



Athelington, Horham & Redlingfield NEWS



**BUMPER
56-PAGE
ISSUE**

**AUTUMN 2022
Issue No. 58**

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This bumper issue includes all our villages' big jubilee events ... we've got some great pictures from Athelington, Horham and Redlingfield. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to a memorable weekend. The Jubilee bank holiday seems an age ago and in theory we're hitting autumn soon. Hopefully that will mean that we get some decent rainfall. There's tons more planned for our little corner of Suffolk ... hope to see you at some of the upcoming events.

It has been a tough couple of years with covid and now, with the coronavirus still bubbling away in the background, we've got a drought, rising prices and an energy crisis. It would be nice to think that by the time we get to winter something will have been done to ensure that no-one has to make a choice between eating and heating. And it would be nice to think that none of our neighbours will face such stark choices. I don't know what the answer is but surely something drastic needs to be done before winter really bites.

Thank you to Neville Butcher for these wonderful summery and autumnal pictures ... not sure when it'll be safe for bonfires though. **Mike Ager**



Many thanks to Rev Richard Court and Midge Gibbons for proofreading the magazine. Any errors are mine.

If you would like to advertise or contribute to the magazine or have an event or organisation you would like featured contact editor:

Mike Ager on mike@gn.apc.org or 01379 678835 at Hidcote Lodge, Mill Road, Redlingfield, IP23 7QU.

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Athelington, Horham & Redlingfield News was founded in 2008 by Evelyn Adey and Mike Ager.

Those hazy, crazy days of harvest and drought

Trevor Edwards' latest slice of Wash Farm Wildlife

AN OLD NAT KING COLE chart-topper springs to mind this year. It opens with "Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer", (or wavey ravey days if you holiday in Ibiza), and the comparisons with 1976 were inevitable as the drought continued and the temperatures soared to new levels.

Hazy and crazy days they might be, but they are certainly not lazy.

Childhood memories of picnic teas in the harvest field remain just memories as fewer workers drive forever bigger machines over larger acreages and the

modern-day rush afflicts farmers just like everyone else.

Throwing a cigarette stub out of the car window used to be described as careless or unsociable but two weeks ago criminally insane would have been a better description. A discarded fag end was seen by a friendly swimming instructor who immediately raised the alarm enabling Will and Drew, after rapid assistance from passing Gavin Dann of Tuckwells (to whom we owe a big thank you), to set about quelling the roadside verge fire. Luckily the wind was taking it to the road away

from the wheat and the speedy response of two fire engines was only needed for dousing down. Undoubtedly a lucky escape.

THE COMBINE MADE good progress through better than average crops though the oilseed rape yields stubbornly remain disappointing. My good friend retired agronomist John Tunaley laughingly said just when you think you've mastered the twenty-six things that can afflict the oilseed rape crop, a twenty-seventh comes along. It's a



**Please mind where
you're walking**

This kingfisher finds the restored swimming pond at Grove Farm is well worth a visit.



shame as a good sustainable vegetable oil crop is taking the pressure off palm oil for which the clearance of tropical forest areas is proving so bad for climate-warming reasons.

Then of course the Ukraine war changed that market and now the drought in France has further reduced the sunflower harvest.

The handsome red deer trio pictured here, a lovely photo taken by Rachael and Nathan of Bridge House, thankfully didn't traipse too much through the crop in its full April colour and the track damage at harvest was minimal. The harvest gang saw just one adult stag with some well-grown

antlers when the combine completed the job.

MOVE OVER 1976, anybody under fifty will hark back in the future and say what a scorching summer we had in 2022. Wildlife generally has enjoyed the warmth as long as water has been available, and the importance of ponds and their restoration is now recognised by support from the new environmental schemes.

One pond at Grove Farm, Denham is in no need of improvement however as Oli Knowland has created the perfect swimming

pond sustained with a variety of oxygenating plants. It is now favoured by a visiting kingfisher and his photograph illustrates perfectly the power of the head and bill of a relatively small bird.

We are disappointed that swallows have not nested here as usual though we have plenty of free pond-side mud. They attempted to repair the old nest in the woodshed but then gave up too easily. However, they may have been apprentice first-year returners from the two broods of 2021 because there were three of them and as we know, two's company and three's a crowd.

Continued on page 4.

Continued from page 3.

I am hopeful the spotted flycatcher, which I was lucky to snap on the only day I saw it, has been successfully nesting somewhere in the garden. The previous attempts have been on the gable end of the house, not a good location as being highly visible to predators, the nest of eggs or chicks

were predated more often than not.

Three barn owl and two buzzard chicks have been ringed on the farm and three turtle dove territories are occupied locally. One is here at Wash Farm, one at Rick Waters' at Cranley and the third at Hidcote Lodge where Mike and Jan report two juveniles are taking full advantage of the canary

food provided daily.

A newcomer to the farm bird-count this year was the oystercatcher and Will regularly saw two pairs on his morning dog-walk at Kiln Farm. Surprised by this, we have learnt that whilst it gathers on coastal estuaries in winter, the oystercatcher will nest inland on heath or

Just arrived, the turtle dove settles in on May 9th.



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agricultural land though we saw no evidence of breeding. Next door at Toll Barn, Duncan and Zara said goodbye to their Ukrainian family who return to Moldova after two months of safety in Suffolk to be reunited with their father who could not leave an aged relative.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF A VISIT TO the East Sussex coast in June was the Rye Harbour Nature Reserve. Once affiliated to the south-east Cinque Ports which helped defend the realm in Anglo-Saxon times, Rye had retreated inland as its river silted up and the Sussex Wildlife Trust has grabbed the opportunity of creating a river and coastal reserve of 548 ha (1,350 acres). With no entry charge and dogs-on-lead friendly, it is quite different to Minsmere, and the reserve provided a super walk adjacent to the teashops and good ale of picturesque Rye. We enjoyed the bonus of seeing oystercatchers, ringed plovers and avocets all fussing over their young on a wonderful summers' evening.



An enquiring look from the spotted flycatcher.

AFTER PLENTY OF WONDERFUL summers' evenings, a good rain would be welcome.
Trevor Edwards



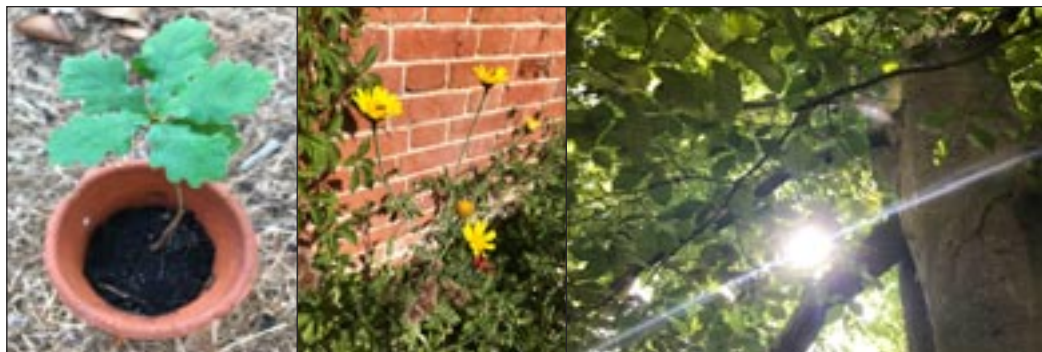
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Some fledgling successes

HELLO EVERYONE! WE have been looking back at the summer newsletter and everything was so green!

Unfortunately, we have lost some of our young trees to the hot weather. Hopefully next summer will be different so that our next 100 trees will have a better first year. Our potted oak trees are still doing well though and we hope to plant a lot of them this winter.

We are really pleased to report that two of our kestrel chicks fledged successfully! BTO Suffolk came back to ring them in June and we got to see them really closely and hold them afterwards which was an amazing experience. You may remember that we had four eggs and they did all hatch, but somewhere in between them hatching and them being ringed, two didn't make it. They may have been predated by crows or perhaps buzzards, but two fledging is still a great achievement and we have our fingers very crossed for them!

We are also thrilled to have had two successful breeding pairs of Spotted Flycatchers this year, each with four fledged young. Spotted Flycatchers used to be a common nesting species, but have declined by 87% since 1970, so they are now a rare species to see and are on the RSPB Red List (Birds of Conservation Concern).

We are really delighted that they have done so well at ours and are very excited that we might be able to help the British Trust for Ornithology track one next year on its migratory route after breeding in the UK (see our sponsored swim article for more information).

We have kept feeding the birds this summer, mainly on high energy food such as fat balls and sunflower hearts and it's made a really big difference to their survival. The Bullfinches are flocking to the big feeder and so are the Greenfinches. We've also had Songthrushes breeding and using our bug hotel to smash snails on! We wondered what the tapping noise was



Pictured, from top left: 'Baby Oak Tree' by Edward (3); 'The Importance of Wildflowers' by Arthur (7); 'Sunny Beech' by Henry (10); young Spotted Flycatchers; and Henry and Arthur with kestrel chicks.

and they were using a broken flower pot!

A lady from Operation Turtle Dove (RSPB) kindly visited us at the start of summer and supplied us with three big sacks of Turtle Dove supplementary food. When Turtle Doves arrive here there isn't usually enough food for them and this helps to give them a top up in time for breeding. It contains lots of little seeds like linseed and canary seed and you sprinkle it on very short grass on an open area. A week after we received the food and started sprinkling, we had Turtle Doves here for the first time in six years! They were active all summer and we think they may have even bred here which is wonderful.

It goes to show that a few wild areas and a topped-up bird feeder can make a big difference in a small area. Hopefully next spring/summer will be another success!

We hope you have enjoyed reading our news and look forward to reporting back on our trees and wildlife in the next newsletter. We also hope to make our own blackberry ice-cream so will let you know if it was yummy!

***From Henry & Arthur
Colnet Conservation***



Woodland is maturing

THE WOOD AND meadow continue to mature and develop in Pound Lane Wood.

In the meadow the yellow rattle has suppressed the growth of the grass and allowing the wildflowers to establish – although we managed a fair crop of hay to sell this year.

In early summer we found two pyramid orchids in the meadow, up from one last year. The buttercups and ox-eye daisies looked good and bees were certainly enjoying the clover. Dog roses bloomed in the hedges and among the trees.

Meadow brown and

Speckled Wood butterflies were both to be seen on the meadow. Caterpillars of both species feed on the grasses.

At the pond the flag irises provided food for the larvae of the iris Sawfly. Although the irises were covered with larvae this year they should recover. The adult flies provide food for birds and ground beetles so are a valuable part of the biodiversity of the wood.

After sitting quietly by the pond for some time a Broad-bodied Chaser dragonfly stopped hunting and rested long enough for a photograph. The water

level in the pond is now lower as the hot summer takes its toll. Still visits to the wood are always rewarding.

Sadly, we have to record the death of one of our trustees Geoff Hoad. Geoff has been a long-serving member of the group and will be greatly missed.

If you are interested in joining us at New Reeding Woods Group and getting hands on experience of helping improve our local environment and enjoying outdoor activity, please contact our secretary Penny Conway on 07495875299.

Penny Conway

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From top: A Speckled Wood butterfly; a Pyramid Orchid; and making hay while the sun shines.

■ **RIDE & STRIDE:** The annual Suffolk Historic Churches Trust is nearly here. It's on Saturday 10 September! Due to an oversight somewhere down the line our four venues (St. Peter, Athelington; St Mary, Horham; Horham Baptist Church; and St Andrew, Redlingfield) were left off the written list of venues. However, they are all taking part as always and I'll be doing what I can to publicise that fact. Now called the Ride and Stride and Pedal and Drive, the event is the main source of income to Suffolk Historic Churches Trust to enable it to make grants to churches and chapels of all denominations towards repair and restoration costs. The Ride & Stride is run entirely by volunteers and is inter-denominational, with cyclists invited to seek sponsors who will undertake to pay an agreed sum of money for each place of worship visited by the cyclist between 9am and 5pm on Ride & Stride Day. The money raised by each participant is shared equally between the SHCT and the place of worship nominated by the participant. If you would like sponsorship forms, more information or want to know who you can sponsor contact: Colin Palmer, for St Peter's Athelington on 01728 628747; Daphne Harvey, for St Mary's Horham, on 01379 384216; or Pauline Abbott for St Andrew's Redlingfield, on 01379 678253 or 07483271534. Horham PCC is indebted to the SHCT and Benefact Trust (previously Allchurches) for grants towards the recent repairs to the masonry, replacement of asbestos guttering and restoration of the exterior nave walls, which are now complete.



Jubilee at The

WE HAD A wonderfully busy and happy day celebrating the Queen's jubilee. The Old School was full of people looking at our display of old photographs of Horham, watching a compilation of films made by Don Moyes, and completing a part of our commemorative Jubilee painting. Many people took away a photograph thanks to Andy Black. The cakes were all consumed and the bar and garden were very busy! We were pleased to welcome many



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Old School

new faces and old friends. Thank you to everyone who loaned photographs, helped to put up the displays, made cakes and manned the building on the day. Thanks also to the Parish Council for funds that helped make the day a success.

The very dry and hot weather has ensured that our bar and garden has been well used on Sunday afternoons, do come and join for an afternoon drink and chat. The coffee morning is also well supported and the new favourite cake, a delicious chocolate and orange confection made by Pip, is a great attraction. The bar is open from midday on Sunday to 5pm, the coffee morning is every Wednesday from 10.30am to midday. *Horham and Athelington Village Hall Management Committee*



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**We hope to see
you soon!**

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Memorable celebration

HORHAM'S JUBILEE Celebrations on 4th June were on the theme of "what memories are made of". We will not forget the visit from "HRH" Tim and Lady in Waiting Karen, the BBQ, teas, archive film and photographs and records, portrait photography, Church bells, races, crown making, treasure hunt, old bicycles and bowling and just the joy of being out and about again seeing the children racing about and meeting old and new friends after the restrictions of the pandemic .

Thank you to every one of you who joined in and made it such success.

The Yard Sale and Car Boot on 16th July meant we again entertained visitors to Horham and enabled people to tidy their attics! Hot and dusty but thankfully the bar was open! Thanks to all concerned.

The planning application approval for Petanque is expected on August 18th, so polish up your boules; diggers, spades and special gravel are at the ready.

The Harvest Lunch is to be on



Jubilee celebrations. Photos: Ronda Kelford & Sarah Colnet.

Sunday 23rd October. Tickets £8 from Angela Wilkins, 01379 384625. Christmas Dinner plans are under way so watch this space.

Open Mic Nights resume on the second Saturday in the month, on 10th September. Further details to be found on the CC notice board. Do come into the Community Centre on Wednesday and Friday evenings for a drink and keep up to date with all that is going on in your CC.

The Annual General Meeting, for the year ended 31st March, 2022 for Horham Village Hall Trust and Horham and Athelington Community Council, will be on Wednesday 21st September, 7.30pm in the community centre. All welcome.

Margaret Streeter, Horham Village Hall Trust and Horham and Athelington Community Council



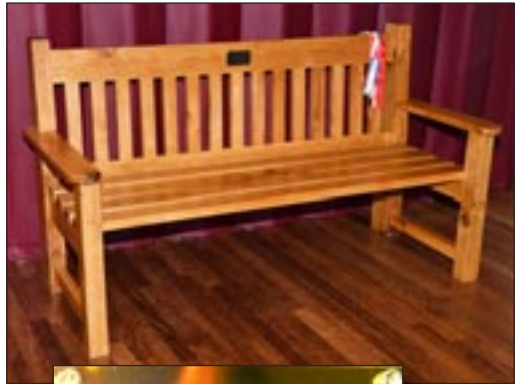
Big thank you from council

ON BEHALF OF THE Parish Council we would like to say a big thank you to all who organised the Jubilee celebrations at Horham and Athelington,

Athelington started the celebrations the weekend before with a stunning Corgi Trail around the church. Each of the many Corgis were decorated differently and filled the churchyard. Very well done!

At the end of the trail we were guided into the church with the scent of the brilliant flower arrangements filling the air. The flower arrangements were stunning. Outside the church we were treated to tea, coffee and cakes and were able to purchase raffle tickets. This was a perfect opportunity to enjoy an afternoon chatting and catching up with friends that hadn't been seen since before lock-down.

The following Saturday many attended the Old School where we were treated to a display of old photographs which took us all back in time! A splendid effort by those who compiled them all. At the Community Centre and Recreation Ground there were vintage stationary engines and vehicles which drew many admiring looks. Children's races and competitions took place with other displays and games. In the middle of the afternoon we had a visit from HRH herself! Who would have thought she would come to the villages to join our



The oak bench and its plaque.

party and be elsewhere at the same time. The day finished with a BBQ and drinks which capped a very enjoyable day.

The Parish Council commissioned Jason Smith-Jefferies to build a commemorative bench. Jason used Oak off-cuts from timber felled in David and Sue Mitchell's managed wood. The result is absolutely breathtaking, a master craftsman at his best and he has donated his efforts free, a very generous gesture. The bench will, in time, be permanently situated opposite the church.

Again, the Parish Council would like to thank all for the efforts to make the Jubilee celebrations an enjoyable time.

***Horham and Athelington
Parish Council***



Pictured: The cyclists' send off, their Pedal to the Palace jerseys, on the ride and at Buckingham Palace.

Pedalling to the Palace

WITH THE AIM OF RAISING £5,000, FIVE INTREPID PEOPLE cycled from Redlingfield to Buckingham Palace during the first weekend in July.

They took formal greetings from Redlingfield to Her Majesty.

The village wants to repair and update the church of St Andrew, by adding a small kitchen and toilets, so that the community can use it for events and meetings, not just as a church. They also plan to improve the Doorstep Green so youngsters have somewhere they can play in safety, as well as making it accessible to wheelchairs and buggies and more wildlife friendly.

Villagers turned out to give Rev Richard Court, Adrian and Alison Smith, Heather Jones and Andrew Hemmings a big send off on the Saturday morning.

Along the way they met some lovely people and well-wishers. They got completely lost in Colchester but still managed to reach Buckingham Palace, as planned, on Sunday afternoon having cycled just over 120 miles.

Having posed for pictures at the palace, they and their bikes had just enough time to get to the station to catch a train home.

Alison said: "We were very humbled by the support shown to us by all the people who came out early on a Saturday to cheer us off

"We saw some beautiful parts of the country on our way and made great memories cycling through a queue of people waiting to see Westlife only to realise we had gone the wrong way and had to squeeze our way back through the queue!

"We laughed a lot when we went down a very big hill only to find at the bottom that we actually should have been going up it instead!"





for Redlingfield

“The team was really supportive and encouraging and a rendition of Smokey and the Bandit’s ‘long way to go and a short time to get there’ kept us going as we raced across London to catch our train with only eight minutes to spare. We had a great adventure and hopefully raised lots of money for a very good cause and cycling down the Mall will be a memory we treasure.”

Rev Richard added: “After all the preparation it was good to finally get under way on Saturday morning – and such a tremendous send off from the village.”

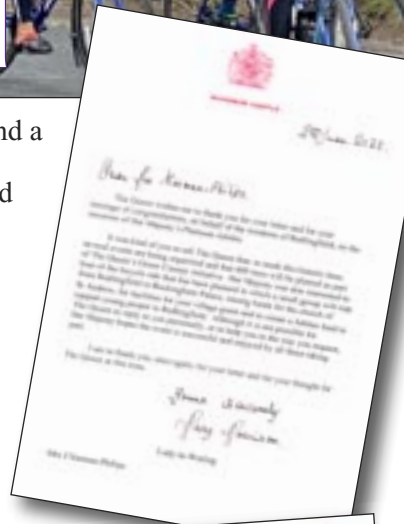
Parish clerk, Janet Norman-Philips said: “We are all just so impressed by what they have achieved, we are very proud of them. It’s a bonkers but brilliant thing to do.”

The team were also twice interviewed live on Radio Suffolk on their journey.

Janet added: “So far we’ve raised just under £3,000 of the £5,000 we are hoping to collect. We’d just like to thank everyone who has been able to contribute or help, especially with the cost of living as it is. Our Redlingfield Pedal to the Palace Just Giving page will be staying up until the end of September, so hopefully we can get a few more donations.”

The link is: www.justgiving.com/campaign/redlingfieldpedaltothepalace

Words: Mike Ager. Photos: Janet Norman Philips, Rob Scott, Revd Richard Court and Revd John McCracken. Also pictured are a letter from Buckingham Palace wishing the team success and the greetings to Her Majesty that was taken to London.



FEATURES & NEWS



This page, from top left: Lesley Rose and two guests; Avril & Rev Richard Court, with Alison Smith; Julian Bye & Caroline Risk; Amber Brice, Phoebe & Tom Smith and James & Will Abbott on the swings; and Derek Sim & granddaughter Daisy Chilvers. Facing page, from top: Sarah Colnet with sons Edward, Henry & Arthur testing the cube and husband Daniel in the background; Central Suffolk & North Ipswich MP Dr Dan Poulter chatting with Parish Chair Midge Gibbons: and Pauline, Beverley & Patrick Abbott.





FEATURES & NEWS



■ **LOVELY JUBBLY JUBILEE:** The weather may not have been particularly kind to Redlingfield's Jubilee weekend events but that couldn't dampen the villagers' spirits and enthusiasm. The Saturday night Pub on the Green was a great success and 94 people, 77 adults and 17 children, all had a "Jubilee Tea on the Green". The cream tea was rounded off by a visit from our MP, Dr Daniel Poulter, who joined in the Pimms and Hymns organised by Revd Eleanor Goodison. He wrote: "Perhaps one of the most traditional jubilee events was the Redlingfield Jubilee Fete which was organised by Janet Norman-Philips. I want to thank Janet and Rev Eleanor Goodison for a beautiful tribute to the Queen and a wonderful personal end to the weekend." Many thanks to the organisers, the cake bakers, the sandwich-makers, the setter-uppers, the servers and all the villagers who, working together, helped make the Tea on the Green an especially enjoyable event.

Janet Norman-Philips



A consort of Jubilee corgis

IT WAS THE Queen's Platinum Jubilee weekend, but more importantly it was the weekend that St. Peter's Athelington celebrated its patronal festival (and the Jubilee) in a new, and it must be said, unique way. We did it with a flower festival in the church, and a corgi trail outside.

Friday afternoon saw the churchyard fill with local helpers who had come to set up the tents, decorate them, carry chairs and tables, urns, cups and saucers, tea and coffee and an array of cakes.

The church was full of some of the most beautiful flower arrangements I, and many others, had ever seen. The air was full of the heady scents of the flowers, the pews, altar, windows and font were covered in themed arrangements that would not have been out of place at Chelsea Flower Show. And outside, the corgis had been placed around the churchyard, forming a trail that started at the gate and made its way between the graves to the back of the church and the all-



important tea and coffee tents. 32 corgis stood there in all their glory, decorated with style and imagination. Some had hats – one had a tiara; others were painted in every colour you could think of, and adorned with lace and gold ribbons, red velvet and black material.

It turned out to be an extraordinary celebration which so many people enjoyed. From 10am on Saturday to 5pm on Sunday, people came along from far and wide, the nearest from just up the road in Athelington and the furthest a delightful lady who had just arrived from Ukraine.

Everyone was welcomed as they came through the gate into the

churchyard and given a map of the trail. They didn't really need a map after meeting the first corgi and setting off but it made a lovely souvenir and reminder of the festival.

What struck me most were the locals who had never been inside this little gem of a church. It was an eye-opener for so many, especially those from just a mile or so away. They





Pictured, facing page: flowers inside the church.

This page, from top: organiser Nicholas Cook; Henry, Sarah, Edward and Arthur Colnet get in the spirit; Elaine Hawes and Imogen Chambers with their decorated corgi (all three photos Mark Bullimore); a host of helpers; and a selection of corgis. Thanks to Mark Bullimore Photography & Joe Hadden at the Diss Express, Colin Palmer & Edmund Hawes for their photos.



discovered a simple, beautifully-proportioned church that was started 900 years ago. The stone heads of King Edward and Queen Philippa stand over the outer door; inside light streams through the windows, showing up the carved wooden bench ends that depict a variety of saints.

Come to the Christmas Advent Carol service, we urged everybody. The church is lit with candles; there are some wonderful poems and singing as well as the usual favourite Advent Carol hymns ... and to round it off there are mince pies and mulled wine afterwards.

But this was the summer Patronal Festival and there were other refreshments on offer. Coffee came in individual cafetieres; tea in a proper tea pot. There was a milk jug on each tray; china cups and saucers were brought by an enthusiastic army of children to your seat. Not a drop was spilled. And the variety of cakes had to be seen to be believed.

My memories of this weekend were of fun and amazement that anyone could dream up, and create, a trail of corgis. Of smiles and laughter, of old friends meeting up after long absences and new friends being made.

It was a magical weekend and we can't wait for next year. But what can better or even match those corgis?

Mary Anne Evans





■ **CELEBRATIONS IN '77:** A few pictures from the late Edith Coe's collection showing villagers celebrating the Silver Jubilee on Peter and Joyce's farm in Redlingfield in 1977.

Mike Ager



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■ **CELEBRATING THE QUEEN'S FAITH:** At Horham Baptist Church, we held an Afternoon Tea to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee on the Monday after the main celebrations of the weekend (to avoid clashing with anyone else!). We invited about 90 people from the surrounding villages and were really pleased to welcome around 60 people to our Afternoon Tea. Sweet and savoury snacks were provided, together with a cuppa, and a quiz based around the royals was (hopefully) enjoyed by all. There was lots of chatter and laughter and a great time was had by all. As a parting gift, we provided everyone with a lovely book, full of pictures and text about The Queen and her ever present faith in God. Adam Blowes, our Pastor, was invited into the local Primary Schools, to hold assemblies, where he was able to share something about the faith that The Queen has, and how that has influenced her over the past 70 years. Adam left some books at each school as a reminder and to provide more information. The Queen's Christian faith has been a great source of strength and comfort to her. The Platinum Jubilee was an opportunity to give thanks to God for the life of Her Majesty the Queen and celebrate her 70 years of dedicated service.

Simon Burgin



FEATURES & NEWS

■ JUBILEE FAYRE:

Redlingfield's Summer Fayre was a bit different this year thanks to Adrian Smith who cooked up a delicious hog roast with all the trimmings. It was a fun afternoon and evening despite the absence of those busy on the harvest. Youngsters got a chance to pick what they wanted to be the next play equipment to be installed on the Doorstep Green – a zip wire was the clear winner with youngsters of all ages followed by

other adventurous options including a giant swing and obstacle course. The first batch of Redlingfield Jubilee mugs were also handed out to youngsters. If your



Katie Abbott & Adrian & Alison Smith serving the succulent pork, apple sauce, stuffing and crackling. Mike Ager and Adrian Gibson with the new swing seats installed in time for the fayre.

children haven't had theirs yet, don't worry we'll be delivering them round the village in the near future.

Mike Ager

.....
■ THERE'S MORE TO COME: There's lots more happening in Redlingfield kicking off with the **Annual Produce Show**, on Sunday 4 September, on the Doorstep Green from 10am. For details of all the classes etc see www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk or grab one of the leaflets. Then there's the **Jubilee Scarecrow Walk** on Sunday 2 October at St Andrews church and the Doorstep Green. The event is from 11am-4pm and the theme is Historic Royals. There will be refreshments and the pop-up pub will be open at both events. On Saturday 29 October, there's the village's **Jubilee Jump & Jive** dance at the Red Feather Club. Advance tickets only, £10 each (accompanied under 16s free), cheques payable to 'Redlingfield Village Amenities Ltd'. Send a SAE to Mike Ager, Hidcote Lodge, Mill Road, Redlingfield, IP23 7QU (mike@gn.apc.org, or 01379 678835). It should be a great night with DJs Robert 'Sarge' Cator & Mike 'Fortress' Kendall. ***It has been decided to postpone the Auction of Promises in light of the economic situation.*** However, there are still **Coffee Caravan** visits on Wednesdays 7 September and 5 October to look forward to and **Pubs on the Green** on Saturdays 17 September and 5 November.



Mike Ager



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Autumn 2022 **23**



Go on the trail of Eye pigs'

THE BLOSSOM CHARITY'S fourth Eye sculpture trail has been delighting young and old this summer with their brightly decorated pigs.

'The Piggy Tail Trail' has 24 pig sculptures and 15 mini pigs around the town and in shop windows until Friday, September 16th. The trail – which follows trails of hares, sheep and tortoises in previous years – is raising funds to help the Blossom Charity offering workshops and one-to-one coaching to people who are going through a range of personal difficulties.

The sculptures are dotted across the town for all to see – you'll find some of them parading through the motte-and-bailey castle, the magnificent church of St Peter & St Paul, the community centre and the gardens of local residents.

It is hoped that the trail will encourage residents and visitors alike to get out and get active, helping Suffolk to Keep Moving.

Each of the sculptures has been

sponsored by local businesses.

Following their sponsorship, these businesses have sought to collaborate with an array of talented artists, all of whom have volunteered hours of their time designing and decorating the sculptures.



You can find each sculpture's exact location on a map available from Dream On, Eye Co-ops, Caf  e and the library, or online at www.eyesculpturetrail.co.uk.

There are also 15 mini sculptures to find in shop windows, which are to be auctioned alongside the large ones, so be sure to look out for these too!

On Tuesday 4th October they will be among items in a grand charity auction at Athelington Hall. Tickets are £15 each and are available from Dream On or by phone on 01379 678483.

Funds raised from the sale of the 'Stand with Ukraine' mini pig created by Lindsey Elderton will go directly to a refuge for Ukrainian women and children fleeing the war on the Ukrainian border with Romania.

Bridget McIntyre, founder of



tails

Blossom, told the *EADT*: “This is our fourth year running an art trail and every year it’s gotten better and better. Last year’s trail raised over £65,000 to support our programmes, and every penny went to help local



Pictured are: Hogcutt's Wildlife Garden; Stand With Ukraine; Piggles; Pigcasso; and Flo. Inset a Hogcutt's Wildlife Garden. Photos by Rob Scott.

people as our communities recover from the challenges of the pandemic. The trail is a fun way to celebrate our beautiful town and help more people access our programmes.” **Mike Ager**

Do you OR your organisation need help with study or apprenticeship costs such as:-

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For more information contact

Clerk to the trustees: Susan Whymark

eyegrammarschool@gmail.com





Weekend of fun

THE RED FEATHER CLUB'S Americana Weekend kicked off on Saturday June 25th with a rip-roaring performance from club favourites The Devil's Cut Combo.

Their 50s roots music gets the swing dancers, blues aficionados and rockabilly crowds up on their feet and Saturday's performance was one to remember. There were a lot of first time visitors who not only loved the music but also the unique Red Feather Club atmosphere and the excellent sprung wooden dance floor.

Sunday saw custom and classic cars, hot rods and bikes taking centre stage along with an open-air DJ jamboree. Again there were lots of first-time visitors marvelling at the museum and the friendly atmosphere.

The Red Feather Club Museum, run and maintained by the 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association, is dedicated to the memory and legacy of the 95th, who flew out of Horham





at the Red Feather Club



in their B-17s during World War Two.

There is plenty more going on at the Red Feather Club in the coming months. On Saturday September 24th roots rock'n'roll and western swing outfit Junction 55 will be back for a great night of music and dance.

On Saturday October 29th Redlingfield will be holding its last Jubilee event of the year with a Jump & Jive dance at the Red Feather Club. Advance tickets only, £10 each (accompanied under 16s free), cheques payable to 'Redlingfield Village Amenities Ltd'. Send a SAE to Mike Ager, Hidcote Lodge, Mill Road,

Redlingfield, IP23 7QU. Phone 01379 678835. It should be a great night with DJs Robert 'Sarge' Cator & Mike 'Fortress' Kendall spinning the discs.

Public open days are the last Sundays of the month April-October inclusive, 10am-4pm. Email: enquiries@95thbg-horham.com. Web: www.95thbg-horham.com.

Mike Ager

Top and left, pictures of the dance night with the Devil's Cut Combo. Photos: Jon Wilson

Photography. Below, pictures of Americana Day. Photos: Linda Woodward.





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WHAT'S ON

Saturday & Sunday 3 & 4 September

Country Railway Gala: Everything open at Mid-Suffolk Light Railway. Morris dancers – Hoxon Hundred on 3rd & East Suffolk Morris Men on 4th.

Sunday 4 September

Redlingfield Annual Produce Show:
Doorstep Green, 10am start.

Wednesday 7 September

Coffee Caravan: Redlingfield village triangle, 10am-noon.

Redlingfield & Occold WI: Occold Village Hall, Talk on rare genetic disorder Tango2.

Saturday 10 September

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride + Stride.

Open Mic Night: Horham CC.

Thursday 15 September

Stradbroke Cinema - Downton Abbey New Era.

Saturday 17 September

Pub on the Green: Redlingfield.

Sunday 18 September

Heritage Day at Eye Town Hall & Eye

Airfield: Pop up historical, heritage displays demonstrate the history of Eye.

Autumn Plant Fair with Artisan Market:
Helmingham Hall.

Wednesday 21 September

Horham CC AGM: Horham Village Hall Trust & Horham & Athelington Community Council, Horham CC 7.30pm. All welcome.

Friday 23 September

Cinema at Eye - Phantom of The Open: Eye Community Centre, tickets £5 on door or in advance at The Handyman or Eye Pharmacy.

Saturday 24 September

Dance: Junction 55, Red Feather Club.

Sunday 25 September

Public Open Day: Red Feather Club Museum.

Friday 30 September

Magic Floor Productions presents

Bouncers: Wingfield Barns, 7.30pm, £12.50.

Saturday 1 October

Redlingfield & Occold WI: Harvest Supper.
Mark Harrison Band: Wingfield Barns,
 7.30pm, tickets £14.

Sunday 2 October

Jubilee Scarecrow Walk: St Andrews
 church/Redlingfield Doorstep Green, 11am-
 4pm, Historic Royals theme.

Tuesday 4 October

Grand Charity Auction: 'The Piggy Tail Trail'
 auction, Athelington Hall, 6.30pm. Tickets
 £15 per person include food & fizz.

Wednesday 5 October

Coffee Caravan: Redlingfield village triangle,
 10am-noon.

Redlingfield & Occold WI: Occold Village
 Hall, Walking Suffolk Churches. Members
 talk on their experiences of walking &
 enjoying the delights of Churches in Suffolk.

Wednesday 12 October

**Common Ground Theatre Co present The
 Raven:** Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall,
 7.30pm.

Saturday 15 October

Blake Morrison with The Hosepipe Band:
 Wingfield Barns, 7.30pm. £10.

Thursday 20 October

Stradbroke Cinema - Operation Mincemeat.

Sunday 23 October

Horham Harvest Lunch: Horham CC, tickets
 £8 from Angela Wilkins, 01379 384625.

Friday 28 October

Cinema at Eye - Operation Mincemeat.

Saturday 29 October

Redlingfield Jubilee Jump & Jive Dance:
 Red Feather Club, tickets £10 from Mike
 (01379 678835 or mike@gn.apc.org).

Sunday 30 October

Public Open Day: Red Feather Club.

Wednesday 2 November

Redlingfield & Occold WI: Occold Village
 Hall, AGM.

Friday 4 November

Framlingham Sound & Light Spectacular:
 Framlingham Castle, 6pm & 8pm.

Saturday 5 November

Pub on the Green: Redlingfield.

Friday 11 November

Armistice Day: wreath laying Redlingfield B-
 17 memorial, 11am.

Sunday 13 November

**Annual Remembrance Sunday service &
 wreath:** St Andrews church, Redlingfield,
 10.45am.

Thursday 17 November

Stradbroke Cinema - The Outfit.

Saturday 19 November

**Anniversary of 1943 B17 Crash-service &
 wreath:** Redlingfield B-17 memorial,
 8.30am-9am.

Sunday 20 November

St Edmunds Day.

Christina Alden & Alex Patterson: Wingfield
 Barns, 7.30pm. £14.

Friday 25 November

Cinema at Eye -South Pacific.

India Electric Co.: Wingfield Barns, 7.30pm.
 £14.

Saturday & Sunday 3 & 4 December

Church Windows: St Andrews church
 Redlingfield, 11am-3pm.

**Saturdays & Sundays 3, 4, 10, 11, 17 & 18
 December**

Santa Specials: Mid-Suffolk Light Railway.

-
- **The Arts Bank Eye** www.thebankeye.org ● **Helmingham Hall Gardens** www.helmingham.com
 - **Mid-Suffolk Light Railway** www.msrl.org.uk ● **Redlingfield** www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk
 - **Stonham Barns** www.stonhambarns.co.uk ● **Suffolk Owl Sanctuary** www.owl-help.org.uk
 - **Stradbroke Cinema** Stradbroke Community Centre, 7pm for 7.30 pm.
 - **Wingfield Barns** www.wingfieldbarns.com tickets via www.wegotickets.com



■ **ALL THE FUN OF THE DOG SHOW:** Redlingfield's third annual Fun Village Dog Show on the Doorstep Green on Sunday June 12th proved another great success. The sun shone down on the doggies and their humans and thanks to the hard work of the Parochial Church Council and a small army of villagers it, as always, proved to be great fun. Many thanks to the sponsors - Stradbroke's Skinners Pet Foods and Redlingfield's Happy Hounds Home Boarding - and also thanks to Paws of Parham for the agility demonstrations and letting others have a go. Among the visitors to Redlingfield was brave young Isaac Bruce-Whitley and family. Isaac, who was ball of energy, throughout has overcome the challenges posed by stage 5 kidney disease to walk a mile a day to raise money for the charity Arthur's Angels, which makes donations to hospices and children's homes. Isaac is completing his walking challenge despite having to use a feeding tube and has periods of fatigue or "tired days". Results and more pictures pages 32 & 33.

Mike Ager





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■ DOG SHOW RESULTS:

Best Rescue – Doggit & Jade Wilson;

Best Puppy – Sam & Revd Richard Court;

Best Young Handler – May & Evelyn Putt;

Best Veteran – Luppy & Ruby;

Scruffiest – Hettie & Amber Brice;

Waggiest Tail – Millie & Amber Webb;

Best Bitch – Molly & Bev Abbott;

Best Dog – Scrump & Kamryn Bruce;

Dog with the Best Trick – Charlie & Helen;

Dog Judge Would Like to Take Home –

Doggit & Clementine Wilson;

Best in Show – Doggit & Clementine;

Reserve Best in Show Molly & Bev Abbott.

Total number of entries 117.

Judges: Jim Widger, Mike Putt & Rhiannon Hedge.

***Pictures Janet Norman-Philips
& Paws of Parham***





■ **HAZEL IS UP FOR ANOTHER AWARD:** Redlingfield's Hazel Abbott has been nominated and shortlisted for the BBC Suffolk's Make a Difference Award for all her volunteering work. This is well-deserved recognition for years of service. Hazel has done all sorts of things for the village for years from baking cakes and organising teas and refreshments for all of our village events to serving on the village committee and as Church Warden. The Coffee caravan and many village events would simply not be the same without her and as anyone who has ever been sick or housebound in the village will know as soon as she finds out Hazel will be on their doorstep with a home cooked meal making sure they are OK. Our very own Redlingfield Treasure! She has been

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interviewed on BBC Radio Suffolk and videos of all the finalists in the Volunteer category of BBC Radio Suffolk's Make a Difference Awards - including Hazel - are at www.facebook.com/bbcsuffolk. I'm sure we all wish her the very best of luck. Make a Difference Award ceremonies are taking place across England in September 2022. Each local BBC radio station will be celebrating with their communities, sharing stories and revealing the winner of eight categories. The Suffolk event is at Trinity Park in Ipswich. This isn't the first time Hazel's efforts have been recognised though. Along with Mike Ager and Janet Norman-Philips she was part of the Coffee Caravan team who accepted the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2019.

Mike Ager





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Thousands watched horse

“ These races commenced on Thursday last on Cranley Green. It is calculated 7,000 persons were witnesses to the sport, and it being a fine day added much to the gaiety of the scene. The principal families present from the town and neighbourhood presented a splendid assemblage of fashionables. Vehicles of every description, from the pony gig to the carriages and four, including not less than 50 or 60 wagons, filled with spectators. The sight was most gratifying. The races far exceeded the expectations of the oldest frequenter of the turf. Much credit is due to the Stewards for their exertions, and the greatest order prevailed.

The following four races took place. **Town Stakes** of three sovereigns each with £29 added, for horses of all denominations.

This account of the Eye Races was printed in *The Suffolk Chronicle* of 13th July 1839. Below is an advert for the event.



Winner Mr Land's Rubicon.
Hurdle Stakes, of two sovereigns each, with £13 added over two sets of hurdles.
Winner Mr Smith's bay gelding, Old Will.
The Hack Stakes of £1.10 shillings

■ HORHAM'S HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPS:

If you've been in Horham & Athelington Community Centre's bar it's likely you'll have spotted a host of trophies for the Eight Bells tug of war team – the now closed pub of that name and St Mary's ring of eight. They were obviously pretty good and



thanks to Robert Chambers and Alan Johnson here's a short news article and pictures of one of their wins. It ran as part of a large piece about the 9th annual

Rickingham Veteran Car and Motorcycle Rally in the now defunct newspaper. **From The Norfolk & Suffolk Express Series August 18th 1986:** Good weather was blamed for a poor turn-out at a tug of war contest which was part of Rickingham Veteran Car and Motorcycle Rally on Sunday. Many team members are farmers and farmworkers,

racing on Cranley Green

each with £10 added the horses not exceeding 15 Hands.

Winner Mr Lake's chestnut mare, Fanny.

Pony Stakes of 10 shillings each with 5 pounds added for ponies not exceeding 13 1/2 Hands.

Winner Mr Rowell's brown mare, The Jewess."

The Suffolk Chronicle's report of the races for 1840 tells of 10,000 persons attending. There were 70 wagons decorated for the occasion, completely crammed with people. Many officers of the 9th Hussars from Norwich were present also "three commodious grandstands filled with beauty and fashion".

In 1841, we are told that "not less than 15,000" came to the races where stalls and booths had come from all directions including Norwich and

Newmarket". However, an advert for 1842 stated that no booths or stalls were to be allowed by "persons not resident in the town of Eye". There were two days of races in 1843.

The Suffolk Chronicle tells that only two horses were entered in the first race, so it did not take place "causing disappointment". The other races "afforded good sport to the thousands of people assembled". There were two gambling booths from London. "Light fingered gentry made a bad harvest. Scarcely a theft or accident occurred."

The Ipswich Journal commented that the event was not quite up to those of former years although it was the largest company ever assembled. Stewards were appointed for the following year, but it seems that 1843 saw the last of the Eye Races.

Linda Hudson

and the fine weather meant that they were busy harvesting the barley and the first of the wheat crop. But despite a depleted entry list, a number of pulls took place and trophies went to Horham Eight Bells (Heavyweight) and the Reedham Vikings (Catchweight). The contest was sponsored by the Express and managing editor, Ron Hunt, presented the teams with trophies and winners' medals.



Above: Horham Eight Bells tug of war team. Back row, from left: Frank Adams, Kevin Taylor, Gordon Allum, Dean Aldridge and Paul Maybury. Front row: Tony Richards, Julian Davis, Alan Johnson and Russell Kerry. Facing page: the team in action.

Rates for adverts in four issues distributed to approximately 300 homes and businesses in Horham, Athelington, Redlingfield and surrounds are:

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Contact editor Mike Ager on mike@gn.apc.org or 01379 678835 at Hidcote Lodge, Mill Road, Redlingfield, IP23 7QU.

■ **RUNNING FOR RUSTY:** On 2nd October I will be running the London Marathon in memory of my husband Rusty Smith. Many of you will have known Rusty through the Fire Service, Rusty served with Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service at Stradbroke for 31 years. working his way up

■ **SPONSORED SWIM:** A sponsored swim in aid of the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and St Peter's Church, Athelington – the Colnet boys from Athelington have organised a sponsored swim to help the BTO with their research to save the Spotted Flycatcher and to help with the general

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through the ranks to achieve his dream of becoming Watch Commander in Jan 2019. Rusty died very suddenly in May 2019 aged just 53 years. Rusty lived in Stradbroke all his life, working at various farms and at Skinners Petfoods. You may have seen me out running, putting the training hours in whilst I also work at Stradbroke Swim and Fitness Centre and

the local Primary School. To read my story further and to add a donation to The Fire Fighters Charity visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/runforrusty. There are also collection pots out in Stradbroke Spar, Stradbroke Bakery, Rolles Butchers, The White Hart and the Swim & Fitness Centre.

Maria Smith

maintenance costs of Athelington Church, which needs constant work to keep it open. Their sponsored 20-minute swim will be on Monday 26th September. Many thanks to Trevor Edwards for donating his slot at Wash Farm Barn Swimming Pool in Redlingfield. Henry, aged 11, and Arthur, eight, will be combining their freestyle lengths for a grand total so it will be lengths swam overall rather than per

person. They are asking for people to please sponsor either the event or an amount per length. Sponsorship forms are being produced and the Colnets will canvass locally but if you would like to sponsor them you can contact Henry and Arthur's mum Sarah on 01728 628228 or sarahcolnet@outlook.com. Thank you very much!

Sarah Colnet & boys



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**Leonard ‘Lenny’ William Huggins passed away on February 9, aged 82.
Loving husband of Greta, loving father of John & David,
loving grandad to Kelly & Melanie.**

“*I will never forget the time we spent together. Coming to your house every third Sunday for a roast was the best thing about my childhood. I would get so excited to see you that I could barely wait for dad to stop the car.*

I would leap out, making sure I was the first to race through the tunnel, burst through your back door to be welcomed by so much joy and love to see us. Each time before the roast you made, I would tease you about how you never got your batters to rise, then proceed to eat a whole tray to myself, knowing you had done extra just for me.

But that’s just who you were, the most considerate, caring, calm, worry free man. You are the best Grandad, who taught two little girls to fish, drive cars and tractors, shoot, garden and throw darts to name a few. On the outside you appear to be a gruff, manly man. However, we all know you are a big softie with a heart of gold.

Thank you for helping to raise us and all that you did for us. I will love and miss you always, you will always be with me in my heart.

Kelly Huggins

“*My dad, Lenny to most of you and Sid to some of you, was born at Maggots Farm, Hoxne. He was the youngest of four boys and two girls. He lost his dad when he was very young and I can just about remember his mum, my nanny, before he lost her too.*

He was brought up by his older brothers and I have heard a few stories of how he used to skip school to go shooting or to help on the farm. He left school at 15 and met my mum, Greta, when he was 18 and they were married two years later. Then John was born and two years later I arrived.

I remember when I was little that in the summer I used to have to go and find dad to take him his dinner, he would be driving what I thought was a huge yellow combine, for Mr Munter.

As soon as I was big enough to hold a gun and a fishing rod, we would go round the farm with him shooting and he would often take me to the beach to fish in the sea.

He was always taking his cars to pieces, to mend them and taught me to do the same. This was until they started to put computers in them



IN MEMORIAM



and then they became too complicated for both of us.

He started to smoke when he was nine, pinching tobacco for 'rollys' off his brother. I took him to Papworth ten years ago where he had his last 'rolly' in the car park before he had his lung removed. The day that he came home he got to hold his first great grandchild, Charlie, since then three more have arrived.

After mum's heart attack he looked after her until her dementia got worse. He then had to have radium treatment which made him poorly but he recovered well. Unfortunately, mum got worse and ended up in Winesham Nursing Home, where he frequently visited her until Covid hit. Dad got infected with Covid in December and ended up in hospital, he came out weak and it was the beginning of the end.

My dad was kind, caring, loving, always there to help and his Sunday dinners and BBQs were legendary. He will be missed by us all but never forgotten.

David Huggins



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Greta May Huggins, passed away on April 23, aged 87. Loving wife of the late Leonard, loving mum of John & David, loving nanny to Kelly & Melanie.

“Mum was born in Norwich but lived all her early years in Ransome Avenue, Scole. She was the eldest of four children and when she left school, she went to work in Emses Clothing Factory in Diss.

She enjoyed dancing and at one in Wilby she met my dad. Soon after they were married, they had John, then me and finally Catherine who, sadly, only lived a few days. They moved about a lot for Dad's work before settling in

Redlingfield, where they lived for nearly 50 years.

Mum always liked dancing, I can remember Jonny and I sitting on the floor with our bottles of Coke, watching mum dancing on many occasions. Later mum and dad got into country and western dancing and were regulars at events at the Park Hotel in Diss. Mum liked holidays to but always moaned that she still had to cook. She said that she would never go

“Nanny, you were always by my side. From an early age you would come to look after us

for the day, biking an eight-mile round trip in your early 60s.

When I was old enough, I would bike to yours to spend the day with you whilst grandad and dad were working. I loved our days together; we would spend the whole day chatting about anything and everything and both shared our love for clothes. We would go for walks, do your chores together and often fall asleep in the afternoon on the sofa together.

When I passed my driving test yours was the first house I drove straight to.

You always provided me with a peaceful space where I felt safe and I could relax, play, or do my homework.

At my graduation despite not leaving the house much you travelled all the way to York and back in a day. You were so proud to see me in my cap and gown, yelling with glee when you saw me and you sobbed most of the day.

Our last day out together wasn't one to forget. You were determined to get an outfit for my wedding, so I drove you to Marks and Spencer. You could barely walk, but you persevered. Whilst in the shop we had to go up a level but rather than walking to the lift



on an aeroplane, but dad and I got together and booked them a holiday in Corfu and we only told mum afterwards. This was the first of several trips abroad.

After I got married, she got one of her great joys in life, granddaughters and she would spend as much time with them as possible. We all thought that mum would end up with dementia, as for years she would change the subject of a conversation halfway through. As mum's health deteriorated, she moved to Witnesham Nursing Home where she spent her remaining time in their care.

David Huggins

you decided to take the escalator. One foot went on the first step, but the other refused to move. You caused quite a scene falling down the escalator as both legs started to move apart in slow motion. Despite this we got the outfit and at my wedding again you sobbed through most of the day as proud as anyone could be.

The last memory I have of you as yourself and one I will keep forever, was when I told you I was pregnant with my daughter. You turned to me in glee and just said that I would be the best mum in the world and didn't let go of my hand for a solid half an hour. I knew that this would be true, because I always looked up to you, the best mum in the world. I think it's fair to say that I was the daughter you didn't have and you were the mum I desperately needed. Thank you for helping to raise us, all the support and all the lovely memories, I will love you forever.

After what has been a difficult few years for you and grandad. I am so pleased that you have finally been reunited. May you both rest in peace together.

Kelly Huggins

■ SIXTIETH WEDDING

ANNIVERSARY: Albert and Judith Crane who live at 6 The Knoll, Redlingfield, had their sixtieth wedding anniversary on the fourteenth of July 2022. In the modern day it is still something worthy of note. They met through Albert's sister and Judith's cousin being together at the time and either good fortune or sharp practice or planning by those two (it has never been totally clear). Anyhow they went to the Diss Picture House together in the late 1950s and it led to where we are today. They married at Horham Church in July 1962, Albert being just 21 and Judith a year younger. They had three children Ian, Val and Julie before the middle of 1970. Albert and Judith have four grandchildren all in their 20s, Craig, Amanda, Daniel and Tony. Albert worked hard as a farm labourer and Judith worked harder as a home maker. Traditional values and work share practices at the time that are frowned upon in certain conventions now in modern society. Albert and Judith moved to Redlingfield in September 2006 and haven't regretted it for a single moment. Everyone says about how good their parents were I know. Mine were just nice, home life for me as a youngster was just ideal now I look back at it. We lived out of the way of most other people at Benningham Green and it probably made me the somewhat opinionated and awkward person I am now. All my good values though are down to my Mum and Dad.

Ian Crane

A great summer term at

THE SUMMER Term is always busy and this one has certainly been no exception.

The children have been on lots of trips including: Be WILDerWood for Wren Class; Whitlingham Water Park for Owl and Kingfisher Class and a brilliant trip to London for Year 6 who managed to squeeze in the National History Museum, the Science Museum, 10 Downing Street AND The Houses of Parliament!

Our Music for a Summer's Evening was a

tremendous success with the highlight being a performance of 'The hall of the mountain king' by the school orchestra (all



the brass band instruments, recorders and cellos). This school has raised £320 for the Ukraine Humanitarian Fund.

The Owl Class performance of 'Shakespeare Rocks' in July was just superb and our brass group delighted residents of the Hartismere Place Dementia unit when they visited to play for them in June.

The children have been busy with sports too taking part in inter schools athletics and rounders matches and enjoying the school sports day, which was followed by a wonderful Afternoon Tea event by our Friends of School Association.

■ PLANNING:

AWAITING DECISION: application to erect one dwelling on **land east of Athelington Road, Horham, IP21 5EH** (No: DC/22/03701); application for a Lawful Development Certificate for erection of a 18m x 12m area to play petanque, **Horham & Athelington Community Centre, The Street, Horham, IP21 5DX** (No: DC/22/02430); application for a Non Material Amendment relating to DC/22/01457 - walled garden, including potting shed, to be mirrored across a SE-NW axis **The Old Rectory, Stradbroke Road, Horham, IP21 5DY** (No: DC/22/03916).

GRANTED: plan to repairs and alter as detailed in the Design and Access Statement. Erection of single storey extensions to house and barn. Erection of walled garden including glasshouse and potting shed. Erection of detached outbuilding. Installation of Oil Tank. Hard and Soft Landscaping works. **The Old Rectory, Stradbroke Road, Horham, IP21 5DZ** (No: DC/22/01457) also (No: DC/22/01460); plan to install 50kW PV installation of 148 solar panels limited to 46kW export split evenly across two phases to provide power to six log cabins on land at **Athelington Hall, Horham Road, Athelington, IP21 5EJ** (No: DC/21/06010).

* Planning information from Midsuffolk District Council <https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/>

Wilby

This term we said a sorry goodbye to Mr Easton and Mrs Dillimore our two teachers for Kingfisher Class. Mrs Evans and Ms Bing have been appointed to take their place in September.

After a break for two years due to Covid, our children once again took the Y2 and Y6 SATs tests. We were delighted to find that despite the disruption caused by the pandemic this year, our results were still much higher than the national average.

Well done to all of the wonderful Wilby Primary School Team! A good summer holiday's rest will be very much deserved by children and staff alike.

*Roisin Wiseman
(Headteacher)*

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Sport is an imperfect

I'VE PROBABLY WRITTEN before about my problem with sport over the last thirty years being how the rule makers have brought in autocratic laws to deal with anything they dislike. This has magnified the punishment culture. Officials or administrators show how weak they are by changing the rules or laws of sport and bringing in self-righteous judgements and aggressive options.

Around 15 years or so back football took that option. They claimed they hadn't changed anything just made sure officials interpreted the laws as harshly as they could be.

Good tackles and fouls that hadn't been a free kick a decade before, brought bookings. Words and phrases like 'lunge', 'reckless', out of control', 'too much force' and 'endangering an opponent' were introduced to justify the peril of the straight red card.

Referees became more important and influential overnight and now VAR has increased the power of their authority.

Not a single time all last season in the Premier League did an official go to look at the screen and not change his mind. Yellow cards are overturned to reds by video referees but are never ever downgraded. Phrases like 'subjective decision' and 'no clear or obvious error' are used to support non intervention or no instruction to overturn.

Officialdom and the rule of authority rules, yet still we have numerous

games changed wrongly by decisions. The total control and confidence this gives referees leads to overconfidence and arrogance. Just look at the ridiculous two quick yellow card dismissals of Lee Tomlin of Doncaster and Tom Flanagan of Shrewsbury in the first two weeks of the EFL season. Just pure self-righteousness from people who know the laws of the game mean they can react with bad attitude and lose their composure.

Cricket's Decision Review System (DRS) works a lot better but is blighted by the 'umpires call' on LBW decisions and the 'soft signal' seemingly always being out when a catch is disputed.

It means an inconsistent situation with LBW decisions as it was before and doubt going against the batsman (or batter as we are told it should be now) on whether balls have carried or not.

I don't know enough about Rugby Union or League to seriously comment but being a contact sport they appear to have a major problem with head contact damage in later life. That has led to draconian red card punishments for almost any contact with the upper body or head in a tackle. Earlier this year I had my attempt to watch a Six Nations game for the first time for about a decade ended after two minutes when the England versus Ireland game was devalued by this panic induced law.

The Commonwealth Games this year gave me an opportunity to see other

ethical fit these days

sports. It's all the same. Twentieth Century liberalism has become more aggressive with official authoritarianism in the Twenty-first.

Hockey seemed to have a VAR type system which failed miserably in the men's semi final between England and Australia.

The decisive goal was allowed and backed by a Southern Hemisphere voice that announced 'there was no reason to reconsider the decision'. The fact the ball never stopped before the restart happened was conveniently ignored.

A British woman short-track speed skater Eloise Christie was highly ranked in 2014 but was disqualified in all three events in Sochi and another four years later in PyeongChang. One of those occasions she was brought down from behind and thrown out but the South Korean girl who clattered her was re-instated and got a medal in the final.

Athletics has its controversies. You can be disqualified in a 200 or 400 metre race for just touching the inside line with one step as the England Women's 4x400 metres relay team found. Relay results for years have been overturned because of baton change rules or being in wrong places.

My favourite though is any false start is automatic disqualification in sprints now. Apparently brought in the 1990s because it was being coached as a deliberate gamesmanship tactic in US colleges (no I don't believe that either).

My question is always if you have something you don't like why does the punishment have to be so severe? A time penalty should be more preferable to automatic disqualification.

Speedway has touching the start tapes as exclusion from a race but does give you a chance to go from fifteen metres back.

Don't even start me on the ethics of RADA keeping urine samples from 2005 and disqualifying people retrospectively when new tests become available.

Usain Bolt was awarded nine Olympic gold medals. Nesta Carter's 2008 sample was re-tested eight years later and the Jamaican team 4 x 400 metres relay gold was taken away. If nothing else it makes learning stats on Olympics since Turin in 2006 more difficult.

I also have a problem with the sports decided by judges such as gymnastics, boxing, diving and ice skating.

I'm sure these people know what they are looking for but most casual fans don't.

As I've said about American Football I don't really know the rules. I can watch without getting angry but as soon as I start knowing what's going on it becomes different.

We all have our moral code. For me sport was better when it was tailored to the working class spectator and when the laws were looser and didn't reflect middle-class values as much.

Ian Crane



**Simon Green PC 187,
Community Engagement
Officer, Halesworth Locality**

SKIP THEFTS: SUFFOLK & NORFOLK Police are receiving reports of skips being stolen from roads outside people's homes and from driveways.

Criminals are using a flatbed type vehicle with a skip hoist attached to remove the skip and then drive to an alternative location where they empty the skip. This is usually on private land and/or areas where they fly tip.

The skip is then taken to a construction site or somewhere the criminals have already recced where they know there is plant machinery they can steal. The plant is placed in the skip (possibly in an effort to conceal it) and driven away.

If you see a skip being removed and are suspicious for what ever reason, dial 999.

If you have hired a skip, try to locate it where it is less accessible by thieves and covered by CCTV if possible. Try to arrange collection of the skip by the owner as soon as it's full.

■ **HIGH SUFFOLK COMMUNITY BUS:** The High Suffolk Community Bus service which provides transport for the residents of Bedfield, Beddingfield, Kenton, Monk Soham, Redlingfield, Southolt, Tannington and Worlingworth is looking for drivers. The 'not for profit' company will get a new Automatic Drive bus in Autumn and are desperately seeking new drivers. If interested contact Alan (01728 685694).

■ **REDLINGFIELD WEBSITE:** We have made a couple additions to the Redlingfield website – there's now a village picture gallery (submit your photos to Mike at mike@gn.apc.org) and the interesting history articles (mainly by Linda Hudson) have been collected together to make them easier for you to access. Your home might be the subject of one of the articles. Visit the site at www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk.

Mike Ager

■ **PAPER DELIVERIES:** Stephen Tuckwell delivers newspapers and magazines to our villages seven days a week. To find out more contact Stephen on 01728 685385.

■ **SEWERAGE PROBLEMS:** The Knoll in Redlingfield has been experiencing some rather nasty problems with blocked sewerage pipes and part of the cause seems to be people putting wet wipes and other things down their drains.

Janet Norman-Philips

■ **SUPPORTING THE UKRAINE:** Horham Post Office is continuing to raise funds for relief in the Ukraine and thanks to their generous customers they have topped £2,300 and counting.

Mike Ager

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**Revd Eleanor Goodison,
Priest in Charge, Hoxne
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eleanor.goodison@gmail.com.

HARVEST

THE HARVEST HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY early this year, so by the time you read this it will probably be over. But it is not too late for us to give thanks for the harvest, remembering those parts of the world where harvests are disrupted by climate change and war.

Our harvest celebrations begin with the Redlingfield Produce Show on Sunday 4th September and continue with Harvest Thanksgiving services at Athelington at 11am on Sunday 11th September, Redlingfield at 9.30am on Sunday 9th October and Horham at 11.15am on Sunday 23rd October, followed by the Harvest Lunch.

The Bible is full of references to harvest. Ruth and Naomi arrive in Jerusalem at the beginning of the barley harvest, and it is in the context of the harvest that Ruth

becomes known to Boaz, her future husband. They are to be the great-grandfather and great-grandmother of King David.

*You crown the year with your bounty;
your wagon tracks overflow with
richness.*

*The pastures of the wilderness overflow,
the hills gird themselves with joy,
the meadows clothe themselves with
flocks,
the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.*

Jesus himself, as he sends out seventy disciples ahead of him, speaks of a harvest of people:

"The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest".

Words which are picked up in the harvest hymn:

"Grant, O harvest Lord, that we
wholesome grain and pure may be".
I wish you every blessing.

Revd Eleanor Goodison

■ **SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES RIDE & STRIDE:** The annual Ride & Stride event in support of our historic churches is taking place as usual on Saturday 10th September. St Peter, Athelington, St Mary, Horham and St Andrew, Redlingfield have all been left off the list of churches which will be open in error, along with Horham Baptist Church. But all our churches will be open 9am to 5pm and you will be very welcome. If you would like to ride or stride on behalf of one of our churches, please contact your local organiser: Athelington - Colin Palmer, 01728 628747; Horham - Daphne Harvey, 01379 384216; Redlingfield - Pauline Abbott, 01379 678253.

Revd Eleanor Goodison

■ **THANK YOU:** Thank you to all who supported the church stall at Horham car boot and those who bought marmalade and plants at the Post office or gave donations for St Mary's Church. £353.90 was raised.

Daphne Harvey

■ **ENQUIRIES:** Daphne Harvey, St Mary, Horham (384216) or David Spall (384239); Colin Palmer, St Peter, Athelington (01728 628747); Hazel Abbott, St Andrew, Redlingfield (678217).

CHURCH SERVICES: Planned church services in Sept, Oct and Nov. **Every Saturday & Sunday:** CW Morning Prayer at 8am on [facebook.com/WingfieldChurch](https://www.facebook.com/WingfieldChurch). **Every Friday:** Compline at 6pm on Zoom. For a Zoom invitation, e-mail eleanor.goodison@gmail.com. Some services are also live streamed or uploaded to [facebook.com/WingfieldChurch](https://www.facebook.com/WingfieldChurch)

Sunday 4th September

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am BCP Holy Communion, Hoxne;
11am CW Holy Communion, Wingfield;
11am BCP Morning Prayer, Athelington;
4pm Messy Church, Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall.

Sunday 11th September

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Redlingfield; 9.30am Café Church, Hoxne;
11am Harvest Service, Athelington.

Sunday 18th September

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

11.15 am BCP Holy Communion, Horham;
6pm Harvest Evensong, Wingfield.

Sunday 25th September

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

11am CW Holy Communion, Denham (No All Age service this month).

Sunday 2nd October

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Harvest Service, Hoxne; 11am CW Holy Communion, Wingfield; 4pm Messy Church, Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall.

Sunday 9th October

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am CW Holy Communion for Harvest, Redlingfield; 9.30am Café Church, Hoxne; 3pm Harvest Service, Denham.

Sunday 16th October

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

10am Harvest Service, Syleham;
11.30am BCP Holy Communion, Horham;
6pm Evensong, Wingfield.

Abbreviations: BCP – Book of Common Prayer CW – Common Worship.

Sunday 23rd October

Last Sunday after Trinity

11am CW Holy Communion, Denham;
11.15am Harvest Service, Horham.

Saturday 29th October

4pm Service of Memorial and Thanksgiving, Hoxne.

Sunday 30th October

All Saints' Sunday

11am Benefice Holy Communion Athelington; 4pm All Age service, Hoxne.

Sunday 6th November

Third Sunday before Advent

9.30am BCP Holy Communion, Hoxne;
11am CW Holy Communion, Wingfield;
4pm Messy Church, Syleham & Wingfield Village Hall.

Sunday 13th November

Remembrance Sunday

9am BCP Holy Communion & Act of Remembrance, Wingfield; 10.45am CW Holy Communion & Act of Remembrance, Redlingfield; 10.45am Remembrance Service, Hoxne; 10.45am Remembrance Service, Syleham; 3pm Remembrance Service, Horham; 3pm Remembrance Service, Denham.

Sunday 20th November

Christ the King

10am Village Service, Syleham; 11.15am BCP Holy Communion, Horham; 6pm Evensong on Zoom.

Sunday 27th November

Advent Sunday

10am Benefice Holy Communion with Bishop Martin, Hoxne; 4pm Advent Carol Service, Athelington.



The Covid pandemic has disrupted international supply lines for many of the goods and services that we took for granted, the consequence

being an increase in inflation, which drives up the cost of living. This challenge is now further compounded by war in the Ukraine and whilst our thoughts are quite rightly with the people of Ukraine, we must also recognise the need for the UK to become more self-sufficient in the future, and less reliant on imported goods – particularly food and energy.

Ukraine was the biggest international producer of fertiliser and exporter of wheat. As a result of the war, there has been considerable disruption to supplies, leading to increases in the cost of many food stuffs in our shops, such as bread and breakfast cereals. Looking ahead, we simply must produce more of our own food. By protecting and supporting our farmers and food producers, we also protect consumers by keeping prices in the shops lower in the long run.

Here, in Suffolk, our farmers stand ready to rise to the challenge of producing more locally-grown food, but we must also look to support them better. We've heard from our farming leaders that they are concerned about "crippling" labour shortages, and I'd like to see the Government improving immigration policies and the Skilled Workers Visa scheme, to try and help tackle this issue.

We also need to cut down our reliance on an overseas workforce to plug our seasonal workforce gap. To achieve this, we need to develop homegrown talent – make the sector appealing to work in, develop a greater vocational offer and

bring forward and support our next generation of farmers and food producers. Where appropriate, I would also like to see greater support become available, allowing our farmers to diversify and support the appropriate roll-out of solar energy, whilst recognising the need to protect our precious farmland.

I am disappointed Ipswich Borough Council chose to prioritise the development of green fields on the northern fringe, rather than brownfield development in the town centre. Brownfield town centre redevelopment would have helped regenerate a part of the town that most needed it. I have no doubt that the shop keepers in the town centre would also have liked to have the additional footfall that this regeneration would potentially have delivered. Approaches such as these have worked well elsewhere, and it is time that all of our local councils put into action a brownfield first policy.

We need to start protecting and supporting our food producers. We need to start listening more to our farmers and, where is practically reasonable, better protect farming land for food production.

The war in the Ukraine has brought much into perspective – the importance of freedom of speech, the importance of improving our energy security, and the importance of increasing our food security. If we want to keep food prices in the shops down in the long run, perhaps it is time we thought not just in terms of fair-trade shopping, but of supporting local. It is only through supporting our local farmers and food producers that we will help to keep prices down for consumers and hard-pressed families.

Dr Dan Poulter, MP, Central Suffolk and North Ipswich
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