you make hot drinks and talk to people at our just a cuppa group?

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 2<sup>nd</sup> April 1pm-3pm & Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 1pm-3pm**

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

#### **Colour yourself calm – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 10.30-12 & Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 10.30-12**

Just bring along your colouring books and pens and join our relaxing group for adults. Tea and coffee is available.

#### **Dersingham Library Friends meeting – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 4.30pm & Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 4.30pm**

Could you help organise and promote events/activities for Dersingham library? Come along and join us!

#### **Crime Book Club - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 5.45-6.45pm & Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 5.45-6.45pm**

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

#### **Gardening Club- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2pm-4pm & Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2pm-4pm**

Can you spare some time to help keep the library garden blooming? Help always welcome, no experience required



**Book Club - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 5.45-6-45pm & Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 5.45-6-45pm**  
New members always welcome. Ask staff for details of the books being discussed.

**Walk and talk group – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2pm & Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2pm**  
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 30<sup>th</sup> April 1.30pm-3.30pm & Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 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, phone or tablet?**

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**Family History volunteer**

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**ADVISORS:** You don't need any specific qualifications to be an advisor at Citizens Advice. Full training is given, which takes the form of shadowing experienced advisors while they carry out face to face assessments with clients, an online training programme, and group training courses. The office supervisor and the local team also offer strong support.

The qualities and skills that are needed to be an advisor are the ability to:

- Listen non-judgmentally
- Assess often complex situations and discuss options with clients to help them find a way forward
- Research online for information to help clients make informed decisions
- Type up clear and concise case notes and input information onto a database
- Have an awareness of confidentiality and discrimination issues

**RECEPTIONISTS:** they offer a welcome to clients, explain procedures, manage the queue of people waiting to see an advisor, and ensure forms are filled in correctly. They need to be able to type and have basic computer knowledge.

Our volunteers say they have benefited by gaining new skills, enjoy being part of such a valuable organisation, and value the opportunity to meet a wide range of people.

Expenses are paid for travelling between home and the office and whilst on any other Citizens Advice business.

Further information is available from the Norfolk Citizens Advice website [www.ncab.org.uk](http://www.ncab.org.uk). If you think you would like to do something different and help the local community, just email for an application form from

[v.recruitment@ncab.org.uk](mailto:v.recruitment@ncab.org.uk)

## WHAT A COINCIDENCE

By Pete Turier

Living in Dersingham is a long-standing friend of mine who I visited in the summer of 2017. Later a friend and I went to France, to a place called Arras, for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice. In the Arras area, there was a project called the Great Vigil, where all of the local Commonwealth War Graves were to be candlelit on the night before the anniversary. Local school children, dignitaries, organisations and visitors were invited to be part of this amazing event. Altogether, 270 cemeteries were lit in this way.



The cemetery that we were assigned to was called Houdain Lane, just outside Arras. That evening was wild, windy and wet. The cemetery is on the top of a ridge with a view for miles around, but it's miles from anywhere out in the middle of the country. On arrival, around 10.30pm, we were invited to choose two headstones each and we were given two little electronic candles to lay at the headstones of our choice. I chose 'a soldier of the great war' and 'Private William Clarke' a soldier from the Essex Regiment. Anyway, to cut a long story short, when I got home, I decided to see if I could find any history about William Clarke. Well, the coincidence is that he came from Dersingham and is commemorated on the war memorial in the village!

Here's the entry from the war memorial

**CLARKE**

**William**

Private 40893. 9th Battalion Essex Regiment. Formerly 32928 Suffolk Regiment. Killed in action in France & Flanders on 9<sup>th</sup> April 1917. Aged 35. Born Crimbleham, Norfolk. Lived Dersingham. Enlisted King's Lynn. Husband of Ethel May Clarke, of 16, Lavender Terrace, Gaywood, King's Lynn. Buried Houdain Lane Cemetery, Pas de Calais, France. Ref. D. 7.

I can't believe that I went to a foreign country, to a cemetery that was chosen at random, chose a headstone at random and it turned out that the soldier was from the village where we were on holiday last year! What are the chances of that?



The pictures are of the headstone lit by candlelight and the sight of the whole cemetery:

This was a very moving event, and a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Are there any of his relatives still in the village?□

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## The Daily Doings of Mrs Dolittle



I think I now have a career as a mass murderer. Since my beloved got me access to Prime Amazon films for me to watch in the nights when I can't sleep (most nights) I have seen so many bloody crimes, decapitations, knifings, shootings - every horror conceivable and so much gushing blood that I am now beginning to believe this is an acceptable way of life. I don't MEAN to watch brutal terror films, but unfortunately there is little indication of what the film is about when you switch on. For instance, last night I watched "When she came home" starring Kim Novak. She went out to buy some Christmas wrapping paper. I thought it would probably be a nice family film, but oh no - she soon got targeted by four drugged up youths who shot dead a security man who came to her rescue and subsequently chased her by car, then once she had impaled her vehicle on some pine trunks piled on a building site, they chased her on foot through half finished houses and then into a near-by forest. That was all scary enough. I am gripping onto my sheets in terror, wondering why she doesn't take off her pale coat which could be seen through the dark woods. She had grabbed a red toolbox from her boot, which came in pretty handy, for each time a bloke came at her with evil intent, she opened the box and selected something lethal and proceeded to bash to death, at varying times, three of the men - very graphically - and shot the last man with his own gun. She manages to extricate her car from the wood pile and drive home, tucks the children up in bed then goes down and shoots her husband dead. I was exhausted by the time the credits came on, my knuckles white from sheet-clutching. I don't like these horrible films, but am glued to the screen and can't switch off. I am fooled so many times, when what I think is an 'ordinary' film morphs into violence and terror. It affects me horribly and I always have nightmares once I eventually do fall asleep.

Remote control man got researching on Google. "Kim Novak" never made a film 'When she Came Home'." he announced. I checked. No, she didn't, it was actually Kim Bassinger, and called. "While she was out." I told you I am losing it.

Anyway, I want to know what does this kind of thing do to young minds? Is this why there is so much more violence in our towns and villages now? Is violence considered the 'norm' after kids have constantly watched such horrible films so often? Youngsters, people, often can't tell what is real, what is not, what is permitted, what is not. Messages are so mixed, aren't they?

Anyway, I know what to do now should druggies attempt to chase me through the wild, wild woods when I am walking the dogs. I will have clutched in one hand a red tool box and proceed to bash them with a wrench or large spanner, a la Kim Bassinger...

I've also begun to watch the series, 'The Vikings' - all that fighting, raping and looting, invading lands other than their own....and I then realised how we are STILL being invaded in these fair lands. On our telephones, our computers. Nasty people are invading our homes with their nuisance calls, trying to sell us things, and WORSE, trying to get into our bank accounts, steal our identities (silly turn of phrase I feel). I've stopped answering the phone unless a name I recognise pops up. Recently I had two recorded messages saying that our land line was going to be terminated and to push button 1 to reach the engineering team to stop the termination or to mend the fault. I suspected a scam, forgot to tell himself, and got another recorded message a couple of days later. My granddaughter happened to be visiting, so she contacted BT and enquired if this was a fact or a scam. It did turn out to be a scam. I couldn't have done all that phone-calling to BT - nothing is simple these days, pressing so many buttons and having to answer lots of questions to a robot...

A telephone used to be a wonderful way to chat with friends and family, but I think it is awful that one now dreads the phone ringing in case it is an 'invader'. I do feel violated in my own home and it's horrible. Sales people just keep on and on, fast-talking and confusing you and when they realise they are getting nowhere, they slam down the

phone !!! I always am polite, realising that these people are working and bringing in a wage - but at the same time, you don't know if it is the identity snatchers! What is so infuriating too, is that when you are older you can't reach the phone quickly, so most of the time I get to the phone, they have rung off, and I have been interrupted and been caused a needless marathon!

It must be really scary at times when you live on your own and are not sure what is going on. And then, there are the door to door salesmen. My heart sinks when I see one. Again, they are at least working, but I don't want their wares, I don't want new guttering or special paint that will last thirty years...'we will send our rep round next week' they say - big men and scary - no, I don't want your rep....but they turn up anyway. Invaders. Modern day Vikings... I think I'll get a big rusty axe to place near my front door...

Right, I've got that off my chest...

I recently tried to organise a little coffee morning. I so seldom see any of my nice neighbours, and knowing a friend was wanting people to hold an Aloe Vera party for her, I thought this would be an ideal opportunity to help my friend, and get my neighbours round for a little chat and a coffee. Well, I clearly can't organise the proverbial \*\*\*\* up in a brewery, for I chose the very day that everyone was either away, going away, going out or unavailable for whatever reason. However, I did manage to get eight friends to come, plus one lovely neighbour, and while we were actually organised, like school children, into sipping lots of Aloe Vera drinks and listening to the merits of this wonderful plant, it was an enjoyable morning. I had spent the whole week prior to the occasion knocking down spiders' webs and destroying their homes, decorating some of the walls (finishing off that which needed finishing) deciding to move bookcases from one location to another, turning furniture round and generally doing all sorts of unnecessary tasks and wearing myself down into a frizzled, aching mess. I am suffering now as I write, feeling vertiginous and dizzy, aching of legs, hips, knees and ankles and SOOOO tired after watching horror films ad nausea throughout my sleepless nights. But, I have purchased three bottles of pure Aloe Vera - an acquired taste that I actually love - and I shall report in due course whether I actually feel any better after the twice-daily recommended dosage.

At my Hyacinth Bouquets coffee morning, I did my best hostess bit, introducing friends to each other, embarrassing myself by forgetting names. Friends I have known for ever look shocked when I ask them what their name is - "Go on, give me a clue," I beg, as the waitee waits to be introduced. It wasn't funny. It isn't funny, but it is a horrible fact that my memory is totally blown these days. One friend, whose name escapes me even as I write, asked, "How are you going to cope on your journey to Australia?" I have no idea of course. My beloved asked me the same question. He thinks it's funny, though he is slightly worried for me. I have no sense of direction, no memory these days for dates, times or places. I shall have my name and itinerary pinned upon my person with safety pins like Paddington Bear. For the various flights, I have taken the precaution of booking assisted passage, which means being bundled into a wheel chair and trolleyed to places I need to be. Otherwise I might end up in Timbuctou, or have to bed down at the airport for a few weeks until I am collected. I can't say I look forward to the journey with bated breath, though I will be fine when I see a kangaroo or two waiting for me at my destination with a name placard.

I have in my head what it shall be like. Kangaroos and Koalas swinging around every lamp-post. The sound of digeridoos wafting across the rooftops - Aboriginals with blue circles on their faces, standing on one leg as they consider a walkabout - and of course eucalyptus trees and the ubiquitous hats with corks - oh and a few jolly swag-men with their billy cans...

I know it won't be like this - but that is what my imagination has conjured up for me. When I went to America I was devastated not to see one Native American wandering down the street (nobody wanders anywhere there) and when in Canada, not a Mounty or Lumberjack did I see. I was so childishly disappointed.

I have more or less abandoned my stupid plan to find the Aboriginal I had seen in a vision. I know what he looks like and that he is 'out there somewhere', but realise it is



unlikely that he had a simultaneous vision of me - and anyone ethnic that I e-mail are just going to think I am a complete white-nutter and not even bother to reply. I do have a list of Aboriginal Elders, and I MIGHT e mail them yet, just in case, but already feel it a doomed plan. Remote Control man tells me I shall be lucky to find any that are sober. Surely they are not all beyond hope? The white man has a lot to answer for in the terms of indigenous races robbed of their lands and way of life...

I've been invited to Woolgoolga (what lovely names they have) which is miles and miles away from my destination and the friend I am journeying towards for her 80th birthday, I have a yen to go to this far flung coastal paradise. I'll have to get a train or bus and sit in it for about 7 hours, but what a way to see the country and surely, SURELY, I'll see a kangaroo hopping along beside the bus waving, and most decidedly an Aboriginal standing on one leg contemplating the horizon with an air of mystery.? Yes, I must do it. This is probably my last chance to adventure in this life-time and I don't see the point in just visiting one place in the whole of that vast continent.

This morning I brightly informed Remote Control Man that I had watched 'To Catch a Mockingbird' last night when I couldn't sleep. "Oh, with Gregory Peck?" he enquired. "No" I said. I've just checked - it was 'Mice and Men'. How can I get things so wrong? And I won't be going to Woolgoolga - I worked out I would be two days on the road, and kangaroos and indigenous men on one leg or not, that's too long sitting on a train or bus, wonderful views or not.... I'll still have adventures aplenty in the Mount Tamborine area.□



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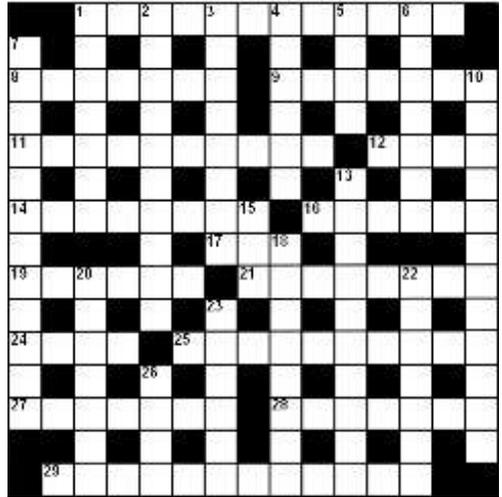
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# PUZZLE CORNER

Crossword by Philip Neal

## Across

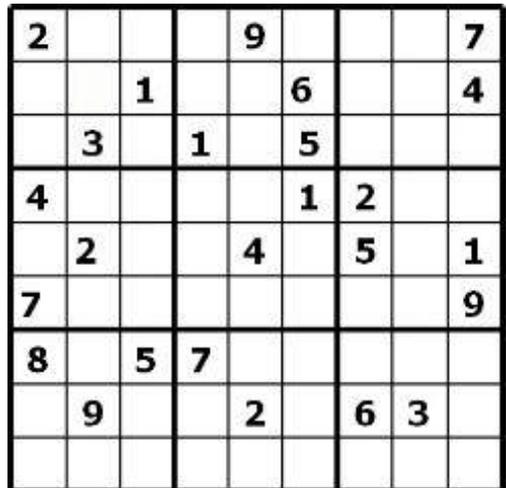
- 1 Will they keep the doctor away say?  
She didn't believe them (7,5)
- 8 Deceased in debt but connected (7)
- 9 Galley slaves or moaners at sea (7)
- 11 Reshape reshape commercial leaders  
(10)
- 12 Contents found former husband at the  
races (4)
- 14 Knock-out farmer (8)
- 16 Object found in Vera's error – and  
there's the rub (6)
- 17 Thirsty individual at odds in shortlist  
(3)
- 19 Plagiarist quietly annoyed because he  
couldn't swash his buckle (6)
- 21 Cowboy fisherman caught world  
record (8)
- 24 U.S. box trophy and military medals  
awarded between 2<sup>nd</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> February  
(4)
- 25 Main border of Western shore  
countries (7,3)
- 27 Surprisingly his wail could be heard in Africa (7)
- 28 Morally right to halt ice thawing (7)
- 29 Young and old visit busy lido to see small boppers delight (8,4)



## Down

- 1 Art house causes allergy reaction (7)
- 2 Stir feast treat to make it linger longer  
(10)
- 3 Hooligan's peepers somehow needs  
affirmation (4,4)
- 4 Blames infection caught on board (6)
- 5 Initially you are reading now – a likely  
story? (4)
- 6 M.P. hears about large baskets (7)
- 7 Shop holders get round to make  
ticking jumpers (12)
- 10 Royal Queen found in middle of Aunt  
Mable's unsettled country store (6,6)
- 13 Breakfast shared out and displayed  
(10)
- 15 Nine would know how to find their  
right of way (3)
- 18 Trouble in direction at finish of 10?  
(5,3)
- 20 A politician caught in raving storm (7)
- 22 Emotional rally assembled in  
Channel Islands (7)
- 23 Brave call by District Attorney (6)
- 26 Fifty found in family oven (4)

## Sudoku



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### **WORD WALL BY Philip Neal**

Sort the following into 4 groups of connected words

SAN FRANCISCO	HITCH	SHOAL	SHEET
REEF	KEY	GALWAY	GRANNY
STEER	MONTEGO	ATOLL	NAVIGATE
SHELF	BOWLINE	CANVAS	BOTANY

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



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

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

Save 10% off any R.Y.A. courses booked on the day, and 10% off club memberships purchased on the day.

There is no need to book in advance, just come along on the day!

Just bring footwear you don't mind getting wet, a windproof top, a change of clothes, and a towel.

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



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

Photographs: Mark Foley.  
Visit [www.snetbeach.co.uk](http://www.snetbeach.co.uk) <http://www.bssc.net/> for more information about Snettisham Beach Sailing Club, or find us on facebook.

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## Sandringham News

By kind permission of the Sandringham Estate

Compiled by Garry Marsden



The Sandringham Estate is gearing up for another busy year as the Gardens, House and Museum open for another season on April 1<sup>st</sup> and a lively events programme, attracting thousands of visitors kicks off with the Craft and Wood Festival on 20-22<sup>nd</sup> April. . There are some new things to look forward to this year at Sandringham as well with a new Multi Media guide to complement our excellent House guides and a chance to see some outdoor theatre as the Three Inch Fools present "Much Ado About Nothing" in the Gardens on the 12<sup>th</sup> June.



One of the hidden treasures of Sandringham is the Sandringham Sawmill which currently produces around 175 quality timber products for retail direct to the public, including sawn timber, fence panels and posts, garden furniture and firewood. The on-site shop sells everything you need for your project including hand tools, ironmongery and paint. The Sawmill constructs all fence



panels and trellises in the on-site workshop and will cut timber to order. So if you are looking to get your garden fence tidied up this spring, then pop on over for some friendly advice and good old fashioned customer care.

The sawmill provided the stakes that are now supporting the new trees which have been planted in the Country Park car park after the old conifers were taken down to let in the light and enhance the environment. We will soon be replacing some signage and adding in extra pedestrian paths from both car parks, all in an effort to make a safer, more pleasurable visit. Like all change it will take a little time so please bear with us. You will find all the contact details for Sandringham and the Sawmill on our website [www.sandringhamestate.co.uk](http://www.sandringhamestate.co.uk) We look forward to welcoming you to Sandringham soon. □



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## Dersingham Open Gardens And Art Trail May 26<sup>TH</sup> And 27<sup>TH</sup> 2019 11am-5pm

Spring is nearly here and time for planning for our Ruby Anniversary Dersingham Open Gardens and Art Trail to begin. This year is an exciting one for us. In addition to a chance to wander around our wonderfully diverse gardens and visit the studios of our local artists, we have a fabulous new Village Centre. There, on Sunday, we hope to be presenting a Gardeners Forum. Take your seats at 2pm to hear advice from experts on a myriad of garden related topics such as tree surgery, ponds, lawn care and garden design. Each talk will be about 10 minutes long with an opportunity for Q and A afterwards. The experts will be around during the course of the afternoon to answer any further questions. On Monday, also at 2pm, we are planning a Floral Demonstration session. The Village Centre will be offering a variety of refreshments in the Main Hall. The garden visits will be enlivened by quizzes for young and old. So, as you go around the gardens, keep your eyes open for clues.



Tickets cost £4 in advance from Dersingham Post Office and £5 on the day with proceeds being shared between the Village Centre and St Nicholas Church.

We would love to have new gardens to show, so if you feel like offering your garden to be part of this exciting event it's not too late.

Contact Judy Collingham: 01485 540271 or email: [jcairnscol@gmail.com](mailto:jcairnscol@gmail.com) □

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## Crossword Answers

### Across

1.GRANNY,SMITH 8.RELATED 9.OARSMEN 11.SPEARHEADS 12.TEXT  
14.HAYMAKER 16.ERASER 17.SOT 19.PIRATE 21.WRANGLER 24.EMMY  
25.PACIFIC,RIM 27.SWAHILI 28.ETHICAL 29.TEENAGED,IDOL

### Down

1.GALLERY 2.AFTERTASTE  
3.NEDS,EYES 4.SCOLDS 5.YARN  
6.HAMPERS 7.GRASSHOPPERS  
10.NATURE,RAMBLE 13.BRANDISHED  
15.ROW 18.TRAIL,END 20.RAMPAGE  
22.LYRICAL 23.DARING 26.KILN

## Word Wall Answers

**Bays:** San Francisco, Galway, Montego, Botany

**Knots:** hitch, bowline, reef, granny

**Reef:** shoal, shelf, atoll, key

**Sail:** sheet, canvas, steer, navigate

## Origins 2 Answers

1b and 2c

## Sudoku Answers

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



## A Vicar's Story

By Elizabeth Fiddick

It has always been a sadness for me that I only ever knew one of my grandparents. As a very small child I remember going down to Plymouth and to my Dad's childhood home, known to the family as Number 9 (Ocean Street). There sitting in her chair by the fire, dressed always, as I seem to remember in black, was the little grey haired lady, always referred to by my father as Bessie Burt, (her maiden name), my grandmother. As we lived just outside London at that time I only remember a few of these visits before she died and was laid to rest in Western Mill Cemetery. We have photos of course and a wonderful cine film where she can be seen walking and talking to my Dad in the back lane with her black cat Juno on the lead. Dad is shaking his finger at her but what they were discussing I will never know. But I do remember her. The other three grandparents are only faces in photographs all having died before or shortly after I was born but I do have all the family stories about them so they are not entirely unknown.

In my grandmothers' house on later visits I found a very old photo album full of family pictures of my aunts, uncles and cousins in their younger days smiling at me. There was dear old Auntie Winnie in her gymslip just going off to school; Grandfather, tall and proud in his naval uniform; and there was Dad as a boy with his sister Elsie in the backyard of number 9. Between them on a table was a big cage in which sat Polly the parrot. Unfortunately time and light have smudged the photo in sepia tones so that Polly cannot be seen any more but I know she is there. After my father's death I found tucked away in the battered leather wallet he always carried several feathers of vivid red, yellow, blue and green. Small bright reminders of Polly.

However in that album were many photos of young men and women, smiling at the camera, obviously of importance to the family, but quite unidentified. Who they were, why their photos were in the album will forever remain a mystery as now there is no-one left to ask.

I have collected photos like that over the years of people who once lived here in this village but are unknown. There they are standing in Chapel Road caught on camera wheeling their prams in one case, pushing a bike in another; an old gentleman sits on a seat by the crossroads opposite Linford's shop, with a young boy at his side watching the empty road. I can make a rough guess about when the photos were taken but will probably never know who these people were.

In my research I have studied many records and have lists of names of villagers. For many of them that is all I have, just a name, their job perhaps, and the dates that they lived here. It is always a thrill when a family member gets in touch with details of their life and especially a photograph to bring that name to life from the printed page.

In our church there is a board listing the names of all the vicars who have served this community. There are over 50 names from Roger, Presbiter de Dersyngham, 1106 to Mark Capron our present Rector. The last few are known or remembered by many villagers with many photos to identify them but the majority are now just names. I did discover a lot about two on the list, Samuel Kerrich 1729 - 1768 and his son Thomas Kerrich 1784 – 1828 including pictures so that we know much about them now. I have written about both previously in Village Voice.

This time I would like to travel back to 1871 when William Tylden M.A. succeeded Edward Bellamy B.D. to take up the position of Rector of Dersingham and tell you the story of

William and his wife Eleanor both members of remarkable families.

William Tylden belonged to a long established landowning family with origins in England in the Middle Ages. Richard 1 had led the 3<sup>rd</sup> Crusade accompanied by a Sir Richard Tylden. Sir William Tylden had served under the Black Prince at the battle of Poitiers in 1358. The family owned many Manors including one at Milstead in Kent where they resided until well into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Milstead is a pretty village just three miles from Sittingbourne that now has the M2 as a close neighbour. In the Church of St. Mary and the Holy Cross is the Tylden Chapel built at the close of the 12<sup>th</sup> century where the Tylden memorials can be found and the family vault is in the churchyard.

William's family had a proud military tradition. His father was William Burton Tylden who served in the Royal Engineers at home and abroad for 43 years. He was born in 1790 the son of Richard Tylden of Milstead Manor. He received his commission as Second Lieutenant in the Royal Engineers in Nov. 1806 achieving promotion to First Lieutenant in 1807. He steadily rose through the ranks, serving in Gibraltar and Malta. He was mentioned in Dispatches at the siege of Santa Maria in the Gulf of Spezzia ending with its capture in 1814. He was the Commanding Royal Engineer when the French were defeated in an action at Geneva. In 1815 he organised and commanded a train of 80 pontoons in the march to and capture of Paris and the occupation of France. It is fascinating to realise that Napoleon Bonaparte would have been a very real presence for him and he may even have seen this great French General.



He married Lecilina Baldwin at Harrietsham, Kent on the 20<sup>th</sup> August 1817 and they had two sons; William, born in 1818, and Richard, born a year later in 1819. William Burton continued to pursue his military career and was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Captain in 1825. In 1836 he was Commander of the Eastern Military District H.Q. at Harwich and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel a year later. In 1844 he was in command of the S.E. District stationed at Dover and served another period in Malta.

Sadly Lecilina died in Valletta on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 1845 aged 51. Her body was interred in the Msida Bastion Cemetery in Floriana but shortly after her body was recovered and returned to Milstead to be buried in the family vault on 18<sup>th</sup> November 1845. Shortly after he was promoted to Colonel in 1850 William married for the second time Mary the widow of Captain J.H.Baldwin.

In 1854 he was preparing the way for the embarking and disembarking of the army for the invasion of Crimea. At the great fire of Varna in August he saved the town from entire destruction by protecting two large gun powder magazines with wet blankets when the fire reached within 30 yards of them. It is easy to imagine that desperate scene with William shouting his orders and he and his men frantically soaking the blankets at no little risk to their own lives. He took part in the Battle of Alma on September 20<sup>th</sup> 1854, but was struck down with virulent cholera the following day, 21<sup>st</sup> September, dying the following evening. He was buried in a vineyard before the army marched on. *"No officer was ever more regretted and deserving."* After remaining two years undisturbed his body was removed and placed in the family



vault at Milstead on September 25<sup>th</sup> 1856 through “*the kind attention of some of his brother officers and the affectionate care of his widow and relatives by whom the memory of his religious and consistent character is as deeply revered as it is hopefully cherished.*”

It was announced in 1855 that he would have been made Knight Commander of the Bath had he lived. His wife was authorised to bear the same style as if her husband had been duly invested with the insignia.

William Junior would have lived at Milstead Manor and obviously there were significant amounts of time when he did not see his father. We know that he studied at Oxford as he is recorded there as a young student of 25, with independent means, sharing a house with three young ladies. He was ordained and in 1851, age 35, we find him as the Curate of Standford in Kent a few miles from Folkestone.

Eleanor, his future wife, was born in 1824 in the School House of the Merchant Taylors' School in London where her father, James William Bellamy, was Headmaster. James had married Mary Coates Cherry in 1815. Eleanor had two sisters, Mary and Fanny Maria and two brothers Charles and James. In 1845 her father retired from the school and became the Vicar of Sellindge in Kent a village only a few miles from Standford, William's parish. In 1852 Eleanor married the Rev. William Tylden at Elham in Kent and settled down to her married life as the Vicar's wife in Standford. They had three children Richard, 1854, William 1855 and Henry 1857.



The census of 1861 records The Rev. Willam Tylden Rector of the parsonage in Standford with his wife Eleanor and their three children. It is sad to realise that the children never knew their paternal grandfather, William but must have met their Bellamy grandparents, James William and Mary Coates living at Sellindge not so many miles away.

However they would not have known their uncle Richard Tylden, William's brother. Richard had followed his father William Burton into the army and served under him during the Crimean War. It must have been a great comfort to both Father

and Son to be together even in those traumatic times. But we can only imagine Richard and Willam's grief when they learnt of their Father's sudden death in 1854. The fact that the army had to march on leaving him buried in that simple grave must have been unbearable. Sadly Richard did not outlive his father for very long. We learn more of his story from the inscription on his gravestone at Kettle Hill Cemetery, Eastling a few miles east of Milstead.

*Richard Tylden Aide.de.camp to Her Majesty Queen Victoria. Born 1819. Died 1855 He served with distinguished courage and ability in the war in South Africa 1851-4 and in the expedition to the Crimea 1854-5. At the siege of Sebastopol he held for some time the command of the Right Attack of the British Army and was severely wounded on the 18<sup>th</sup> June. He departed this life at sea before he could reach England, to the inexpressible grief of his surviving relatives whose consolation it is to have been enabled through the devoted affection of Mary, his step-mother, to lay his remains at his mother's feet and to hope in the memory of his Saviour and theirs in the Resurrection of the last day.*

These simple words engraved on cold stone still cannot hide the immense tragedy and grief that must have befallen this family. Just one year earlier Mary had had to deal with the tragedy of her husband's death after only four years of marriage, much of it apart. As soon as she heard the news of Richard's injuries she hastened to the Crimea to care for him and bring him home but as his memorial records he died aboard ship before he could reach England.

The census of 1871 is interesting as it records William and Eleanor at the Rectory in Stanford with Clara Baldwin, annuitant, staying with them. This has surely to be a relative of William's stepmother Mary and her first husband Capt. Baldwin.

It was later in 1871 that William is recommended for the position of Vicar of Dersingham by his father-in-law, James William Bellamy. James William had inherited the Manor of Ingoldisthorpe from his father John. As a result he owned much land here in Dersingham and was Patron of our church of St. Nicholas allowing him to recommend candidates for the position of Vicar. His brother Edward had been our vicar since 1841 and had lived in Ingoldisthorpe Manor House part of the Bellamy estate. Thus when Edward retired it was natural for James to recommend his son-in-law for the position. It must have been an attractive prospect for Eleanor especially to move to what was after all her family's Manor House.

The next few years would be difficult for them both. In March 1871 Eleanor's mother Mary Coates Bellamy died. Three years later in March 1874 her father James William died and then that same year in October William's stepmother Mary passed away. Subsequently William installed a window in the chancel at Milstead commemorating his stepmother with the inscription, "*To the glory of God and in memory of Dame Mary Tylden who departed this life October 12<sup>th</sup> 1874 aged 66 years. William Tylden dedicated this window.*")

William did not outlive her by many months as he died the following year on the 19<sup>th</sup> February aged just 57 leaving Eleanor widowed at just 51.

William's memorial can be found in the family chapel at Milstead. The Dersingham villagers had hardly had any time to get to know him..

It seems Eleanor moved back to Milstead for that is where she is recorded in 1881 living with Richard one of her sons and his wife Edith. But we know that after her brother, James Bellamy, The President of St. John's College, Oxford, inherited the Manor of Ingoldisthorpe in 1874 on the death of their father, they are both recorded in later years at The Hall and together they began to enlarge and improve the old house.



James was an admirable landlord to all his tenants here and made generous donations to our village to upgrade the church. Half the cost of the new vicarage was borne by him and he must have been a familiar figure in our village until his death in 1909. His fine tomb can be found in Ingoldisthorpe cemetery close to the church. Eleanor took over the estate on his death and like her brother was a great benefactor to our village. She contributed generously to the building of the church Hall in Ingoldisthorpe as well as to our own Institute Hall in 1911. We know that at least one of her sons William continued the Tylden family tradition and entered the Army. William Tylden lived in Ingoldisthorpe with his mother and is described in 1928 as Brigadier General William Tylden K.F.A. In the church at Milstead is an Altar Frontal that was presented in memory of Henry John Tylden who died in 1896 and was buried in the churchyard. This seems likely to be William and Eleanor's youngest son. The weather vane was added to the church in 1779 and apparently now has a bullet hole which was made in the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by a member of the Tylden family shooting for a bet from the Manor House with a rook rifle!

The last member of the family Captain J. R. Tylden died in 1949 after which the family dispersed and gave up the Chapel to the church.

In my next article I will write more fully on the remarkable Bellamy family and in particular of Eleanor. But for now when you visit our church and find William Tylden's name on the board at the back I hope he will be more than just one name among many but live a little in your mind.

*Additional research by Mike Strange and grateful thanks to Phebe Chamberlaine, Church Warden, Milstead, Lena Jordan and the members of the History Research Group Sittingbourne for their generous help in this research.*

*Photo: Church of St. Mary and Holy Cross Milstead. Penny Mayes. □*

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## Reflections on The Lynn & Hunstanton line From Ben Colson

On 3rd May 1969, the last train of the day from Hunstanton to Lynn left at its scheduled time of 10.16pm, stopping as it did every night en route at Dersingham and Wolferton, just before 10.30pm. On 3<sup>rd</sup> May, however, it was much more than that, it was the last passenger train ever, and this year we commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of that last run.

Of course the train was packed – it is reckoned that between 200 and 300 people were on board at Hunstanton alone, compared to a normal load probably in single figures. The railway had anticipated it, and lengthened the train that evening – something that today, fifty years later, they seem wholly incapable of doing.

Within days, the railway's track and signals engineers were at work lifting the track, taking down the signalling, and decommissioning the many automatic crossing gates – many only installed a couple of years earlier. There was clearly a determination that this line was not to have a stay of execution or be re-opened, and indeed much of the trackbed has been built over since, in Lynn, Snettisham, Heacham and Hunstanton.

Today there are competing plans for its use. A group is actively seeking its re-opening, yet to do so would require a considerable change to the track alignment, which could enable it to better serve housing and tourist developments in the area, and the incline that a modern train can climb means that alternative routes are available for consideration. Almost as if to ensure that cannot happen, Norfolk County Council has this year published its own plan to make the line into a cycle and pathway, but seemingly without any consideration as to how to divert around those post-closure developments, or cross the A149, not a quiet road at the best of times.

The line's history is unusual, as was the nature of its closure, and to understand it, it helps to go back some years before it actually opened. The eighteenth century had witnessed a nation at war - we had fought in twenty six in total – and as the century wore on, so our success rate fell from almost certain victory to a number with no definite outcome, to outright failure. The most spectacular war lost was the American War of Independence which coincided with a number of others in which we fought, three being against European countries, including France.

By the end of the American War in 1783, the Exchequer was not surprisingly bust, and the government raised taxes and excise on a number of imported goods including a variety coming from or via Europe. French entrepreneurs saw the opportunity, as did local sailors, to smuggle goods in to the UK to avoid these taxes, and Cornwall and North West Norfolk saw some of the most outrageous smuggling of the time. Witness BBC's Poldark television series, but one could equally easily have been made concerning this area. Such was the extent of smuggling that the government declared 'war' on the trade and there was a lockdown in Thornham in 1783 (referred to in a subsequent government policy paper as 'the Battle of Thornham') and vicious murders by the smugglers in (Old) Hunstanton in 1784.

An Act of Parliament that had fuelled the will to work for the smuggling gangs was the Inclosure Act of 1773. In essence, it empowered land owners to confiscate common land, which had been used by subsistence rural populations for centuries to grow vegetables and graze animals – and enclose it, which, with the benefit of crop rotation then being introduced, increased land productivity significantly, but impoverished local populations.

For all that, the nation was industrialising and the new city populations (Manchester grew from 10,000 to 89,000 in the last twenty years of the century) needed feeding, and importantly needed fresh fruit and vegetables in order to avoid the outbreak and rapid spread of disease such as rickets. The canals were the backbone of the system for

transporting goods (as was the stagecoach for people) but this was increasingly insufficient to meet the need of an industrialised nation.

The railway was born early into the nineteenth century and the early entrepreneurs and investors thus saw it primarily as a means of transporting goods, with passengers coming as a secondary thought. In fact, the railway era, which grew from the 1830s to 1850s was built on the growth of travel rather than goods transportation although that is not to underestimate the significance of freight as well.

In mentioning the battle of Thornham and associated events, I do so to highlight that this part of the country had been seen from a London perspective as lawless, and therefore one in which investor interest would, at best, be limited. Why fund infrastructure in a hostile area where risk, but not the reward, is therefore proportionately higher?

As Lynn's railway network developed, largely around the port's requirements, by 1846 or 1847, with lines to Ely (connecting there to Cambridge, London and the Midlands and North) and to Dereham (connecting for Norwich), so a new project was being developed in Hunstanton. Whereas in the Fakenham area the landowners there, especially the Cokes of Holkham Hall (to become the Earls of Leicester) and the Townsends of Raynham Hall both embraced the opportunities of enclosure and agricultural innovation, those closer to The Wash did not follow suit. That may have been their perception that the poorer soil would not produce, or it may have been other reasons. The Le Strange family started off in a different, non-agricultural, direction altogether.

Based on similar resort building in Hove, Eastbourne and Clacton, they saw an opportunity to build a new town resort, which was to be largely finished at the same time in 1846. The Golden Lion (then the New Inn) was the first public building to open in the new town, in that year. Unlike the others, it failed to attract 'gentlemen of a certain class and their families' due to its greater distance from London, coupled with the truly appalling state of the road from Lynn to Hunstanton, today's A149, which some would say is equally so now.



Dersingham Station looking North

It took more than another decade for the landowners in the area to come together and for there to be sufficient London investor interest. Competitive pressure in this area to get its products to market was added by the opening of the Mid Norfolk Railway from Norwich to Dereham in 1846, extended to Fakenham as early as 1849 – a good decade before Hunstanton was linked in – and from there to Wells in late 1857. During that time there were attempts to stimulate interest in a Hunstanton line, including a report in *The Times* of 6<sup>th</sup> October 1856 noting "it appears that exertions are being made to form a company for the purpose of constructing a cheap railway from Lynn to Hunstanton" for the sum of £80,000. Today, just to make alterations to the railway junction at Ely is estimated to cost £800 million!

Landowner interest, influence and investment were paramount, with Henry Styleman Le Strange family at the top, exerting its interest in the area as it had done for centuries, and with Major John Hare of Docking Hall much in evidence too. Probably one of the more notable missing from the line up at the inaugural meeting at the Dukes Head Hotel in 1860 was the Hon Cowper Spencer of Sandringham Hall. However, he was a habitual gambler and the Sandringham Estate and the other he owned at Beechamwell were significantly mortgaged to pay his gambling debts, the reason which led to him to eventually sell Sandringham.



The Lynn & Hunstanton Railway Company Ltd was duly incorporated by Act of Parliament on 1<sup>st</sup> August 1861. Its Chairman was Mr Lightly Simpson, a railway entrepreneur, an investor from London, with Le Strange as Deputy Chairman, Major Hare and two others from Lynn as Directors.

Thoughtfully, they delayed construction until after the harvest had been gathered (today the same process would take twenty years at least) and on 13<sup>th</sup> November the Mayor of King's Lynn cut the ceremonial first sod. Work was well advanced by the end of that year, with the Engineer being John Sutherland Valentine who, knowing the area well, had built the lines from Lynn to Ely and Dereham. Henry Le Strange was a keen architect and probably influenced the rather grand architecture found in the line's buildings.

On 21<sup>st</sup> April 1862 *The Times* again updated its readers on progress with building the line noting that it was "advancing rapidly towards completion." Opening was expected to be during that Summer, but it was in September that the line passed its obligatory Board of Trade inspection and the decision was taken to open on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. This great occasion for the area had been overshadowed by the sudden death of its real instigator, Henry Styleman Le Strange, on 27<sup>th</sup> July 1862. Without his enthusiasm and determination it is possible that this line would never have been built, but he did not survive to see it open to traffic.



Two other events of note occurred in 1862. First had been the culmination of a series of East Anglian railway amalgamations to form the Eastern Counties Railway, which in an Act of Parliament that year amalgamated with a number of others to form the Great Eastern Railway. Whilst the Lynn & Hunstanton was separately owned it gave a concession to the GER to operate and market the service provided on the line.

It was the other event that year which was to transform the fortune of this line for its entire life until closure in 1969. In February that year, Sandringham was purchased by Queen Victoria for her eldest son Edward's twenty first

birthday, the Prince of Wales who would later succeed her as monarch in 1901 when he became King Edward VII.

Put simply, this would transform the economics of the line and with it the fortunes of its investors when they sold to the Great Eastern Railway in 1890. There was a tussle for Royal patronage with the Lynn & Fakenham (part of the Midland & Great Northern) as it had a route via Peterborough from the more substantial London terminal at King's Cross, which provided a link to Hillington, which was quickly renamed as 'Hillington for Sandringham'. By comparison, London's Liverpool Street was mainly a suburban, commuter terminal with facilities to match. However, it was the Great Eastern's bid for the work which won the day, and with it the Lynn & Hunstanton through the station at Wolferton, and to overcome the lack of splendour of Liverpool Street, a deal was done with the Midland Railway such that Royal (and other trains) could divert from Cambridge via the Great Northern and then Midland line to arrive at the grandeur of St Pancras station.

In the 1861 census, Wolferton was much larger than today, with a population of 264, today less than a hundred. Nonetheless, it was a station with potential when the line was planned because it would serve the in- and outbound commercial trade of the Sandringham Estate. The first station building there was thus rightly much less substantial than at Dersingham, being not much more than a glorified bus shelter on the East side of the track, as it was built as a single track line. Dersingham was a larger village with trackside facilities to match.

It was inevitable that Royal patronage would bring large new business to the line which was indirectly to benefit stations North to Hunstanton as much as from Lynn to Wolferton. In 1870 a complete rebuild at Sandringham saw the Hall substantially demolished and a new House built on its footprint. It had a major design flaw in that there are no ante-rooms in which to receive visitors, and Prince Edward requested the railway company to build a new suite of rooms at the station to receive his visitors.



Sandringham Station

In 1871 Queen Victoria visited on a day trip as Prince Edward was on his deathbed at Sandringham having contracted typhoid on a visit to the North of England. In fact he rallied and lived. Press drawings of her arrival at Wolferton show no such suite of rooms whereas when she visited again in 1889 for the much happier event of his eldest daughter Princess Louise's wedding, the Royal Retiring Rooms (retiring meaning waiting) were in evidence. It is probable that they were built in the mid 1870s. Soon after, the 'bus shelter' station and Station Master's House were replaced with the grander building now in evidence, dominated by the clock tower, which was the public station, with the Royal Retiring Rooms set back adjacent to it.

By 1884 Sandringham's new grand ballroom was open and balls were held there which brought monarchs and their families from across Europe. They all arrived at Wolferton, where two extra sidings were added across the meadow in the centre of the village just to store the train stock.

In 1898 the track from Lynn to Wolferton was doubled, so as to accommodate the Royal special trains in addition to the ever-growing freight and passenger traffic on the line. At this time, with Queen Victoria at the height of her power and reign, the new arrival station was built, befitting Royal visitors arriving at Sandringham. The iconic signal box and station staff cottages were also built then.

The line continued to grow in traffic aided by the addition of the West Norfolk Branch Line, running from Heacham across open fields to Wells, opened in 1866, and the growth in popularity of Hunstanton as a seaside resort. Paid holidays were yet to become law, but there was sufficient trade to make a timetable of up to four through trains a day to and from London, mostly with appropriate dining cars as well.

Prince Edward duly became King Edward VII in 1901 and reigned until 1910 when his second son George succeeded him. George V famously said "Sandringham, the place I love to be." During their reigns, Royal trains continued their journeys to and from Wolferton but not with the great frequency did Royal and celebrity visitors come, for, as King, Edward (and then George) could entertain at Buckingham Palace, in the way in which his mother would not.

Arguably the thirty years 1880 to 1910 represented the heyday of the Lynn & Hunstanton line with growing local passenger and freight traffic coupled with a growing desire to take holidays from work, and topped off with the frequent Royal comings and goings. From the accession of King George V, Sandringham was to become, as it remains today, fundamentally a family retreat, and whilst that still required Royal train visits, it was not at the same pace as during the late Victorian era or to an extent the Edwardian era.

Motor bus competition between Lynn and Hunstanton had definitely commenced by 1924 when a new operator started with half a dozen journeys a day each way, some going through to and from Wells. The law forbade road motor vehicles to exceed 12mph so the end to end journey time was longer than the train, but fares were cheaper and buses took you from much closer to your home to closer to your destination, so for local passengers it was a no-brainer to use the bus.



In late 1935 it was clear that King George Vs health was deteriorating and in fact he died in January 1936. A Royal funeral train was run from Wolferton to London a few days later, to take the late King's body to London to lie in state and thence to Windsor. Sixteen years later the ritual was to be repeated for the late King George VIs cortege.

Wartime brought a change of use with troop and ammunition movements en route to airfields and secret dumps dominating both agriculture and especially passenger traffic. Armour plated trains (the local one was based at North Walsham and sometimes outbased at Heacham) patrolled the Norfolk coastline at night. And the lights were out, in homes, as on station platforms and buildings, changing the appearance of the stations considerably. Worn out by much heavier trains and with minimal investment in repairs and renewals, the seriously rundown railway was nationalised on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1948 and the era of British Railways was ushered in.

The fifties witnessed yet different traffic on the line, and especially the growth of excursion, charter and scheduled special trains along the line for day trips to Hunstanton, especially on Sundays. This was a complex operation as it involved trains coming in from all over the Eastern Home Counties and East Midlands reversing at Lynn, travelling up the single track railway and similarly returning at night. To achieve this, during Summer months, on Sundays all local stopping trains were cut out, with, believe it or not, at the peak time of the day, a train heading towards Hunstanton up to six times an hour. As each train approached Lynn, the engine would be taken off and it would 'run round' to sit ready to head up the subsequent arrival, and the same on the way back. To make sure that the system worked for the homeward run, the earliest arrivals at Hunstanton had the latest departures back (as they ran shorter distances and demand would be more concentrated, so they would often be supplemented with the last in the flight up and first back to offer customers a choice of trip lengths), and the latest arrivals would be the first to return.

It was a fascinating operational solution, but it did mean that local passengers were abandoned – to the competing bus – and that simply fuelled an understanding of the attractiveness of that mode of travel before the car became universal. However, by the fifties, all was not well with the railways. Seemingly stuck in a dinosaur era in which steam trains continued to be designed long after continental systems had adopted more efficient electric or diesel alternatives – as pundits and politicians at that time saw it – and with a Minister of Transport (equivalent to the rank of Secretary of State today) who hailed from a road construction company, there was an inevitability that change would be forced on the industry. In 1959 the entire closure of the Midland and Great Northern, running through South Lynn and Hillington was ordered, ostensibly because of bridge replacement costs over the rivers Ouse at Lynn and Nene at Sutton Bridge, but it has been suggested that it was also to send a clear signal to industry and trade unions to change or face the consequences. They didn't.

Christmas 1961 brought the last Royal train visit to Wolferton, and after the family had returned early in 1962, this station returned to the sleepy insignificant place that had been envisaged when the line was first planned, exactly a century earlier, but now with significant redundant infrastructure.

The Minister had by then ordered an inquiry into the future of the nation's railways, which was to be headed up by a young former ICI scientist, Dr Richard Beeching, was entitled "The Reshaping of British Railways" and reported to the Minister in 1963. The terms of reference had been set by the Prime Minister no less, so it was a matter of the highest political importance at that time just



before Harold Wilson's "white heat of technology" speech. White heat of technology, the railways, by then, were most certainly not.

Contrary to popular belief, Beeching did not recommend the closure of the Hunstanton branch, indeed he recommended it for retention. The Eastern Region of British Railways found itself, as it saw it, saddled, with many branch lines that Beeching did not close, and it set about creating a basic railway on the cheap with conductors on light-weight, cheap to run, diesel trains. This meant that all the smaller station infrastructure would close and by replacing manned level crossings with automatic ones, further economies were possible. In a way, this solution, although with its imperfections (one key one being the lack of through ticketing to points beyond the interchange station), was laudable, but it was all taken too far.



At the time opaqueness was the order of the day; although the railways were nationalised, an asset belonging to us all, we were most certainly not permitted to know the finances or economics of any individual line, so if the accountant said that line X was losing money, then that was it. If management then decided upon closure there was a process to go through; nobody could object as such but representations as to hardship could be made to an Inspector appointed by the Minister to consider the closure and adequacy of replacement arrangements.

Accountants will know that you can make figures say almost anything you want, and it appears that the Eastern Region realised that if new equipment, such as automatic barriers, were depreciated in one year instead of, maybe, ten or fifteen, then it is easy to make a line record a loss. Accounting standards used in the railway then also ignored the 'network effect' so in 1960 Hunstanton was claimed to handle just 44,197 passengers (the number of tickets sold there) but in fact over 210,000 passengers passed through the platform barriers with tickets from elsewhere in the country. That's more than 20% of the King's Lynn total in 2017. It has been suggested that the Hunstanton line was but one victim of this creative accounting, but we'll never know.

Should the line have closed? Whether or not the accounts were accurate, the fact is that by the late sixties, travel by an unmodernised railway was not aspirational, it had lost its appeal to the comfort, convenience and modernity of the family car. That car use has now grown so much that the main road is frequently blocked – not now only in Summer – it is testament to the fact that the mantra of the day was not itself sustainable.

So that fateful day came to Hunstanton and stations en route, like so many across the country before it, when the last train left Hunstanton at 10.16pm on the night of Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Right at the beginning of the tourist season, it shows just how out of touch with the market the railway industry had then become. The train left Hunstanton with hundreds on, and with hundreds more looking on.

Before it left, a wreath was affixed to the front of the train bearing the inscription

**GOODBYE HUNSTANTON RAILWAY 1862 to MAY 3<sup>rd</sup> 1969 IS THIS REALLY THE END?**

Last word should go to Mrs Diggins, who, as she stood ready to close the gates at South Beach Road level crossing in Hunstanton, for the very last time, was moved to comment that "if they had used the line when it was open we might never have had the closure." I wonder.□

On  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April  
from  
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## Gardening with Disabilities from May Davey *Gardening made Easier*

We have had three good meetings in the new Dersingham Village Centre, which will become our base in 2020 as it suits



our less able friends very well. We will still be meeting at Park House, for three more times in 2019.



On Friday, 12 April at 2.00pm we are going to Sandringham Sawmills to be shown round the factory.

Afterwards we are having a cream tea at Petals Tearoom on Manor Road, Dersingham.

On Friday 24 May, Yvonne Fuller is demonstrating flower arranging with summer flowers at Park House Conservatory.



Our Own Flower Show takes place at Park House on Friday 21 June.



On Friday 19 July we are going to Heacham Lavender for a tour of the site and a cream tea.

We enjoyed a talk by Martin Harvey of Glebe Barn in Ringstead about showing prize-winning vegetables in January. In February, Johnny Walker of Taylors Bulbs talked about showing daffodils at national horticultural shows.

In March we had our AGM at Park House and elected a new committee. Gloria Pantling stood down as Chairman after three years and will now be our club Secretary. We always welcome new members and guests. Tea and a raffle ticket cost only £2.00 at the door. The annual subscription is £12.00. Come and see how you like us. Please contact me on 01485-544953 for more details. □

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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 118 (June/July 19)	Tuesday 7th May 2019	Monday 27 May 2019
No 119 (Aug/Sept 19)	Tuesday 9 July 2019	Monday 29 July 2019
No 120 (Oct/Nov 19)	Tuesday 10 Sept 2019	Monday 30 Sept 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](http://dersingham.org.uk) Do please support the services advertisers provide and mention where you saw their advert. Our advert prices are £22.20 for an eighth page, £34.20 for a quarter, £66 for a half and £132 for a full page. Discounts available for block bookings paid up-front. VAT is now payable. Full details and booking forms can be downloaded from our website or obtained from the Parish Office or email: [clerk@dersingham.org.uk](mailto: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 the 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/flyers 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 April 9th

# The Butterflies of Norfolk

With **Andy Brazil**  
**County Butterfly Recorder**

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

## VILLAGE VOICE LIVE

Tuesday May 14th

# The wildlife of the Snettisham RSPB nature reserve

With **Jim Scott** - reserves manager

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