

**Number 94**

**June/July 2015**

# **Village Voice**

## **The Dersingham Magazine**

**Summer is a comin' in**

# SPAR



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## Editor's Notes

*Summer is a comin' in, loudly sing cuckoo!*

**T**hese words form the start of a medieval English *round* or *canon* that, according to Wikipedia, dates back to the middle of the 13th century! If you want to get more authentic with the spelling try “*Sumer is icumen in, lhude sing cuccu.*” It’s a jolly song with a catchy tune and many a hearty rendition of it can easily be found on YouTube, some with authentic medieval instrument accompaniment too.

On this May Day, as I write, I awoke early to the melodious sounds of blackbirds singing their hearts out, punctuated by the occasional, less harmonious cry of our local feral peacock when, through it all, came a distinct but distant “cuckoo!” I had heard a couple of them around already this year, but never before from the comfort of my own bed.

In my early childhood, I remember a mobile grocer’s van belonging to a Mrs Cuckoo who visited our council estate each week. She would announce her arrival with a loud “Cuckoo!” whereupon we would go out and queue up to buy grocery products and more besides from the back of her Aladdin’s Cave of a van, with the occasional complimentary sweet coming my way.

The forthcoming Bank Holiday Weekend, of course, brings our ever-popular Open Gardens and Art Trail as our front cover picture, taken at last year’s, reminds us and you will find full details within. Plenty else going on, as you will see, along with pieces from our regular contributors plus a new tale or two. Perhaps the less popular, members of our dawn chorus line-up are our numerous, ever-present woodpigeons but David Bingham, in his article, may be about to challenge that.

May I also draw your attention to the final inside page that I have re-vamped, giving the dates and details for submission of articles and advertising for forthcoming issues. It’s all there yet still people ask me when the deadline is or else miss it by a whisker and we really do want to hear from you. It’s your magazine and its contents can only be shaped by those of you willing to contribute.

The earliest issue of Village Voice that I had stored on my computer is number 36: October 2005, now nearly 10 years old and before my time here. You can now download it and all issues following from the website. In it you will find an article welcoming the then new vicar Revd Michael Brock and his wife Carolyn to the parish. Sadly, for us, on Sunday 31st May, Michael will conduct his last service at St Nicholas Church, before they move on to what we trust will be a less demanding role for him near Loughborough, closer to family. More details within, but I am sure, readers would want to wish them the very best for their future there.

Many will have been saddened too by the recent death of Ion Trewin on 8th April following his shock diagnosis of cancer last October. Ion, a well-respected publisher and guardian figure in the literary world, wrote occasional articles for Village Voice, most recently his "Ponderings" series following his move with wife Sue from Beck House in Chapel Road, Dersingham to one of the wings of Snnettisham House. Ion was a great encouragement to me when I took over as editor. As well as the wealth of tributes in the press and online, two local, personal ones can be found inside.

It is frustrating that this issue goes off to the printers just two days before the nation casts its votes for our Parliament and, for us, our two local West Norfolk Borough Councillors, so you will be wiser as to the outcome than I am at present. What I do know now is the names of the fifteen applicants for our Parish Council who, as this falls short of the eighteen vacancies, are duly elected uncontested. So congratulations and thanks to: Brian Anderson, George Billard, Iris Broughton, Valerie Brundle, Chris Davey, Paul Edwards, Kurtis Green, Kate Hathaway, Colin Hipkin, Alan Hobson, John Houston, Keith Manship, Michael Osborne, Sue Payne and Dennis Wright. But for the main poll, I must endure hearing a few more days of endless electioneering banter and rhetoric. It’s enough to drive you *cuckoo!*

**Steve Davis - [editor@dersingham.org.uk](mailto:editor@dersingham.org.uk)** □





## Dear Village Voice

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



I wrote to you last year about the state of the village graveyard. Last week I was staying again in the Village to attend my brother's funeral. I have to say how lovely the graveyard looked. Neat and tidy everywhere. It was lovely to see. Thank you to whoever is responsible.

**Pauline Robinson nee Drew**

**J**oan Schorah mentioned the tree planting on the recreation field. Three people planted the trees: Wallace Twite, Stanley Lines and Stanley Holder. They all lived in Lynn Road. Stanley Holder worked for Stanton's and Wallace and Stanley Lines worked on Sandringham Estate. Wallace and Stanley Lines worked together for a number of years and were responsible for all the fencing on the Estate, working in the Woods Dept. Wherever they were working, a lorry would take all the materials and they would travel every day on bikes. Most men at that time had carriers on the front of the bike to carry odds and ends, and a sack to put over and keep the weather out. They had a fair old hike sometimes. Wallace and Stanley were involved with tree planting on the estate, there are still some woods and plantations which they planted. At that time the estate did all the work themselves. They also planted the avenue of Lime trees between Appleton and Gatton Water. Somewhere in the village there is a photo of one of the trees being planted on the Rec as well as Marshall's original master plan.

**Bernie Twite**

I thought that perhaps the attached photos of the construction of the bypass might be of interest to Village Voice readers. If you examine the work-in-progress pictures you may just make out the legendary "Dersingham Bog Moth" leaving its natural habitat riding on the back of a flying pig!!

**Barry Beales**



as it looks now



*Below is a photo sent in by Gerald & Helen Bell following their recent travels to New Zealand. Here we see them pictured outside the Christchurch Transitional Cathedral, a temporary structure replacing the main one that was damaged by the earthquake of 2011, believe it or not, built largely of cardboard! ([cardboardcathedral.org.nz](http://cardboardcathedral.org.nz)). If you look very closely you can just see that they are carrying their copy of the February/March 2015 issue of Village Voice, as you would! Ed*



□

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## Parish Council Report by Cllr Suzy Daniels

A bright and sunny hello to you all.

### Changes to Councillors:

At the time of writing 15 candidates have applied to become Parish Councillors. As this falls short of the 18 vacancies, they will be duly elected as of 7<sup>th</sup> May without ballot, but it still leaves 3 further vacancies for co-option. If you wish to have a say or make a valuable contribution to Dersingham please contact the office for an application to become a Parish Councillor. 01485 541465. I have taken the decision not to stand again. I

do wish all new councillors the best of luck for the future...it's been a mixture of pleasure and an endurance test at times, battling animosity and hostility, but we have worked hard to overcome these and achieve a sense of ease and respect amongst the council and with Parishioners alike...hopefully this will continue. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the last 5 years. My intention when joining in March 2010 was to re-vamp the Recreation ground play area, with the help of fellow councillors, WREN funding and Playdale (Outdoor Playground Equipment). I successfully achieved this. I feel it is now time to spend a bit more time devoted to my husband and two daughters. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving the parishioners of Dersingham and giving a little something back to the village.

### Borough Council:

Cllr Bubb gave updates on the Saturday Market Place, in particular the new markings outlining the Old Charnel House. The new taxi rank at Sainsbury's car park still requires an upgrade in lighting. Cllr Collingham said the election process is well under way, Council is still holding meetings. A lot of work is taking place regarding the Marsh Lane/Lynnsport development.

### Council Committees:

All minutes for Full Council and Committees are available on the Dersingham Parish Council website as will be the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2015.

### Other Matters:

Cllr Davey gave a brief update regarding the Village Centre including work on setting up the charitable body, fundraising activities and a meeting held with Sandringham with regards to acquiring land to improve access, aid design and provide space for further car parking. Costs for purchase, improved fencing and legal fees will need to be approved, but would come from ring-fenced reserves. Any profits from Village Voice Live (held the first Tuesday of every month at the Church Hall) will be donated to the Village Centre Fund.

Following a meeting with Dersingham Social Club it was resolved not to increase their rent for a further 3 years when a further review will be held.

Cllr Tipling reminded the Council that it is under no obligation to provide a burial ground, (although we are all aware the lack of space within the Parish is concerning). This is a National problem. There was discussion on previous conversations between the PCC, Sandringham Estate and the Parish Council. (*Church Warden Neil Adams gave a report on behalf of the church concerning this at the Annual Parish Meeting. Ed.*)



A Parishioner enquired whether a person could be employed to litter pick, clear up dog mess etc from the sports field. The Parish Council explained that they do not manage the site and previously the ground was maintained to a high standard by volunteers.

The Task force are to be congratulated for all their hard work within the Parish.

## Planning Applications

2 West Hall Rd...Proposed garden room to rear, detached garage and shed...recommend approval  
Address not supplied...construction of single story extension to front of existing dwelling...recommend approval

33 Lynn Rd...construction of front porch including bay window...recommend approval

9 Pakenham drive...construction of driveway...recommend approval

82 Hunstanton Rd...Application for extension...recommend approval

## Determinations

14 Shernborne Rd...Granted

Picnic Site ADJ A149 Dersingham

Bypass...Granted

Please come along to the Full Council meetings.....last Monday of each month at Dersingham Early Years site.

As this is my final Parish Council Report I wish you all well, health and happiness! That's all folks!!!! ☐

*Many thanks Suzy for the very significant contribution you have made to village life. Ed.*

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# Guides

1st Dersingham Guides

## 1st Dersingham Guides Go to Bollywood

The 1st Dersingham Guides have spent this half term completing the “Sangalee Save our Pool” challenge with all money raised going to the Guiding World Centre Sangam in India for their new swimming pool. The activities have included water safety, creating Sangam games and Indian cooking and concluded with a Bollywood dance evening courtesy of JayaDance. The girls learnt about Bollywood and its types of dance before they practiced a routine ahead of dressing up and performing the dance. It was a very exhausting, but enjoyable evening.

Lynne Wheeler



# Brownies

2nd Dersingham Brownies

## 2nd Dersingham Brownies Pirate Pack Holiday to Swaffham

The start of the Easter holidays saw the 2nd

Dersingham Brownies head to Swaffham for their annual 4-day Brownie Holiday. This year our theme was Peter Pan, with the leaders names, Sixes (Pirates, Indians & Fairies) and activities all based around the story.

Whilst on Pack Holiday the girls are involved in looking after the Holiday home; they are responsible for keeping their *Six* bedroom tidy, laying the table, washing up and preparing some of the food. They also enjoy lots of crafts; they made a Pirate costume of a tie-dye T-shirt, an eye patch, cutlass and bandana. Some of our other crafts included making a treasure box, creating a crocodile sock puppet and decorating a bird feeder. The weather also allowed us outside to play each day. The girls work for many different badges during pack holiday; this year everyone gained their Wildlife Explorer badge which involved a trip to the Welney Wetland Centre. At the centre the girls enjoyed Pond dipping and following the Easter trail, which required them to search for giant yellow ducks and completing a quiz. They also enjoyed exploring the Pond room with all its interactive activities. After our picnic lunch we went swimming in Downham Market before returning to Swaffham. Each evening we have a different activity. On the first evening the girls sew their Nights Away badge onto their badge blanket before we have the eagerly anticipated Pyjama Parade, when a guest judge awards prizes for the “Nicest Nightwear”, “Cuddliest Toy”, “Snuggliest Slippers” and “Most Delightful Dressing Gown”. On our second evening we played Bingo, whilst on the last evening we toasted marshmallows outside ahead of returning for an Indoor Campfire. Before the tidying up began on the last morning we had a wildlife-themed Easter egg hunt. They had to find and identify nine animals, which then lead them to the chocolate! It was a very enjoyable four days, the Indians earned the most points and were awarded best Six and the two oldest Brownies, Isla & Lily jumped over the toadstool to Guides. As well as their Wildlife Explorer all the Brownies gained their Toymaker badge; whilst the first timers gained Pack Holiday and Cooks, second timers Pack holiday Advanced and third timers the Brownies Go For It. The end came all too quickly, but everyone had enjoyed themselves.

Lynne Wheeler





## 1st Dersingham Rainbows visit Snettisham Park

The Dersingham Rainbows enjoyed a pre-Easter trip to Snettisham

Park to feed the baby lambs. They also enjoyed feeding the goats and pigs and had the chance to cuddle a rabbit or guinea pig. The Rainbows also collected the eggs and sorted them before playing on the adventure playground. **Lynne Wheeler** □



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## Just a Thought... from Rev Steve Oliver

*"And I am telling You (said Jesus), ask, and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks it is opened" (Luke 11: 9-10)*



**T**he verses above come just after Jesus has taught his disciples how to pray and indeed teaches us the power of our prayers. And it is to prayer that I turn in this letter, but a more focused choice of prayer. I have just been watching a programme from the Middle East and the plight of Christians at the hands of extremists. It is now being claimed that if something is not done soon there will be no Christians left in the lands that Jesus trod. I watched this programme ashamed and close to tears. People who are in great danger of losing their land even their lives are still proclaiming their faith in Christ, and want to continue to worship in their country. What are we doing as Christians away from the troubles? Where is our voice?

I cannot put this more strongly - prayer is vital to what is happening. Jesus could not have undertaken His ministry without first going to God His Father in prayer and asking for His guidance and His will to be done, and it is to His example we should be focusing our minds. If you believe in a God of love, justice and mercy then we have to believe our prayers can change things. Practically in a situation like the Middle East there is little I can do, but through prayer I can be a — voice for a people whose faith puts mine in the shade.

**H**is voice for a people whose faith puts mine in the shade.

Over the past few weeks I have been thinking seriously about the possibility of everyone becoming involved in prayer outside Sunday worship. I know you all have your own personal prayer life to lead and I would strongly wish for that to continue, but this is about the power of communal prayer, where each one of us is praying for the same need opening ourselves up together to the will of God our Father.

And so I ask that no matter what denomination or religion we pray for things to change for the situation in the Middle East. We cannot stand by any more and watch. We must use the power of prayer to enable all peoples to live out their faith in harmony and away from constant fear.

I leave you with these verses from 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12 :

*"O Lord, we pray that you may count us worthy of your calling, and that by your power you may fulfil every good purpose we have and every act prompted by our faith. We pray this so that the name of the Lord Jesus may be glorified in us, so that we might be glorified together with him, according to the grace of God and the Lord Jesus Christ.."* □



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## Village Voice Live

Houghton and the Walpoles—Tuesday 7th April

**T**he large audience who attended Chris Boxall's talk on the Houghton Hall and the Walpoles were treated to a most interesting account given by an excellent speaker. Without using slides or the latest computer technology Chris held everyone's attention throughout. He began by describing the man whom he referred to as "his hero". Robert Walpole born in 1676 was our first official Prime Minister. He held that position for 20 years 314 days a record that is unlikely to be broken today and was the first English Minister to occupy 10 Downing Street. He was also the first commoner to become Knight of the Garter and was responsible for building the magnificent Houghton Hall. Then Chris brought the man more to life by telling us he kept his rich Norfolk accent throughout his life but in spite of his many achievements was vain, ambitious and corrupt. We followed Robert through his early life and schooling at Great Massingham, his two marriages and his gradual rise to the top in Politics. He was MP for Castle Rising and then King's Lynn where he was affectionately known as "Bob of Lynn". In an age when bribery was commonplace he spent a stint in the Tower of London accused of corrupt practices as Secretary at War. But nothing could be proven. Chris drew a vivid picture of the events of the infamous South Sea Bubble scam that ruined so many lives and from which Robert profited. At the end of his career when his health began to fail he was most proud of the fact that he had kept the country out of any war and had encouraged our trade with the known world. He was buried in St Martin's Church at Houghton.

After the break Chris described the building of Houghton Hall. Sir Robert demolished the old house, the second to be built on the site, and replaced it with the grand building we can all visit today. It took 13 years to build and the old village that Sir Robert could see from its windows was also demolished and rebuilt just outside the gates. The white houses are still there today. It would have been a great sight to see as stone for the house was transported by sea and road from Whitby and another special stone Fleur de Peche was brought from quarries at Plymouth. Houghton Hall has the greatest amount of Mahogany of any house in the country. It was in this grand house Sir Robert held his Norfolk Congresses. The house was filled with his guests who hunted twice a day, dined lavishly and spent evenings in lengthy talks and discussions. We did hear of other family members who ran the estate such as Mad George Walpole but the star of the evening was Sir Robert so skilfully brought to life by an excellent speaker.

CLIO □



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## **Art & Craft Club for Children with SEN**

After receiving such generous donations from friends and family via my [gofundme](#) web-page, we are setting up an art and craft group in Hunstanton, for children with special educational needs (SEN). Since my own daughter Monique was diagnosed with epilepsy and complex learning disability I have found that many mainstream groups just do not have the knowledge to support children with SEN. There are extremely limited groups and funding for children with SEN in this area. This means that instead of embracing the equality and abilities that children with SEN have, our children are often discouraged by activities that they cannot do and are regularly disheartened. Our Art group aims to support these children and encourage and embrace their own abilities so no child misses out.

To find out more about us, our venue, launch date, and what can be expected from our sessions please contact **Donna** on **07780 003335** or [donnanice@live.co.uk](mailto:donnanice@live.co.uk) or **Poppy** on **01485 533574** or [poppy.nice@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:poppy.nice@hotmail.co.uk)

Alternatively please like our Facebook page for more information about our art group:  
[facebook.com/pages/Art-and-Craft-club-for-children-with-SEN/1589409254609230](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Art-and-Craft-club-for-children-with-SEN/1589409254609230)

To read more about Monique's story and the reasons for setting up this group please go to my go fund me page at [gofundme.com/qe5gbbw](https://www.gofundme.com/qe5gbbw) .

**Donna Nice** □



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## Old Picture Corner from Tony Bubb

The annual Scout and Guide Fete used to include a carnival procession around the village. We think this 1996 procession, celebrating the Queen's 70th Birthday, was the last and we are grateful to Mrs Mollie Bailey for letting these pictures be reproduced. Village events like this were killed off by the thinking that "health & safety" would be a problem, but other places seem to still manage to hold them and it would be good to have this one revived.



# Dersingham Allotment Association



**Station Road Allotments  
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**Sunday 21st June 2015**  
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## Summer Fair

**SATURDAY**

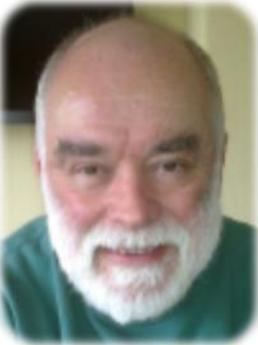
**4 JULY**

**10.00am - 1.30pm**

**Morning Coffee and Tea**  
**Light Lunches**  
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**Dersingham Horticultural Society**  
**Annual Gardeners' Fair**  
**and Coffee Morning**  
**10am to 12noon on**  
**Saturday 30th May 2015 in the**  
**Community Building**  
**Orchard Close**  
**Dersingham (PE31 6LU)**

Please come along to our popular, annual fund-raising event  
Treat yourself to some Plants  
Enjoy a nice cup of Tea or Coffee  
with a Delicious Cakes  
and try your luck on the Tombola  
Please park considerately nearby



## Ion Trewin 1943 - 2015

**Bob Tipling writes...**

**M**any obituaries have been produced in the national press related to the recent death of Ion Trewin, author, editor, publisher and friend to many celebrities, but few have identified the impact he has had on the local area surrounding Dersingham, which this tribute will attempt to rectify.

When Ion and his wife Sue arrived in the village in 2001 they were to immediately involve themselves in the community, both as volunteers at Tapping House Hospice in Snettisham and with The Friends of St Nicholas Church. Ion had also become interested in Park House,

childhood home of the Spencer family, now a Leonard Cheshire Foundation hotel for persons with disabilities at which Ion was to play a part when one of their Annual Summer Fayres raising funds for the hotel was held, featuring the late Roy Waller of Radio Norfolk.

Their home had at one time been known as 'Sheiling' then 'Blackheath Lodge' and had formerly housed Frank Beck, Estates Manager to Sandringham House, who was immortalised in the movie "All The King's Men" starring David Jason, which inspired Ion and Sue to further change the property's name to that of "Beck House" thus giving it a close association with the history of the local area.

It is certain that other contributors will refer to Ion's life as reporter, writer and publisher, so that area will be left for them to cover, but it is tempting to mention his involvement in the publication of the novel "Schindler's Ark", later to be transposed to the movie "Schindler's List," and his authorship of "Alan Clark—The Biography" amongst other titles which required his expertise.

Again, others who were more directly involved will, it is certain, provide the background to his direct contribution to the Literary Lunches held at the Sandringham Visitor Centre, when he introduced such speakers as Julian Fellowes (author, amongst other works, of "Downton Abbey" fame, Earl Spencer (brother to the late Princess Diana) and Michael Palin.

Apart from the usual ways of 'meeting the locals' the one which perhaps sticks with me was when they opened up their private swimming pool for a sponsored charity swim on behalf of Tapping House.

As a former editor of the Village Voice and coordinator of the Community Lunches it was always my pleasure when Ion made contact with me. It is unfortunate that I did not become aware of his illness until I heard of his death, for I had on numerous occasions spoken to him in Budgens without the opportunity to express my empathy. It is typical of the man that he continued to the end without complaint.

In my opinion this area has seen the passing of a person who deserves more credit than that published in the national press. He will be missed in more ways than one.

**Nigel Sisson writes...**

**I** was thrilled when Ion and Sue came to live in Dersingham over ten years ago as our careers had slightly overlapped and I felt we were privileged to be having them live among us.

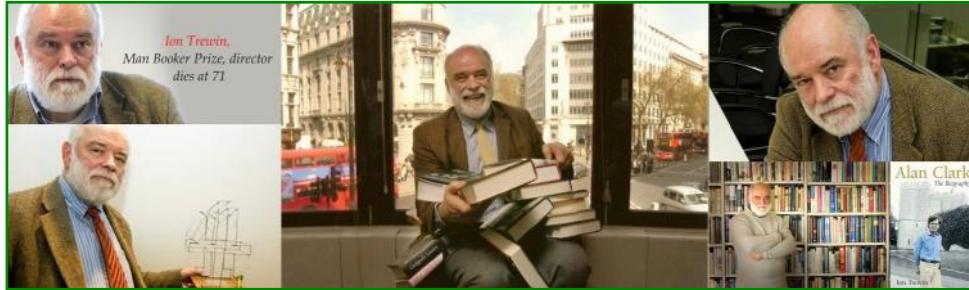
I worked in publishing for most of my career based in London and by the 1970s Ion had become an important contact in the national press, notably as Literary Editor of the *Times*; a pleasure to work with and a very reliable judge of forthcoming books with commercial or literary potential. He was an immensely respected journalist and eventually moved to become a great publisher. When he finally moved to become Director of the Booker (later Man Booker) Prize, he ensured its place as the top literary event of the year with a worldwide reputation. His obituaries have rightly filled many pages in the national press.

I had done my bit for several years on the Booker Prize Management Committee, and with this background my wife Jackie and I made it our business to give him a warm welcome when he and

Sue first arrived in Chapel Road. A bottle of Champagne was waiting while the rebuilding of what became known as 'Beck House' went on. Village rumours abounded about these new 'London People' – the most exotic was that a swimming pool was being built on the rooftop! We introduced them to Sandringham Church, the Thurnsford Christmas Show, Park House Hotel, Sea Life at Hunstanton and other essential local landmarks, and their contribution to local community life grew rapidly, as others will no doubt tell.

One main beneficiary was our local charity the Friends of St. Nicholas' Church whose fundraising activities included what became an Annual Literary Dinner at the Sandringham Visitor Centre. Ian brought in a number of distinguished speakers for these occasions including Julian Fellowes, Michael Palin, and Jane Clark widow of Alan Clark, whose diaries Ian had edited and whose biography Ian had written. They were great occasions.

It is fitting but sad that Ian's funeral was at Sandringham, where he was a regular churchgoer and reader of the Lessons. And I understand there will be an appropriate Memorial Service in London, later in the year. For me he was a lifeline of gossip and news from my past world of work – almost a 'soul mate'. He will be hugely missed by all who knew him in our village. □



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## Dersingham Open Gardens and Art Trail

The annual Dersingham Open Gardens and Art Trail takes place on Sunday May 24th and Monday May 25th from 11am to 5pm. About 15 gardens are open, some housing stalls selling items such as plants, books, asparagus and more. A free shuttle bus will circulate throughout the days. The proceeds help towards the community work carried out by St Nicholas Church.

The passion for gardening takes many forms. Some people are constantly changing their plots, sewing seeds, taking cuttings, planning for the next year, chopping shrubs down and digging up plants, making way for a new landscape. Others have a frantic clearance in time for Open Gardens and perhaps fill in a few gaps where the frost has taken its toll.

The results create delightfully varied styles: immaculate, with not a weed in sight; nature reserves with wild areas reserved for birds, creepy crawlies, and a shaggy lawn that slopes down to a woodland stream; but many are just filled with bed after bed of colourful plants upon which to feast your eyes. There are fish ponds, rockeries, dazzling displays in pots and sinks, statues, and impressive vegetable gardens filled to bursting with current and future crops.

Most of the artists are also opening their gardens, or are exhibiting with an Open gardener. Stephen Martyn opens his "beach hut" studio set in a colourful garden, exhibiting delightful water colours and drawings. Liz Stockley, Jill Ilett and Carole Brookfield share Liz's barn



to display their work. You can then sample Liz's renowned tea and cakes. June Mullarkey from Dersingham Pottery also opens her huge, beautifully-kept garden. Jo Halpin Jones opens her photographic studio and her garden of nooks and crannies, where Dick Jones' moth trapping equipment can be seen. Mike Smith exhibits his renowned coastal paintings.

Dersingham Open Gardens has become famous for its refreshments served in the Church Hall. The ladies of the magnificent catering team put on a delicious lunch and then somehow summon the energy to produce mouth-watering cream teas. Some of the gardens also offer light refreshments for when you are on the move.

The best place to park is in St Nicholas Court, near the Church. Entry tickets are available from the Church Hall on the other side of the road. Children under 16 enter free. You can also get tickets on the day from participating gardens. The entry ticket takes the form of a booklet with maps, showing garden and studio locations, toilets, refreshments, and bus stops. Full details of the event can be found at [www.DersinghamOpenGardens.co.uk](http://www.DersinghamOpenGardens.co.uk). □

**Dersingham Methodist Church  
Flower Festival & 125th  
Church Anniversary  
Come on and Celebrate  
21<sup>st</sup> 22<sup>nd</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> May  
10.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May  
2:00 pm to 4:00 pm  
Books + Cakes + Cards + Gifts  
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Coffee + Lunches + Teas  
Sunday Service 10:30 am  
Songs of Praise 6:00 pm  
Proceeds for Church Funds and  
The QEII Wheel Appeal**



# DERSINGHAM OPEN GARDENS & ART TRAIL

**Sunday 24th May  
Monday 25th May  
11am to 5pm**

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## **Rotary Matters**

### **DIYA / DHARA – Projects in Sri Lanka**

**A**tie Praagman visited our Club on March 18<sup>th</sup> to present to us the wonderful work of the Charitable Foundation she set up 10 years ago.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> December 2004, under the Indian Ocean, the third largest recorded earthquake triggered a series of devastating tsunamis along the coasts of most landmasses bordering the Indian Ocean, killing 230,000 people in 14 countries, and inundating coastal communities with waves up to 100 ft. high. It was one of the deadliest natural disasters in recorded history. Indonesia was the hardest-hit country, followed by Sri Lanka, India, and Thailand.



Atie visited Sri Lanka shortly after and saw first-hand the results of the devastation and that help was urgently needed. After 7 weeks out there Atie returned home to Holland and started raising money. A year later she returned and decided to initiate a Charitable Foundation named Diya Dhara.

The Foundation provides aid in many forms other than just material, such as training youngsters for work and to study for diplomas to obtain better jobs in various industries. These people are then in turn able to support their families. Those benefitting also help promote the project themselves to extend the impact of the organisation, the aim being to help build their future and encourage energy and input from the local people.

Most of the children are from poorly paid parents like farmers and fishermen and because pre-schools are private and only for the rich they have set up and funded 2 pre-schools. Also the Foundation provides student aid from grade 1 to university level including vocational training. The parents are encouraged to help support their children also and if a child does not attend school the funding stops. There is also support for the elderly and needy with monthly food parcels plus other projects such as connecting water and electricity to homes, medical care, and repairs to housing. Proposals for projects come from the Sri Lankan people themselves with checks made for their feasibility and ability to solve the problem.

The main coordinator in Sri Lanka is a lady named Beena. She controls where the cash is used each month and allocates it where needed. No cash is handed out for anything as the coordinator buys the equipment required for projects, and all courses are also paid directly via Beena. Atie goes back to Sri Lanka every winter for 2-3 months to see how things are working, and checks all the administration processes are correct, and the money is going where it should. Accounts are audited by the Foundation, with funds being raised by family, friends and fund raising events.

Good news is that the new government in Sri Lanka is trying to improve the situation for its people, e.g. irrigation, better roads, drainage, and tourism which encourages growth.

**Debbie Peel / Adrian Evans □**



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## Dick Melton from Sunny Hunny

### Darsingham

**L**ets start with the letter from Jim Batchelor and Barry Beals about the auction notice and the village being spelt Darsingham. Many hundreds of years ago all the land along the east side of The Wash belonged to the Lord of the Manor of Castle Rising. One day he was out with his men and dogs hunting and there, in the middle of a clearing, stood a man with two dogs and a dead deer.

"Well now," said the Lord of the Manor, "what have we here? You will be hanged from the nearest tree for killing my deer."

"But my lord," the man said, "I did not kill your deer, it already laid there dead in the clearing when I came by and I can prove it as my dogs will not kill deer."

"Alright," said the Lord of the Manor, 'and some of my men will take your dogs and if they kill a deer you will be hanged,' and off he rode into the woods.

Now what the Lord of the Manor did not know was that this man had trained his dogs especially in case a situation like this should happen. When he told his dogs to sit they would kill, but if they were told to kill they would just sit.

After an hour or two the Lord of the Manor came back. "Your dogs are no good at all. You were right. When I told them to kill they just sat still. Now, you see all this land from the chalk hills to the sea. I shall give it all to you for being so honest."

"Oh thank you, I thank you my lord," said the man, "and as my name is Darsing I shall call it Darsingham."

And that is how Darsingham came about. I can't find out when the name was changed, but it was certainly changed before the auction notice was printed as I have an old map from 1797 and another from 1826, on both of which it is printed as Darsingham. But I can remember when I was a lad some of the old boys of the village still calling it Darsingham.

By the way this little story I have just told was told to me by my father and it was told to him by his father; it has also been told on the wireless; and there are many different versions of it.

### The Auction

Now back to that auction notice of 1854, the three roods of land that was up for sale I am pretty sure is the field on your left as you go up the Shernborne Road at Darsingham between Snoring Lodge Wood and the Shernborne Road/Mill Road crossroads. This land was always called the Hopp Ground and I think it comes under the Darsingham United Charities and is let out, as was another field up the Shernborne Road on your left next to the old chalk pit.

Let's now talk about them cottages and buildings that were up for sale at the same auction. Them days there were not many buildings on the south side of Manor Road from Senters Corner to Parkers Corner. Most of the buildings were on the north side in the vicinity of the Albert Victor and the old workhouse (Wash House Row) and further down opposite the Heath Road junction. I think that the cottages and land in question could have been up the bottom end of Senters Road right next to the Shut-up Common, as common rights were being sold with it for three head of cattle and at one time there was a poultry farm in that area. In 1854 there was very little building going on down the south side of Manor Road as it was all village allotments, or enclosures as they were called them days. Maybe Elizabeth Fiddick will be able to enlighten us more about this mystery poster.

As for the Green family that are mentioned on the poster in 1854, I have searched high and low for a family by that name who might have been in business or lived in Darsingham around that time. The only person I can find of that name is a Mr Alfred Green, who was a coal merchant and a butcher, and he lived in the village around about 1900, but I can find no mention of him before that.

### Population

I was asked the other day how many people now live in the village. No one seems to know the exact number, but it has got to be over 5,000. So I took a look back to 1900 to see how Darsingham had grown,

and I found that the population figures for Dersingham over the last 100 years make interesting reading.

In the year 1901 there was 1,316 people living in the village, most of them living in the Chapel Road, Manor Road area with some up Dodds Hill. Then the village began to expand and by 1911 the population was 1,499, but when the next count came in 1921 the number had dropped by 78 to 1,421. Now all I can think of for this drop is that some people emigrated and others were lost in the Great War.

By the time of the next count in 1931 the numbers had risen again by 107 to 1,528, as there had been a lot of building going on along the Lynn Road and in the area of Lindfords Corner. There was no count in 1941 due to the second world war. In 1951 the numbers were up by 204 to 1,732; then, at the next count in 1961, there was a mini explosion of the population as it went over the 2,000 mark to 2,026 - this was no doubt due to the building of the Gelham Manor council estate.

At the next count in 1971 the number was up to 2,597, an increase of 571, this being due to a lot of private building all around the village. By the year 1981 it looked like there would be no more room for development and the count was up to 3,274, but they still kept cramming them in and by 1991 the count was 3,888. Then in 2001 it was 4,502. This meant that the population of Dersingham had gone up by over 60 a year since 1971 and it had doubled since 1961. Though I have not been able to find the count for 2011, it must be beyond the 5,000 mark.

Now is this a good thing or not. I don't think so. I liked the old village just the way it was like when I came there in 1945, with all the open spaces, but it is progress and people have to have somewhere to live and I suppose that Dersingham is as nice a place as anywhere to live. I was just thinking; I wonder why Wolferton, Babingley, Anmer, Shernborne and West Newton have never been expanded. I reckon it must be something to do with the landowner.

### **Evacuees**

In the April/May issue of Dersingham Village Voice I wrote about the Egbert family who were evacuated from London to Dersingham at the start of World War Two, then asked if any readers knew of any other families that were evacuated to Dersingham. Well it was not long after the Village Voice was delivered to your doors that my phone went and it was Mrs Wright, who is a long time resident of Dersingham. She told me about the Hearn family who were evacuated to Dersingham from the east end of London. Four of them had the surname of Hearn, but the widowed granny's surname was Harris. I was very interested in what Mrs Wright told me next. Mrs Harris's husband was lost when the Titanic went down in April 1912. I looked up some information in one of my Titanic books and there was his name, Mr E Harris, who was a fireman on the ship. Out of the 167 firemen on the Titanic only 35 were saved and unfortunately Mr Harris went down with his ship. When the Hearn family first came to Dersingham they were given their first accommodation in the Old Hall. They were then moved to the old cottage that was next to the fish and chip shop near the corner of Post Office Road. When the war ended, the family and their granny went back to London, but Mrs Wright has been in touch with one of the sons ever since.

Well that's it for this month. I would just like to thank all those people from Dersingham who have asked after my health. Thanks a lot for asking.

**Dick** □

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## Community Access Defibrillator Update

Following on from the last issue of the Village Voice I am pleased to report that the Community Access Defibrillator, supplied by the East of England Co-Op, has now been installed at the Social Club. Anyone entering the Social Club recently will no doubt have seen the bright yellow box which houses the defibrillator just to the left hand side of the building. Thanks need to go to Angie Mitchell at the club for arranging installation.

There has already been interest from various people who would like to know if there is any training required to operate it, the simple answer is no. The equipment is designed to prompt the user on how to use it in an emergency, however, the club are hoping to hold some training for anyone who may be interested in seeing how to use it. If this applies to you please contact the social club to register your interest.

The unit is live and ready to work, but for security reasons the yellow box it is in has a keypad lock on it. To gain access a person needs to ring 999 and speak to the ambulance service operator who can then give the code over the phone.

As with any piece of equipment like this we hope that it will never be needed, but if the time comes when it is, it is important as many people as possible who live in the village are aware of its location and how to get it working. So the next time you are passing the social club please take a moment to look for the yellow box, it might save someone's life.

**Paul Edwards** □

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## A Magical Moment

### a WI competition prize-winning story by Phyllis Jones

The day started off fine and sunny, with a gentle breeze blowing, so I picked up the sheets and pillowcases languishing in the linen basket I put them in the washing machine. To my chagrin, the machine's approach to its final 'rinse and spin' stage coincided with the arrival of a bank of black clouds and torrential rain.

Dog, who usually by this time would be clamouring to go for his morning walk took one look outside, then with an expression on his face that I interpreted as, "I'm not going out in that" retreated to his basket.

"I know," I said to him, "I don't fancy going out either. We'll wait a bit shall we? Perhaps it won't last long."

No point in wasting time I thought, giving the kitchen floor tiles a wipe over with a damp mop before going upstairs to make the beds. Back downstairs and there being no sign of the rain stopping I donned raincoat and 'wellies', clipped Dog's lead on to his collar and coaxed him outside. Trust the next-door neighbour's cat to choose that moment to run across our front garden. Dog, throwing off his feeling of lethargy, tore after the cat, dragging me down the path at such speed, my boots skidded on the wet slabs causing me to land on my rear end with a decided thump. After a quick glance round to check no-one had noticed, I cursed Dog, cat and the weather before hauling myself to my feet and although I didn't appear to have damaged any vital parts, decided that just for once a short walk would suffice.

Back home I unlocked the kitchen door, and reached inside for the towel which always hung in readiness to dry muddy paws, but Dog couldn't wait. Pushing past me, he left a trail of paw-prints across my clean floor, and before settling himself back in his basket shook himself, shedding a fine spray of wet hairs over the kitchen cabinet doors.

After mopping the floor - again - and wiping the doors clean, I felt perhaps a cup of coffee might restore my equilibrium sufficiently to write out a shopping list, prompting me to wonder how cupboards that get filled regularly, became empty so quickly?

The rattle of the letter box had me hurrying into the hall, ever hopeful of finding something interesting, but as usual it was mainly junk mail, accompanied by a reminder that payment of the electricity bill was due. I really didn't need that, the day was miserable enough already.

With the rain still relentlessly pouring down, and a shopping list the length of which begged belief, I felt taking the car into town was justified. At the supermarket it appeared everyone else must have had the same idea, leaving the only vacant space at the furthest point from the entrance. Sighing I gathered up purse and bags and trudged through the rain, glaring at the driver who decided to put his foot on the accelerator just as he got alongside me and a deep puddle. Thankful to arrive inside where it was dry I trailed up and down the aisles, carefully checking my list, determined that today I would buy only what was on it, but determination never was my strong point! Arriving at the checkout with a trolley loaded to capacity I frowned when I saw the length of the queues. Which one to join? Oh well, it hardly mattered, and there was sure to be someone willing to chat, to alleviate the boredom while we waited. But today it appeared no-one wanted to talk, not even to grumble about the weather, and I imagine it was because of seeing the glum faces on the customers, even the staff didn't seem their usual cheery selves as they dealt with goods which the customers were unloading on to the conveyor belts, before packing it into their bags as quickly as possible, all eager to get home and out of the rain.

Whilst walking around the shop I'd noticed a young woman doing her best to be patient with a small girl who was chattering non-stop, at the same time surreptitiously removing the items her daughter had added to their trolley.



As they arrived at the checkout the small girl started to sing, her piping voice ringing out loud and clear, “Always look on the Bright Si-de of Life, da da di da di da.” “Always look on the Bright Si-side of Life, da da di da di da!”

Suddenly the atmosphere lifted as people looked round to see where the singing was coming from, smiles breaking out on their faces when they spotted the little girl, some even joining in the chorus as, oblivious to the effect she was having, the little girl continued to sing, “Always Look on the Bright Si-side of Life.”

Somewhat it didn’t matter that I’d bought far more than I’d intended, and reaching the door and seeing the rain had stopped and the sun was filtering through thinning clouds, it felt as though the little girl had worked her magic out here too.

Back home I packed the shopping away, and with the breeze blowing again, instead of draping the washing round indoors as I’d anticipated, I hung it outside to dry, then after a quick lunch, Dog and I set off to enjoy a good long walk.

It wasn’t until husband, arriving home from work that evening, commented that I sounded cheerful and asked if I’d had a good day, I realised I’d been quietly singing to myself “Always look on the Bright Side of Life,” and as I told him the story of how hearing the little girl singing that song had cheered up a whole shop full of people including me, I told him that in spite of everything, “yes, it had been a good day.” □



for the evening. Iris at the Post Office sold tickets, a lot booked with Judy and Vanessa, and people turned up on the night. It was great to see all age groups represented, having a lovely time.

Then came a moment of panic when the DVD player developed a fault (despite working perfectly the day before) and we had to find a replacement. Alan Polaine came to the rescue and we had an unplanned interval while the film was re-set. We would like to thank everyone for their patience and good humour, but hope they agree that the film was delightful and well worth putting up with a slight hiccup. We are grateful to Alan Polaine and David Collingham for managing the equipment and the band of volunteers who helped sell tickets, drinks, ice creams and sweets as well as setting up and clearing away.

We have learned a great deal from our first Village Cinema event, which came about as a result of the consultation carried out early in 2014. Film nights were top of the wish-list for activities in a new Village Centre.

Look out for future events: **Testament of Youth** and **Mr Turner** are booked for **5th June** and **9th July** respectively; both will start at **7:30pm** and wine will be available. There will be afternoon matinee films for children during the summer holidays.

More volunteers will help us put on more film nights. If you would like to help with any aspect – technical, catering, taking money and tickets, please let us know by contacting the Parish Clerk, Iris at the Post Office, Judy Collingham (01485 540271), Vanessa Blythe (01553 631124).

If you would like more information about the plans for a new Village Centre, please contact the Parish Clerk, or check the Parish Council website *Announcements* page.

**Sue Payne - Dersingham Village Centre Working Group** □

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## News from St Cecilia's RC Church

by Patricia Nevin



Our next social occasion will be the **Strawberry Fair** on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July at St Cecilia's. This is always a very popular get together so why not come along and enjoy the strawberries and freshly baked scones, tea and coffee. There will also be the usual raffle, tombola, bric-a-brac and cake stalls. The stalls will be open from mid-day, so come and have a browse.

We are still collecting for the Food Banks in Hunstanton and King's Lynn, which provide help to those in very real need in the local area. There is a box for donations in the porch of both Churches. There is a Fair Trade Stall at St Cecilia's after the 9am Mass on the first Sunday of every month. For more information contact Caroline Brooks on 01553 673069.

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. Please come along, you will be most welcome. **Our daily Masses will be at 10am held in the Church, Sandringham Road, Hunstanton, for the summer**, rather than the Convent, except on Wednesday when it is usually at 10.15am at St Cecilia's, Dersingham. **Please check for dates and times on Church notice boards, website or phone.** Sunday Masses are 9am at Dersingham and 11am at Hunstanton.

The Parish telephone number is **01485 534675**. If you require a Priest urgently please telephone **Fr Peter Rollings** on **01553 772220** or email [parishpriest763@gmail.com](mailto:parishpriest763@gmail.com).  
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## St Nicholas Church News

### A Message from the Church Wardens



As you may have heard, our Vicar, Michael Brock, will be leaving West Norfolk for a new job. His final Sunday with us will be the 31st May, where the 10.30 service will be an opportunity to express our gratitude to Michael, and Carolyn, for all that they have done in this parish and also in the parishes of Shernborne and Anmer over nine and a half years that they have been with us, (and more recently Ingoldisthorpe also).

Working closely with Michael over these past years has been a real pleasure. Many people probably have not realised the huge workload that he has dealt with in this community with consistent calmness and efficiency, as well as representing so well those qualities that one looks for in a parish clergyman. His involvement with the school, the Dersingham United Charities and many other village activities has shown his wide concern for the church's involvement in all areas of life. Carolyn's contribution has also been outstanding, what she has given to our music ministry, and the establishment and nurture of the "F.G.T." group for young mothers and their families, is warmly acknowledged.

The often over-used term of "a hard act to follow" is actually very true in this situation. We wish Michael and Carolyn every happiness in their new home in Nottinghamshire. They will be greatly missed.

**Rita Mathews and Neil Adams**

### Looking ahead to:

- Open Gardens 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> May – see article in magazine
- An Evening of Jazz Concert with the Kingswingers Jazz Trio – 13<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm in the Church Hall. Tickets £8 including food – Olive 542941 or Hadyn 544561
- Summer Festival – A combination of Flowers, Art & Crafts – 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> July □

**E**xtra Hands of Heacham are delighted to announce that for the second year running we have won an award at the prestigious 'Norfolk Care Awards'. The awards are held to demonstrate a wealth of dedication, inspiration and innovation in the care sector and this



the award for 'Promoting Dignity and Respect in Everyday Life. In addition to this we were highly commended in the 'Motivational Leader' category. Hazel and David Evans, owners and directors of Extra Hands said: "Dignity and Respect has always been a passion in our heart and in everything we do. We are very proud of all the staff that work at Extra Hands, especially the care staff who promote dignity and respect every day in the workplace. As a company we are always striving to raise the status of home care to show the world that social care is a wonderful profession to be in."

The requirement for the award was to show that all staff were aware of the importance of dignity and respect and actively engage in promoting these principles in every area of the work they do.

We are currently recruiting for new members to join our award winning team, if you are interested and wish to find out more about working in this very fulfilling role as a Social Carer with Extra Hands, then please either call us on 01485 570611 or visit our website at [www.extrahandshomecarenorfolk.co.uk](http://www.extrahandshomecarenorfolk.co.uk).

**James Beck—Director**

Promoting dignity and  
respect in every day life  
**WINNER**

**NORFOLK  
CARE AWARDS  
2015**

year were held at Sprowston Manor and hosted by Radio 4's Libby Purves. Among those who attended were North Norfolk MP Norman Lamb, care minister; David Prior, chairman of the Care Quality Commission; Martin Green, CEO of Care England; Dennis Bacon, chairman of Norfolk Independent Care; Harold Bodmer, director of community services at Norfolk County Council; Michael Scott, CEO of Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust; and Andrea Sutcliffe, chief inspector of adult social care, Care Quality Commission.

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## Random Jottings

by Tony Bubb

You may have noticed that flower beds are appearing around the newly refurbished play area at the recreation ground. One of our group of diggers on the first day unearthed this strange item. Well rusted, it probably had a wooden handle but the feet would suggest that it wasn't a fork. Can you identify what it is?



We paid one of our occasional visits to the windmill at Great Bircham the other day. As usual, the wind was cutting across the site, but then that was probably why it was put there. Notable for our visit were the sheep that were bleating for Britain. Not a pleasant, gentle bleat but a strident noise reminiscent of Prime Minister's Question Time. I can, however, recommend the cream tea that they serve in the café.

It's amazing what you can learn from the Internet. My son, currently in Vancouver in Canada, spotted a sale of land on Mayne Island, which is just off Vancouver Island. Knowing that Mayne was one of our family names he looked for information and found that in 1857 Captain George Richards of the Royal Navy surveyed the area as captain of the Royal Navy vessel HMS Plumper, naming the island after his Lieutenant, Richard Charles Mayne, son of the first commissioner of the London Metropolitan Police. Richard then went on to become an MP for Pembroke and Haverfordwest. Perhaps I will get there one day.

On the same theme my great grandmother's maiden name was Montara. There is a Montara beach near San Francisco and a leaky oilfield off northern Australia with that name. My family always maintained that the name was Italian but we can only trace a Spanish connection so far with the name possibly relating to Mount Ararat. As usual though, all the relatives who might have known are long gone and we cannot find any records.

I led a five mile walk around Castle Acre recently, enjoyed by twelve members of the Dersingham Walking Group. It is a fascinating village largely constructed out of flint and brick. Our route took us through the Baileygate, down to the river then across and up along the southern ridge before dropping down and returning by the Nar Valley Way with a pause for some at the teashop. It was most enjoyable so if you spot a walk you fancy do turn up. For some of the route we skirted the Priory ruins, largely made of flint. It must have taken ages to collect and transport all the stones needed and then they had to build the place but I suppose they had no particular need to hurry; labour was cheap and they also found time to build a castle. All this prettiness and tranquillity was marred by the almost constant fighter jets coming in to land at Marham. I didn't know they had that many unless it was the same one going round and round. □

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## Have you thought of getting your chimney swept?

**N**ow we are seeing warmer weather, those who have an open fire or a wood burner will probably find it is redundant for the next 6 months or so. This is the perfect time to beat the autumn rush, which according to my chimney sweep is their busy period. Having your chimney swept greatly reduces the chance of a chimney fire because it removes the soot and carbon deposits which build up inside. It can also remove other blockages and debris, such as bird nests, which could also cause a fire. Many of the chimney fires the Fire Service attends are as a result of the chimney not having been swept for some time. We often attend fires where the occupier has not had the chimney recently swept and we have to tackle this from the hearth area. Whilst we take great care to ensure the mess is kept to a minimum, there is invariably a degree of smoke damage which occurs in the room of origin. We would recommend the following steps to reduce the risk:

- ☛ If using your open fire regularly, have it swept at least once a year.
- ☛ Have a qualified chimney sweep to carry out the work. They will have the correct equipment to do the job properly. Homemade improvised devices do not always do the job well enough and can end up causing damage to the stack, pot, or breast.
- ☛ Try to burn only dry well seasoned wood or logs. These provide much better fuel efficiency and will leave less deposits than freshly cut or wet wood.
- ☛ Avoid burning wood that has any paint, tar or other coating on it. These increase the build up of deposits inside the chimney increasing the risk of a fire.
- ☛ Ask the chimney sweep to provide you with a dated invoice or receipt for work carried out..

The internet is an ideal source of information regarding the best types of wood to burn and avoid.

**Paul Edwards – Crew Manager Sandringham Fire Station** □

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## Recording a Barn.

by Brian & Yvonne Anderson

We've been walking in Norfolk for years and have passed many barns without giving them a second glance. But now, after completing a course on *The Archaeology of Standing Buildings* run by SHARP (see box), every time we pass an old barn we spend several minutes contemplating it.

SHARP courses usually involve fairly small groups - on this occasion we had us and two others - Linda and Kate. The tutor was Rachel, assisted by a SHARP volunteer Dan.

The first day was taken up with introductions and a walk around Sedgeford to look at various buildings and get some idea of what recording buildings was all about. The second day we started on the project proper, which was an unrecorded barn at Eaton.

The barn is located at grid ref TF698363 and is approached from Sedgeford via a footpath off the Sedgeford-Snettisham road. From Snettisham, it can be reached by walking up Eaton Drove. There's not much left of Eaton - just the barn and Eaton Farm some distance away. Looking at old maps, Eaton never was very big.

At first sight, the barn appears to be a conventional threshing barn which you see frequently in Norfolk but it turned out to have some unusual features. Our first task was a to assess the geology which influences the building materials available locally. This was pretty much a book exercise and we soon moved on to the setting of the barn in the landscape.

To the north grazing meadow which extends down to the Heacham river. To the south is the footpath and then an area of arable land.

To assess the likely date of the barn construction we turned to old maps. Faden's map of 1797 (the was the survey done between 1790 and 1795) does not show the barn. The barn is shown on the 1840 tithe map and also on the Ordnance Survey First Series map (survey in 1811, publication 1824). It's safe to say that the barn was built no earlier than 1790 and no later than 1824.

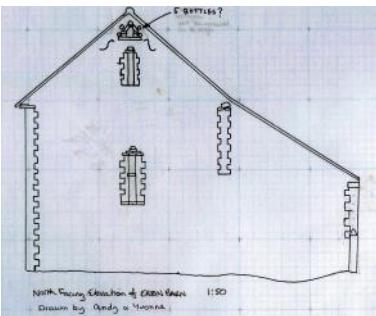
We measured the barn using levels and tapes, drew the plan and elevations by hand and took a range of photographs both inside and outside. The height had to be measured from the most accurate photograph we had plus a little trigonometry. This information was used to produce a report which included the following sections and also detailed drawings - the north elevation shown is an example.

**East elevation:** This has a pitched roof with pantiles and has been recently repaired. The brick cornice has been replaced. There is a large double height door-opening, the top half of which has been weather-boarded shut. The bottom of the doorway retains its original removable wooden slats, which were used to prevent animals entering while threshing was being done. The door has a wooden lintel. There are four equidistant ventilation slots, two each side of the door. The wall is almost entirely carstone with brick quoins at the corners and flint courses marking the building breaks.

**West elevation:** There is a repaired pantile roof but no brick cornice. The walls are of carstone and flint with brick quoins. There are three doorways. The north and central doorways have wooden lintels but the south has a segmented brick arch. On each side of the central doorway there are brick ties to the internal walls.

**North elevation:** This has two narrow vents and a high level triangular vent centred to the apex

SHARP - Sedgeford Historical and Archaeological Research Project.  
[www.sharp.org.uk](http://www.sharp.org.uk)



and surrounded by what appear to be the ends of large bottles or possibly glazed bowls. The walls are of carstone and flint with brick quoins. There is a brick tie to the internal wall and a small section of attached external wall at the west end.

**South elevation:** This has one narrow vent and a triangular event aligned to the apex and decorated with bottle/bowl pattern similar to the north elevation. At the east end is an inserted door, possibly 1950s or 60s and to the west is a wide opening, which could have been enlarged during renovations 2013/14 (these renovations are in modern brick with a steel lintel over). There are remains of beam slots and two beam ends. The wall is of flint, carstone and brick quoins. The door is of wood with a wooden frame and lintel. There is also a bricked-up window in this wall.

#### **The external fabric:**

Primarily carstone with erratic flint lumps, brick repairs and the occasional lump of ferricrete. The dressings and quoins are all of brick. The asymmetric pantile roof has been recently repaired, possibly using the original pantiles. The north and east elevations have one ashlar Barnack stone at each end and the west elevation has a single one with carving on it.



#### **The internal fabric:**

Principally *clunch* with brick dressings. There are four rooms. The large threshing barn has an earthen floor that is deep in pigeon droppings so that the floor is not visible. The cattle barn may also have an earth floor. The room in the south-west corner has a broken concrete screed floor. The middle room on the north side has a brick floor with some reclaimed bricks, possibly Tudor.

There are some original beams in the threshing barn plus some new timbers. All three rooms on the west side have replaced roof timbers.

#### **Fixtures and fittings:**

##### **1. The threshing barn**

- Retained roof beams plus new timbers.
- Cement render on lower walls, possibly done when it was converted to animal housing and when the opening to the west was bricked up.
- Metal tie rods securing the north and south walls.
- Steps to door in south elevation.

##### **2. South west end room**

- New concrete floor.
- New opening in south elevation.
- Doorway to middle room with wooden frame and lintel.

##### **3. Middle room.**

- Existing doorway as above with some original door furniture: door hangers and fastener loops.
- Later door inserted into wall to threshing barn.

##### **4. Cattle shed.**

- Wooden feeding trough.
- Bricked-up door from middle room - probably inserted when the wall to the threshing barn was inserted.



At the beginning of the week we didn't think we could manage all but we were pleased with what we achieved. It was hard work!

There is a bit of a sequel. Some time after finishing the course we noticed a cottage in Dersingham with similar gable end 'bottles' - is this the trademark of a local builder? Does anyone know? □

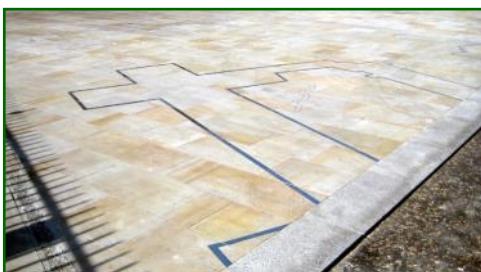
# PUZZLE CORNER

## Sudoku No. 42 by Rob

Answers on page 74

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

## Where is it? What is it? by Tony Bubb



## Word Wall by Philip Neal

 Sort the following into 4 groups of connected words:

SEAGULLS	ACER	SNAP	LILAC
APPLE	GREYLAG	COBBLERS	PATIENCE
TOFFEES	ASPEN	OWLS	CANADA
BRIDGE	BARNACLE	21	BRENT



**Crafty Crafters**

A local craft group has been recently set up, meeting at the Village Hall, Stanhoe (The Reading Room) on the second Monday of every month from 7-9pm. There is a mixture of interests including knitting, crocheting, felting, carding, quilting, jewellery making and many more.

If you wish to join this very friendly group for a chat and a cuppa please let me know at [jatflater@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jatflater@hotmail.co.uk) or on **07773 931461** or just simply turn up.

Our next meeting will be on the 8th June. Please bring whatever you are currently working on. Everyone is extremely welcome. **Judith Findlater**



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## Dersingham Day Centre

by Alice Worth

**O**n Wednesday , 11<sup>th</sup> March, unfortunately too late for the last edition of Village Voice, and on behalf of the Carole Brown's Patient Participation Group, Mrs Vanessa Blythe and Mr Tom Morris came to present us with a cheque for the Day Centre. Derrick Worth, our Treasurer, received this generous donation from Mrs Blythe and expressed his thanks on behalf of the Members and Volunteers. Following the presentation Mrs Blythe spent time talking to the Members.



On 8<sup>th</sup> April we celebrated with our Easter Party. We had a top class lunch of turkey with all the usual trimmings, followed by fresh fruit salad and ice cream. After lunch we had our usual entertainment with Leigh Murfet and our Easter Bonnet competition. This year John Tansley won first prize for the best decorated gentleman's hat and Pat Bone won the first prize for the lady's hat. Both were presented with a special Easter Egg. Tea and hot cross buns finished off the afternoon and each Member was given an Easter Egg as they left for home.

On 15<sup>th</sup> April we celebrated Jean Shaw's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. She treated us all to a fish and chip lunch, supplied by the Village Fryer. It was nice that her family, together with a friend, were able to join

us for lunch. After lunch she was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers and a special birthday cake, made as usual by Alison Girling. Jean has undergone serious leg surgery this last year and has been an inspiration to us all with the way she has coped. She bombs around the day centre in her wheelchair, always with a smile on her face. To see her happy and, more importantly, free from pain is a pleasure for us all.

90<sup>th</sup> plus Birthdays seem to be very popular at the Day Centre this year and we will be celebrating another one on the 29<sup>th</sup>



April, too late for this issue. Fred Cooper will be in for a lovely surprise – but more of this next time.

The Day Centre now has vacancies and so if you feel that you would like to spend each Wednesday with us in the Church Hall, or if you are a carer or know someone who you think would benefit from a day out each week, you can either ask the Surgery to refer you to us or you can contact me direct on 01485 544673 for further information. Needless to say we never have enough Volunteers, so if you can spare some time on a Wednesday, whatever hours suit you, then why not come along and see what we get up to. I know all our Volunteers get a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction from helping.

Alice Worth □





## Carole Brown Health Centre (CBHC) Patients' Participation Group (PPG) News

From: Tom Morris, PPG Committee

**OBITURAY:** In January, Ted Overall, a longstanding and active member of the PPG passed away. Despite failing health, Ted always fought for better services for CBHC patients and his contribution to the work of the PPG will be sadly missed.

**PPG MEETING:** Staff and patients attending the March meeting of the PPG were fortunate to receive two excellent presentations.

**Mrs Jane Rose-Land**, a Nutritionist and the Programme Director for Zest4Life West Norfolk, gave an excellent and informative presentation on the benefits of healthy eating, weight control and exercise. She elaborated on how achieving and maintaining the correct levels of blood sugars led to a feeling of well being and how this can be achieved. The importance of a healthy diet was stressed and examples were given of natural products that could be included in a healthy diet. A lively question and answer followed!

**Mrs Esme Corner**, Governor and Chair of the Patient Experience Committee at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, addressed the meeting. Members were treated to an entirely unbiased overview of the position at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. She explained that the Governors are elected to hold the Board of the hospital to account and to liaise with the general public. Although in financial difficulties with a deficit of £14.9 million and in 'special measures' the hospital will definitely continue to function as a District Hospital. There is a 5 year plan covering many aspects such as A & E and the Ambulatory A&E care for less urgent cases and the continued attempt to enrol more permanent staff to ease the massive cost of agency staff.

**QUIZ NIGHT:** This annual event held in partnership with the Friends of St Nicholas Church was



both a social and financial success. 98 contestants in 20 teams had little difficulty in answering the questions and the winning team for the 2nd year running was inappropriately called *Thickset*.

**DONATIONS:** During the last month the PPG has made a major contribution towards the cost of a new Phlebotomy Chair for the surgery and presented the Dersingham Day Centre for the Elderly with a donation of £500. These donations are in line with the aims of the PPG to fund equipment and services that benefit directly patients of the Carole Brown Health Centre.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** The AGM will be held on **Thursday, 23rd July** at the Carole Brown Health Centre at **7.00pm**. New members for the PPG Committee are again being sought so to avoid being crushed in the queue, please advise any member of the current committee, Vanessa Blythe, Tom & Dee Morris, Jackie Sisson, Sandy Hyams or Barry Judd of your interest. You will find being a PPG Committee member a rewarding and interesting experience. □

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## Dersingham Library News



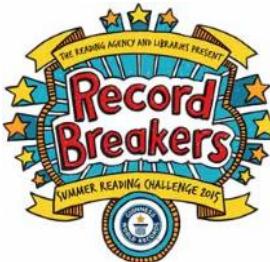
### Bookstart gifting to 3-4 year olds

It's that time of year when we gift treasure packs to those children who will be entering reception in September.

We are holding a gifting session at Dersingham Library on **Thursday 11th June between 3pm and 6pm**. Please come along and collect your child's FREE pack. You will have the opportunity to speak to library staff about your child and books/reading. If you are not already a member you can join for free on the day and enjoy the books and other resources we have in the library.

### Brave New Reads

If you've tried any of the 6 chosen reads in our Brave New Reads campaign, launched earlier in May, why not come along to the last night of our Book Group meeting and share your views with others on **Monday 20th July 6-7.30pm**. Please book by contacting the library on 01485 540181



### Record Breakers Summer Reading Challenge 2015

Become a Record Breaker this summer - discover AMAZING world records as you read your way through your choice of library books, collecting stickers as you go to complete your fold-up poster. The game will launch at Dersingham Library on **Monday 13th July from 3-6pm**.

Help us on our world record breaking attempt to collect 1000 reading pledges across Norfolk between **Friday 10th and Monday 13th July!**

This year there will be a Record Breakers challenge for pre-school children – so the whole family can be reading this summer.

Flyers for all our special summer events will go out to schools in July.

### ImagiNation

For 11 – 18 year olds let your ImagiNation go wild with ideas for art, music, photography, poetry inspired by the books you enjoy over the summer. Pick up your ImagiNation booklet at your local library and mobile library over the summer.

### New books coming June/ July

You can request any of these books via the library website [www.library.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.library.norfolk.gov.uk) for only 60p each title (if you receive a notification via email)

**Louis De Bernieres** - *The dust that falls from dreams* (an epic story of love and war)

**Karin Slaughter** - *Pretty girls* (an unsolved mystery of a sister's disappearance)

**Harper Lee** - *Go set the watchman* (another story narrated by Scout Finch)

**Nicci French** - *Friday on my mind* (final adventure of psychotherapist Frieda Klein)

**Chris Carter** - *I am death* (adventure starring homicide detective Robert Hunter)

**Peter Robinson** - *No cure for love* (NOT a DCI Banks thriller!)

**Deborah Moggach** - *Something to hide* (a woman heads to Africa after an affair with her husband's best friend).

**Alison Thorne**

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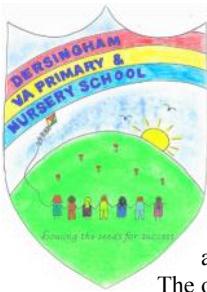
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## Dersingham VA Primary and Nursery School

**C**an it really be the Summer Term already? We have certainly had some beautiful sunny days, giving the children the opportunity to use our extensive grounds to explore, develop and appreciate an understanding of flora and fauna and have fun of course!

We said farewell to the Spring Term by celebrating Easter with a carousel of exciting activities in our Peer Mentoring groups. This gave children across the age ranges the opportunity to spend quality time with one another.

The older children showed their supportive and nurturing skills and younger children had positive role models to inspire them. The day included learning some unusual circus skills with the Easter Bunny! Investigators and Discoverers put on a wonderful performance of Aladdin Trouble. Children, parents and staff were incredibly impressed with the professionalism of the production and the incredible effort that both classes put in.

KS1 and the Early Years children have received a delivery of eggs and have been avidly watching the new arrivals hatching out. They have learnt about the life-cycle of chickens, what chicks need to survive and how to be responsible caring citizens. We are hoping to keep some of the hens and Mr Crump is busy making a fabulous hen house for the quad, where children will be able to continue to care for the hens and eventually use their eggs for breakfast club and cooking activities throughout the term. Reception children also have some extra residents in the form of tadpoles and harvest mice! They are thoroughly enjoying the active learning that these first hand experiences present. The children are busy re-developing their raised bed garden and if any green fingered residents would like to come and help, please contact Jane Kendal on 01485 540022.



Puddleducks Mother and Toddler group runs every Friday in the hall at the Early Years site and parents are invited to come and play alongside their children in a relaxed and friendly environment. There are also a small number of vacancies in the baby and preschool rooms and Nursery. If you would like to come and visit the site for an informal chat and tour, then please get in touch.

All classes are launching their new topics, with inspiring wow starters to engage and motivate the children. Adventurers arrived back to school, only to head straight off again on an African adventure! With passports to hand they flew off to experience African mask making, fruit tasting, African music workshop, African stories and a recycled sports event, African style! They are looking forward to continuing their learning by comparing the UK to Africa, making links with African schools and investigating the different animals on a safari! Discoverers are 'Going with the Flow' and have used drama and role play to catapult them back in time and create a new settlement. They capitalised on the outside space and even used the long drive as their river! Woodland Warriors and Treetopolis are preparing for a very special bear from Peru with a craving for marmalade sandwiches! Paddington will help them learn about the Incas and the children will make comparisons between Dersingham, London and Peru.

As our sporting activities and success continue, we are pleased to announce the formation of a new Sports Council. The children have already presented their ideas, including forming lunchtime sports clubs and special activities across the age ranges during Golden Time. Mrs Bower will be coming into school to give support and training to a group of sports leaders, who will hopefully go on to make physical activity an even more appealing pastime! Last half term saw a plethora of events including KS1 and KS2 football tournaments, Year 2 gymnastics finals in Norwich, a swim gala at Smithdon High School and First Steps Netball. Congratulations to the High 5 netball team, who put in a stunning performance to progress to the next stage of competition and to the two hockey teams who won the trophy and plate competitions at Lynnsport.

**Sue Picton** □



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## Healthy Eating with Caroline Bosworth

I am a firm believer in the old adage – “You are What You Eat”, perhaps more recently referred to as “Rubbish in, Rubbish out”.

As many of you know, I work for several companies and am responsible for a large amount of team members in several counties and I watch with sadness as some of them queue up at the sandwich van and buy not inexpensive armfuls of processed food... then complain of tiredness and having little money left prior to the next pay day. I try to spend time working with these team members to encourage them to prepare more food themselves and save some cash too.

I know that Cookery, or Domestic Science or Food Technology as it is now called is squeezed into a tight curriculum, and I suspect that that is one of the reasons for the lack of understanding behind the poor diets that I routinely see. I had the privilege of working with the children’s centre recently, on a “Grow and Cook Your Own” course, whereby course members came to the store to cost up healthy meal options. Initially the perception was that a roast chicken meal would be too expensive, but we spent time costing up the meal and how the leftovers could be used to create a curry or casserole and then the carcass used to make stock –so 3 healthy meals for the price of one chicken.

Whilst I love to work with groups to explain the benefits of healthy eating like this in terms of both health and finance – it can seem like a lonely place to be. So come on everyone – join me – spread the word to those you know and love about how easy, enjoyable, tasty, healthy and cost efficient making your own can be..

Here is one of my favourite lunch meals – you can take it to work, on a picnic or serve it at home with lots of lovely green salad. If you haven’t tried Quinoa – I do urge you to give it a try....

### Quinoa Salad

*About half a pack of Quinoa  
(Pronounced ‘Keen Wah’)*

*Vegetable stock*—my favourite is Marigold stock which comes in a tub – but use whichever is your favourite or to hand.

*Feta cheese*—maybe goats or whatever is your favourite but I think a sharp cheese works best.

*Whatever you love that is in your fridge*—Cherry tomatoes, celery, olives, toasted pine nuts etc.

1. Rinse the Quinoa and then cook according to pack instructions – but use vegetable stock for the cooking liquid rather than water.
2. Leave to cool
3. Chop the feta, goat’s cheese or whatever you are using and stir through the cool Quinoa with whatever other tasty morsels you are using.

See – simples! And oh so very much tastier than a cheese sandwich. Quinoa is a great source of protein and is also great for those reducing the amount of wheat in their diets. Do give it a try – we all love it here at home. □



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## Dersingham Evening WI by Maggie Guest



We celebrated our birthday in April with fish and chips as our membership has reached 82! Wendy organised some superb and unusual visits with lunch included in the agenda. Most interesting was a trip to the Military Museum on the Millfleet in King's Lynn. I had no idea it existed! The twelve members who went were shown round the exhibits from the Somme in 1916 through to today's war in Afghanistan. They were shown photos and stories about real people's experiences of war by the volunteers who work there. A torch was handed out and members ventured into a mock trench to see what the soldiers of WW1 experienced. Two ladies volunteered to have tuition and had a go on the firing range!! Probably the highlight for most members was dressing up in modern combat gear still used today. They were amazed at the weight of the helmets and the body protection which also stores ammunition. They were also given a variety of weapons to hold to enable them to experience what it is like to be a soldier fighting in today's wars. After a very informative hour, the members went to a local café for a well-earned lunch, having been amazed at both man's inhumanity to man, but more appreciative of what our military go through to protect us.

Wendy then took a group to the Sea Life Sanctuary in Hunstanton followed by lunch at The Honeystone. She later took another group and personally gave a guided tour of the centre and important historical sites. We do appreciate the hard work Wendy puts into these visits. We finished with a look at the Hunstanton Heritage Centre which is a lively and well-presented display of artefacts and photographs of this Victorian seaside resort. Where to next, Wendy?

The walking group met at the old railway line and walked to Snettisham for coffee at the Queen Victoria where we were made most welcome. The weather was perfect and people enjoyed stretching their legs with the option, if needed, of returning by bus. I am glad to report that, all but one or two with appointments, managed to walk back. The second walk started in Fakenham and we walked along by the River Wensum for most of the time. Warm, spring sunshine made the going pleasant. The bright green of spring buds, two beautiful swans gliding along and ducks bobbing their tails made for a delightful heart lifting ramble. We followed this pleasure with a visit to the Fakenham Garden Centre.

Roma and Sharon have had successful coffee mornings. They are so good for getting to know people in a cosier environment as are all the smaller groups and thanks to all our hostesses.

The eating-out groups have been very active, as have Bab's Craft Group, the MAD group and Fit 'n' dancing . A group of us went to Docking Market and were most impressed by the food and goods on sale there.

The last two meetings have seen Chris Holt in March give a most interesting talk with stunning pictures about a trip to Nepal to help children and, in April, an amusing talk on the confusing differences in meaning between some American and English words and phrases.

### **Future Meetings (at St Cecilia's Church 7:30 on third Wednesday of the month):**

**Wed 17th June: Time at a London Fashion House—Wed 15th July: Talk on rescue donkeys**

Our Meet and Greet ladies at the door will welcome new people and there is no obligation to join until after two meetings or activities. □





might want to run an activity and/or do some fundraising, perhaps selling refreshments, organising games etc. Stalls will be free of charge.

Please contact the Clerk to book space and let us know any requirements you have – eg how much space, access to electricity or water. Groups will have to supply their own gazebo/awning, tables etc. To book space for a stall and for more information, contact the Clerk at the Parish Council Office: 4a Post Office Road; Tel 01485 541465.

Email [clerk@dersinghampc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@dersinghampc.org.uk) . □

## We're having a Party!

We're looking forward to our party on Saturday 13th June 2015, 12noon to 4pm, celebrating the completion of refurbishments to the Play Area, and to mark the Recreation Ground being granted 'Fields in Trust' protection; (visit [www.fieldsintrust.org](http://www.fieldsintrust.org)). We have a variety of activities including fairground rides, activities and games. You can bring a picnic, or you will be able to buy food and drink on site.

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## Plants for the Play Area



A new border has been created in the Play Area, dug out by Parish Councillors and Task Force members and planted by Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, Cub Scouts, Beavers with a bit of parental help.

We are very grateful to **James Graven's Budgens** for very generously sponsoring the cost of the plants, which were supplied by Thaxters.

We are also planning to plant a Willow Arch, and small copse of trees under-planted with some shrubs in the Autumn.

We are still getting positive comments following the refurbishment; it has been lovely to see so many children enjoying the new equipment. □

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## Wood Pigeons Considered

by David Bingham



I glanced out of the window in search of something to write about and the first birds I saw were, perhaps predictably, a pair of wood pigeons sitting on the fence billing and cooing. So what do I know about wood pigeons? Well for a start they are fat and they have small heads. They also have a rather pompous look about them, a comical waddling gait and a monotonous call that can be heard all summer. Their habit of flying into windows with a bang and leaving behind a powdery image, as though we've been visited by a tiny angel (or a giant fairy), suggests that they aren't the cleverest of birds. Having said this they do seem clever enough to raid my bird feeders if they get half a chance and I try to keep them just out of their reach, leaving the pigeons to patrol the ground below in search of scraps. As far as looks go wood pigeons aren't exactly graceful - but if you look closely the flashes of iridescent green around their necks and the rich purplish hue to their breast feathers do look very fine when seen in the sunshine. They also have white neck patches and broad white wing bars – making them one of the easiest birds to recognise in flight - even from half a mile away or more. Last year I saw an amazing hyper realistic painting of a dead wood pigeon in a fine arts shop. The pigeon was lying on what looked like a grass verge and there were no clues as to why it had died because it looked very fit - apart from being dead. I was very taken with the picture and wanted to buy it. Needless to say I was 'dissuaded' from this course of action.

Wood pigeons seem to have a very laid-back attitude to life and spend their time generally mooching around. I've never seen them displaying much in the way of aggression, apart from a bit of argy-bargy in the breeding season, and their courtship rituals are quite decorous. We usually have a couple of wood pigeon nests in the garden. Untidy affairs, nothing more than a loose pile of twigs where they lay their white eggs and raise their two ugly squabs on a diet that consists of regurgitated food, which forms into a kind of milky substance in their stomachs. I also often see them performing an unusual flying manoeuvre and I can't say I've seen any other bird doing the same. They fly up in a steep curve to a stall point, where they remain motionless for a split second before gliding downwards in another steep curve. Whether this is a display flight or has some other function I don't know.

This year's RSPB 'Big Garden Birdwatch' found that wood pigeons are continuing to increase in numbers as garden birds at a phenomenal rate. They were never seen in gardens when I was growing up and I only knew them as nervous birds that flocked onto arable fields or crashed noisily through the treetops. I can recall my first encounter with urban wood pigeons. They were in St James's Park and I was amazed at how close it was possible to get to them. I don't know whether the wood pigeons of Dersingham live separate lives from their relatives out in the countryside and are really two tribes, or whether they move between these worlds and change their behaviour to suit their surroundings. They are considered to be a pest by farmers and gardeners but they don't bother me and the ones in our garden seem to know they aren't in any danger. In fact we are in more danger from them because they are confident enough to fly very close and I've been whacked in the head more than once by sizeable twigs as they carried them to their nests.

Doves are closely related to pigeons and have been taken up by religious and political groups as a symbol of peace. Wood pigeons haven't been honoured in this way. Perhaps it isn't surprising that such a common, fat, lazy, stupid, idle, greedy, and clumsy bird hasn't found many countries or organisations keen to adopt them as a symbol of what they stand for. But they do have one very useful trait that would make them a fine national bird fit to adorn any flag. When they fly into windows they seem to bounce off and continue on their way. And when a storm destroys their nest they start building again in exactly the same place as soon as the wind dies down. Like Robert the Bruce's spider, they are resilient and never give in – judging by the number of wood pigeons in the village this is a winning characteristic. □



## Dersingham Institute Bowls Club

After a long winter the sun shone on Saturday 11th April and forty bowlers took to the green for a roll up. As tradition dictates the first wood was bowled by our President, Bob Meredith. Everyone agreed the green looked and played beautifully thanks to the magnificent effort by greenkeeper, Dicky Murrell and his team over the closure period. The afternoon concluded with a glass of wine and very generous finger buffet provided by the Social Committee.

The season is now getting underway with the first internal competition already taking place and matches in the Countryside, North West Norfolk and Albert Victor leagues starting shortly.

Unfortunately the cold winter has taken its toll on a number of bowlers who due to various aches and pains will have to cut back on their bowling this season. This has left a limited number of vacancies for playing members so anyone interested in joining a friendly and thriving Club should contact our Secretary on 01485 298419.

Coaching sessions will run again this season between 10am and 12 noon on Tuesday mornings and we invite you to join us for our Table-Top Sale at the Clubhouse on Sunday 24th May.

Happy bowling!

Helen Young □

## Ringstead Open Gardens

The picturesque village of Ringstead celebrates its 38th annual Open Gardens event on **Sunday 28th June** between **11am and 5pm**. Lunches (£9 per adult) will be served at Hillside between 12 – 2pm (to book telephone Melanie on 01485 525494), and Teas are available at East End Farm from 11am – 5pm as well as stalls including bric-a-brac, cake and tombola. The raffle prizes include a ‘Flight for Two over the Norfolk Countryside’.

Other attractions include various craft stalls and the very popular plant stall that is held in the beautiful garden of Apple Tree Cottage, which is a delight in itself to visit.

From Sunday 28th to Monday 29th June (10am – 5pm) a Display of Flowers and Vestments will be held in St Andrews Church.

On the outskirts of the village one can experience the beauty and tranquillity that has been created by the Woodland Gardens and Walks Group (a small charity group of volunteers) in the Chalk Pit area of Ringstead Downs.

Last year Lord Melchett led a guided tour round Courtyard Farm and Ringstead Common, which proved very popular and was enjoyed by all. He has kindly offered to lead the tour again. This will start at 4.30 and dogs on leads are welcome.

In conjunction with the Open Gardens, six artists (Sally Ann Fitter, Bryan Harford, Helga Joergens-Lendrum, David Lendrum, Cass Wedd and Alan Witley) all residents of Ringstead, will be holding an **Art Exhibition** in the Village Hall from **2.30 – 5pm on Friday 26th June**, and from **10am – 5pm on Saturday 27th to Monday 29th June**.

Free minibus transport round the village is available on Sunday. £3 admits to all locations, and proceeds go to St Andrews Church. Further information from Cherry on **01485 525223** □



## Financial Expertise on Your Dersingham Doorstep

Dersingham-based financial adviser Martin Setchell has joined an elite band of professionals in achieving Chartered Financial Planner status.

The 35-year-old father-of-two spent six years studying to become one of just 4,500 to achieve the qualification in the UK.

Chartered status means that Martin, a director at Ring Associates, is qualified to provide a broader range of advice on everything from pensions and retirement planning to investment planning and corporate auto enrolment schemes.

"I'm delighted to have achieved this status after six years of hard work, and I'm really looking forward to building long-lasting relationships with my clients," he said.

Martin believes that regulators will eventually make chartered status the minimum requirement to give certain types of financial advice.

"The minimum standard has already increased from certification to diploma level, and we believe chartered level is the next step," he added.

"People understand the term 'chartered' as being a professional qualification, so it adds credibility to the industry both among fellow professionals like solicitors and accountants and the public."

Martin joined Ring Associates nearly three years ago, having worked in the financial services industry since the age of 18, and believes his new accreditation will stand him in good stead in the sector in the future.

"The average age of people reaching this level in the UK is over 50, so achieving it at a relatively young age proves my commitment to being around for a long time," he added.

Managing director Simon Ring, paying tribute to the King's Lynn-based firm's first CFP, said: "Martin has put in a tremendous amount of work in his own time, and it's something we actively encourage.

"It's a great accolade for the firm that one of our directors has achieved chartered status and it's a signpost for the rest of us to achieve the same level. The aim is to have all our advisers chartered within the next five years."

Martin is available for home visits as well as meetings in the town centre. □



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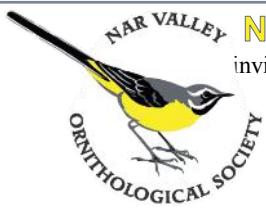
## John Lambert's National Service Experiences (No 4)

The first thing I must point out is that I was quite oblivious that anything was amiss with my parachute, the only thing that I thought to myself as I had landed was that I had hit the ground rather hard.

The instructors that stood on the airfield watching us come out of the plane had noticed one parachute (me!) had somersaulted in the slipstream of the engines as the parachute was opening. When we had all landed we were told to stand still while they came round to inspect each parachute. When they got to me, one instructor shouted "OK, we've found it."

Apparently what had happened was as the parachute opened and as I somersaulted, the "rigging lines" had swept over the canopy and consequently burned a large hole in it. The canopy just fell to pieces and it was only then that I realised how close I had come to meeting my Maker!

I must say though, that those occasions were very rare. □



## Nar Valley Ornithological Society (NarVOS)

invite you to The Barn Theatre, Sacred Heart Convent School, Swaffham.

(Access and parking from Sporle Road) on

**Tuesday 26th May, 7.30pm** for an illustrated talk:

### **Madagascar Birding in the 8th Continent**

John and Judy Geeson went with a Tropical Birding tour to Madagascar, an utterly unique island of wildlife wonders. We welcome Norfolk resident John to NarVOS to give us his account of their trip to this fascinating island, often referred to as the eighth continent, which has well over 100 bird species found nowhere else on earth. It should be a great evening.

**Tuesday 30th June, 7.30pm  
Member's Evening**

We do not have a main speaker for this indoor meeting. Not because we can't find one, but we want to open up the meeting to NarVOS members and visitors. We are likely to have one or two shorter presentations, together with all sorts of exhibits, books, photos, etc that members bring along. We tried something similar a couple of years ago which was a great success.

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

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## Dersingham Bog News from Tom Bolderstone, Reserve Warden



March and April have seen a distinct change in the weather and there have actually been some pleasantly warm and sunny days on the reserve and spring seems to be with us in full force.

The first butterfly survey of the year was completed on the 15<sup>th</sup> April. This survey is carried out for 26 weeks over the season and monitors the fortunes of the reserve's butterflies over this period.

There has also been a change in the species of bird seen and heard on site with large numbers of Chiffchaff singing. Over the course of March and April more spring migrants began to arrive, with Blackcaps singing in the woods, and Willow Warblers singing in the surrounding areas of the reserve. The first cuckoo was heard on the 16th April with a second bird heard on the 22nd. The first Tree Pipit was heard singing on the 13th April at the northern end of the site.

Of course there is one bird, which by the time you are reading will have arrived, but its arrival is greatly anticipated by the staff and volunteers and that is the Nightjar. The Nightjar as its name implies is a nocturnal bird so trying to see one can be tricky but they can be seen anytime from Mid-May to late August particularly around the boardwalk area. The best time of day to see them is around half an hour to an hour before dusk as this is when they begin their distinctive song. Their song is like no other bird and sounds much like an electronic grasshopper. A quick search on the internet for 'Nightjar Churring' and there are lots of websites that you can hear the churring and prepare to come and see the Nightjar.

Like many of the breeding species at Dersingham Bog NNR, Nightjars like to nest on the ground and their nests can be well hidden. Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times and when visiting the reserve, keeping to the way-marked paths will not only give you a fantastic view of the reserve and many of its secrets, it will also allow the breeding birds to nest free from disturbance.



added to the top. The bed is then planted with reed rootstock. Water is pumped from the most nutrient rich part of the surrounding ditch and then filtered through the reeds, then pumped back into the ditch. It is hoped over time this will reduce the amount of nutrients flowing into the bog and slow the growth of reed which is out-competing the bog plants.

As summer gets here and the weather (hopefully) stays warm I look forward to seeing some of you visiting the reserve. If you see us out on site please stop and have a chat we would be more than happy to talk about some of the work we are doing.

[thomas.bolderstone@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:thomas.bolderstone@naturalengland.org.uk) □





## Dersingham Walking Group

Welcome to the Dersingham Walking Group, which provides regular guided walks round the local countryside. There are some interesting walks coming up, including a guided tour of King's Lynn with historian Dr Paul Richards. We'll also be exploring local footpaths across the Dersingham bypass, and be up on the coast at Brancaster. Two walks will be summer evening ones, so let's hope for some balmy weather.

The walks are free, just turn up on the day wearing suitable clothing and sturdy footwear. Dogs are welcome, provided they're well behaved. The length is shown for each walk but they usually take a couple of hours or so, with a stop halfway. Why not get some fresh air and exercise, you'll be in good company! Details of our next walks are:

### Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2.00pm

**Starting point:** West Lodge, Houghton.

**Grid ref:** TF 777 289

A woodland circuit of the Houghton Estate. Length of walk: 4 miles

**Leader:** Elizabeth Fiddick 01485 540940

### Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 6.30pm

**Starting point:** The old railway station, bottom of Station Rd. Dersingham.

Grid ref: TF 680 307

An evening walk round the fields and tracks west of Dersingham. Length of walk: 4 miles

**Leader:** Cliff Jordan 01485 541115

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2.00pm

**Starting point:** All Saints church, Fring.

**Grid ref:** TF 735 348

Fields and footpaths round the village of Fring. Length of walk: 4.5 miles

**Leader:** Stephen Martyn 01485 541333

### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2.00pm

**Starting point:** True's Yard, North St.

King's Lynn.

**Grid ref:** TF 618 205

Walk round King's Lynn, with guide Dr Paul Richards to tell you all the fascinating history. Cost £5 per head, please book in advance with leader. Length of walk: Approx. 2 hours

**Leader:** Tony Bubb 01485 542638

### Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 6.30pm

**Starting point:** St Mary's church, Brancaster.

**Grid ref:** TF 772 439

An evening walk around the village of Brancaster. Length of walk: 4 miles

**Leader:** Elizabeth Fiddick 01485 540940

Full walks programme on the parish council website. [www.dersingham.org.uk/announcements](http://www.dersingham.org.uk/announcements)

*Quoted grid references are for the relevant Ordnance Survey map, usually Landranger sheet 132 or Explorer sheet 250. The leaders are happy to organize and lead these walks but stress that each participant must appreciate that there are hazards associated with walking and take responsibility for their own safety. As Alfred Wainwright said "watch where you put your feet"!*

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

**Stephen Martyn—Group Co-ordinator  
01485 541333 stephenmartyn@gmail.com □**



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## The Sandringham Newsletter

by kind permission of the Sandringham Estate  
compiled by Helen Walch

The last of the sugar beet harvest has been delivered to the factory for processing, and spring sowings of peas and beans, barley and wheat have been completed. The blackcurrant picking machinery has been serviced ready for the coming season.

In the Gardens, the red-twiggled lime trees which form a pleached walk around the North Garden have been pruned and tied in. Work has started on spiking the lawns and iron treatments have been applied to some of the mossy areas. A soakaway has been installed along the shrubbery path to take away surface water from an area which has been a problem during wet weather. Lawn mowing has begun, and will continue now until well into the autumn. On the lakes, families of ducklings are now beginning to appear in some numbers.

Forestry staff have been planting hedges and clearing wind-blown branches, and have delivered several loads of birch firewood to the Sawmill for processing.

Quite a bit of work took place at the Museum before it opened to the public on Easter Saturday. Part of it was re-roofed, using slates in place of concrete tiles, and the clock in the clock tower was repainted, with gold leaf applied to pick out the numbers on the clock face. Inside the Museum, King George VI's 1949 Daimler has been added to the display of Royal vehicles, and a custom-built picnic trailer from the 1960s has been added to the shooting brakes collection.

The annual exhibition in the Museum this year is of paintings by members of the British, Danish, Greek and Russian Royal Families and includes works by HRH The Duke of Edinburgh and HRH The Prince of Wales, as well as by Queen Alexandra and her sister, the Tsarina Maria Feodorovna, among others. The Museum, Gardens and Sandringham House opened to the public for the new season on Easter Saturday, 4th April, and largely sunny weather since then has meant many people have been able to enjoy the magnolia and cherry blossom in the Woodland Walk and Stream Walk. □



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## Clinging to Our Coastline

**L**e's talk about limpets! Take a stroll along the beach and you will most likely spot these small molluscs clinging on to a rocky substrate at low tide. Perfectly adapted to living in the intertidal zone, limpets move across their rocky habitat to graze on nutrient rich algae during high tides, but prior to this, they grind their shell into the rocky base creating a unique indentation which they

are able to return to at low tide. Adhering themselves to this spot with their muscular foot means that water trapped inside the shell prevents the limpets from drying out when exposed to the air.

Despite our technical capabilities, man struggles to erect structures which can withstand the forces of nature. Recent natural disasters have shown how easily buildings can crumble in the face of hurricanes, tsunamis and earthquakes. On a much smaller scale, we have seen evidence of this along Britain's shores, in particular damage to the north Norfolk coast during the storm surge of 2013. The RSPB reserve at Snettisham lost two hides during this period which have now been replaced with a temporary

viewing structure. This still allows visitors to have uninterrupted views of the lagoons and provides a good place to witness the world renowned wader spectacles.

Unlike limpets, which are able to withstand the constant buffering of incoming tides, our coastlines are not so immune. Waves and currents, both tidal and wave driven, remove mud, sand and gravel from cliffs and beaches, transporting and depositing them in other areas. This process is known as coastal erosion. Over

recent decades, rising sea levels attributed to global warming are accelerating the rate of shoreline erosion. Higher sea levels are giving rise to waves with a greater energy. These high energy waves are extending their reach up the beach and redistributing sand further offshore.

Along the beaches between Snettisham and Hunstanton areas of the shingle banks are washed out to sea during winter swells leaving inland regions vulnerable to coastal flooding. The Environment Agency, which closely monitors beach levels throughout the year, is project managing an initiative to reclaim much of the lost material swept towards Snettisham Scalp. In recent months several tons of sand and shingle have been recovered and used to reinforce existing sea defences. Known as beach recycling, this method is the most sustainable way of protecting some of Norfolk's environmentally important coastline.

It may not be possible to maintain a status quo on north Norfolk's coastline but being able to identify areas at risk is an important step. Just as the limpet prepares its holding ground ready for the swell of the incoming tide, the RSPB and other agencies are inputting strategies to limit long term adverse effects on local ecology and breeding sites.

Carrie Carey, RSPB Visitor Experience Manager □



Common Limpet



New Temporary Sanctuary Hide at Snettisham RSPB Reserve

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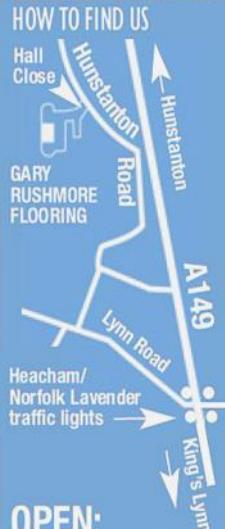
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## The Daily Doings of Mrs Dolittle

(a.k.a. Valerie Anckorn)

I recently forgot to put Mr. Flynn's magazine at the bottom of his cage – he likes to have a ripping time – and with little else to do, he proceeded to pull out his breast feathers and some on his back as well. I was devastated as you can imagine, for there must be nothing more boring, sitting in a cage all your life, than to have nothing to do. He used to have plenty of toys, but chose to only play with a bell – the others were all monsters which he avoided at all times, so to stop him shaking, I had to remove them. The bell is a punctuation of his displeasure, or pleasure, depending on the moment, so lack of paper shredding to work at caused him to look for an alternative – hence the feather plucking.

I had been tardy, what with the leg and sitting around moping most days during winter (apart from the poultry portraiture attempts) that I had even stopped given them (my parrots, if you are new to this page) fresh salads and sprouting seeds, so when realising my poor parrots' plight, I shoved in a magazine *tout de bloomin' suite* (though he prefers telephone directories) to keep him occupied and began sprouting lentils and chickpeas as quickly as possible too. He is fine now, but I don't know how long it will take for new feather growth. Now we have some sunshine, they both sit basking in it, preening on their perches. I have to make sure they are not in it for too long, because parrots in their natural habitat fly around under forest canopies and like us, too much sun is not good for them.

I've mentioned before that the second parrot is called Dimity. I always pluck names 'out of the air' believing they are being named by some unseen spirit. When I received the name Dimity, I thought it was a material not a name, and on getting out my trusty dictionary found that indeed it was, a material made from two threads of different colours, and from the Greek word 'dimitos' meaning two, or second. Second parrot. Very clever. I also wondered, though didn't believe, that maybe 'them upstairs' knew what I didn't, that my parrot was a bit dim – dim by name and dim by nature. And strangely enough, the dear little thing *is* dim!

My son in law can whistle gloriously – alas, an almost dead talent these days – so I asked him to spend some time in front of the cages so the parrots can compute the trills and arpeggios in order to deliver. Mr. Flynn now does some amazing whistle work, whereas poor little Dimity produces flat, tuneless and dreadful renditions. How can this be? Somebody who couldn't whistle must have had a go in front of them, or maybe that is how she computes, but trust her to do it all wrong. It makes me howl with laughter!

Mr Flynn likes to imitate rude body noises. (Imitating a Mr. Nobody I suppose) He practices a lot, and elaborates, so I tried to get him to say 'manners' after each rude noise. Does he? Does he hell! More often than not he laughs. However, somehow the word got stuck into Dimity's small brain. In the morning, from under their night time blankets over their cages, Mr. Flynn greets me with a chirpy, "Good morning!" while Dimity delivers a toneless, 'Manners'! At bedtime, Mr. Flynn, as the blanket descends over his cage, cheerily says, 'Night night, sleep tight, see you in the morning', while Dimity says – yes – "Manners". On occasion she does go through a list of things she can say, and does it very well, but maybe she does this dim bit, just to make me laugh. Who knows? Every time I pass their cages these days I say, "I love you" and neither has copied. Mr. Flynn looks at me with evil beady eyes as if to say, "You keep me in a cage when I should be flying free and getting my own meals, and you want me to say, I love you?" Hmm. Yes. However, I know that Dimity loves me, she goes into a lovelorn quiver when I talk to her and stroke her, and brings up some food for me, - a parrot love token. I don't Hoover these days as I have someone who does it for me, but when I used to, Dimity always sat on my head as I hoovered around the house. Bless her little heart.

I had a nasty shock the other day when a young lad, around 13 or so, who was belting along the pavement on his bike, decided, without looking back, to veer straight off the road in front of my

moving car. I had noticed him and was ready for silly behaviour, but the only way I could avoid the lad was to swerve right across the road. Had another car been coming in the opposite direction, I hate to think what would have happened. Shaken, I crossed into my own road, and got out of the car to shout, “Oi!” at the boy (I couldn’t think what else to shout) He didn’t seem to hear, so I shouted even louder, “OI!” Puzzled, he stopped, pulled out headphones from his ears (those small ones you can’t see). Clearly he had been listening to music and was completely oblivious to his very close call to death or disfigurement. I was in no state to explain, very shaken up by the experience, and he cycled off none the wiser. He looked a nice boy, but what kind of daft society are we that lets youngsters ride around with their ears plugged and deaf to outside noises, and also with no apparent cycling skills or road safety understanding?

Changing the subject, you may recall I mentioned that recently I had fallen over rather badly and couldn’t get up – well, I had some girl friends over for lunch – when I say girls, we are all well past sixty – and were amusing ourselves with lists of our ailments. We had a bit of a competition going, as to who had suffered the worst fall, and one came out the absolute winner. She had gone with her husband to Strasbourg for Christmas, and had set out on Christmas Eve on a little shopping expedition on her own. She resists using a walking stick, and therefore found herself falling hard, smashing her face against a German pavement. She lay there stunned for a while, vaguely aware of tuts of disgust from passers by, who clearly thought her a drunk. Eventually she rolled her way to the edge of a pavement and managed to sit up on it, her feet in the gutter. Feeling decidedly groggy and a bit sick, she became aware of knees quite near to her own. Carefully turning her aching head, she saw that she was sat beside a bottle-clutching drunk on the pavement. Then, she was aware of the sound of an accordion. Carefully turning her head the other way, she saw that Father Christmas in full red fur trimmed outfit, drunk and playing an accordion badly, was sat beside her on the other side. Neither of the men took the slightest interest in her at all, so crawling away on stiff all-fours, she made her way to a lamp-post to haul herself up and managed to phone her husband. Her face, black and blue and swollen to enormous size nearly caused him a fainting fit, but she at least was back into the arms of her man and safety. Well, we all hooted with laughter at her story, but how dreadful that a perfectly sober old lady, fallen and helpless on the ground had been completely ignored by passers by on Christmas night. Makes you think, doesn’t it.

I’d recently managed to fill a garden bag with weeds but hadn’t got the energy to drag it to the car, so asked Remote Control Man to do it, which plea he promptly erased from his memory. After a good night’s sleep (a rare occurrence) I was still fuming with anger and decided to get up at the crack of dawn while my body was still refreshed. Anger fuelled adrenalin works for me as I become a not-so-jolly-green-giant – I had soon sawn down a tree, pulled the bags and other stuff to the car and made such a clatter that RCM appeared at the door in his dressing gown, admonishing me and telling me to sit down – which I was about to do anyway – though collapse was a better term. He was dressed in half an hour to fill the car and made two trips to the dump before the cock had stopped crowing. Thinks. I must get angry more often! While he was in guilty-feeling mode, I asked him (for the umpteenth time) to move my washing line from the centre of the garden to the side, so that now I have an uninterrupted view of my garden from the bi-fold doors where there is a wealth of beautiful forsythia blooming high into the trees, daffodils, forget-me-nots and all the spring blooms that have sprung up and into blossom from the dire winter forlornness. After my splurge of energy, I



now feel completely drained and exhausted – but can now lie back on the sofa, look at the garden, and not see anything that needs moving and disposing of. Lots of bluetits are flitting around with the loudest of calls, while some busy blackbirds zoom across the garden, swoop under the gazebo and into the tree of their choice where eggs are hatching. For me, such is bliss. Enjoy the spring and summer.

Donations of telephone directories or similar would be appreciated by Mr Flynn and Dimity □



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## Dersingham Task Force Receives an Award



**Congratulations** must go to Dersingham Task Force on being awarded a Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk Mayor's Community Award. Representatives from the Task Force gathered in the Mayor's parlour to see Sue Eastmure receive the Award on behalf of the Task Force from Deputy Mayor Councillor Colin Manning. The citation gave a description of the work undertaken by the Task Force around the village over the years including, litter picking, keeping footpaths accessible, helping with Village events such as the Flower Festival in the Church and recently assisting with planting of the saplings on the Warren and daffodils in the centre of the village. Task force members will also be frequently seen tending the rose bed on Post Office Road. Many members of the Task Force have freely given their time and efforts to ensure the village is looking its best since its formation in 2004. The citation went on to say

*'All these tasks are undertaken amidst friendship, cheerfulness, many discussions putting the world to right and a sense of doing their bit for their village, Dersingham'*

Well done Task Force and a big **Thank You** for all that you do.

The Dersingham Task Force welcomes new members (no qualifications or regular commitment required) and normally meets at 10am on the first and third Wednesday of each month. For further information contact Sue Eastmure on **01485 543870** or email [taskforce@whifflersworld.co.uk](mailto:taskforce@whifflersworld.co.uk) and ask to be put on the mailing list for future events.

**Cllr Kate Hathaway** □



### News from Ingoldisthorpe School

Ingoldisthorpe School's Easter Term ended with our Easter Service in Ingoldisthorpe Village Church followed by an Easter Egg Hunt on the school field for all the children. We are now settled in to the Summer Term with lots of exciting trips and visits planned for the next few weeks. We have already had PCSO Spencer in to talk to children and parents about keeping children safe on the internet. We have also had Anglian Water in to talk to Maple and Willow classes about the importance of water. Willow class undertook a road traffic study down at the village pond. We are very excited for 10 of our children who have places in the GEAR mini fun run coming up in King's Lynn. We wish them luck.

**Fiona Nicholl** □

## 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 95 (Aug/Sep 2015)	Wednesday 1st July 2015	Monday 20th July 2015
No 96 (Oct/Nov 2015)	Wednesday 2nd September 2015	Monday 21st September 2015
No 97 (Dec 2015/Jan 2016)	Wednesday 4th November 2015	Monday 23rd November 2015

## 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 £17.50 for an eighth page, £27.50 for a quarter, £50 for a half and £95 for a full page. Discounts available for block bookings paid up-front. VAT is no longer payable. Full details and booking forms can be downloaded from our website or obtained from the Parish Office or email: [villagevoice@dersingham.org.uk](mailto:villagevoice@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: [editor@villagevoice.org.uk](mailto:editor@villagevoice.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, these 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 does not necessarily agree with opinions expressed, or accuracy of statements made, by contributors.* □

## Dersingham Parish Council Office

**4a Post Office Road, Dersingham, King's Lynn, PE31 6HP—Tel: 01485 541465**

The Production Team for this edition consists of

Editor/Distribution Co-ordinator: Steve Davis Editorial assistant: Rob Smyth

Administration: Sarah Bristow (*Parish Clerk*) Advertising: Tony Bubb

Printed by Clanpress Ltd, Dundee Ct., Hamburg Way, King's Lynn, Norfolk

## Answers to Puzzles

### Word Wall:

- Football Teams:** SEAGULLS (Brighton), TOFFEES (Everton), COBLERS (Northampton), OWLS (Sheffield Wed.)
- Trees:** ACER, APPLE, LILAC, ASPEN
- Card Games:** SNAP, BRIDGE, PATIENCE, 21
- Geese:** GRELAG, CANADA, BARNACLE, BRENT

### Where Is it? What is it?

The outline of the Old Charnel House that was next to St Margaret's Minster, which has been let into the new paving at Saturday Market Place. It will be extended soon over the car parking area.



### Solution to Sudoku No. 42

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

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# VILLAGE VOICE LIVE

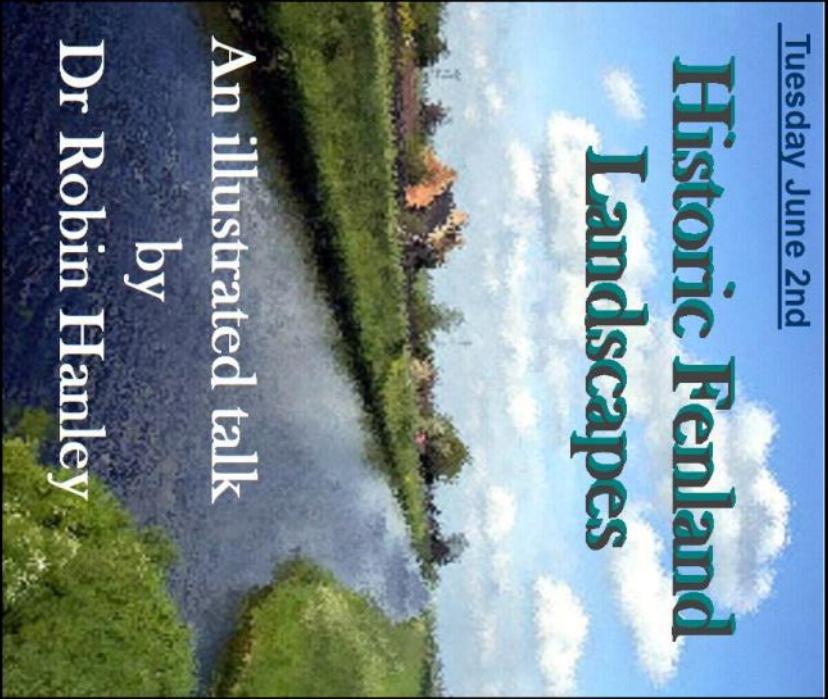
Tuesday June 2nd

## Historic Fenland Landscapes

An illustrated talk

by

Dr Robin Hanley



Tuesday July 7th

## KING'S LYNN AND THE HANSEATIC LEAGUE, PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

With Nick Dawbney & Dr Paul Richards



St Nicholas Church Hall, Manor Road, Dersingham.  
7.30 pm Admission £3.00 including refreshments & raffle

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