Athelington, Horham & Redlingfield NEWS





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DOG MESS SEEMS TO BE AN increasing problem in our villages. The latest report from Athelington & Horham Parish Council highlights the problem and I've been asked to call on Redlingfield's dog owners to act more responsibly. There seems to be an increasing problem in the middle of Redlingfield so if your dogs must poop there please clear up after them. A YEAR AGO (IN OUR SUMMER 2013 issue) we reported that Nick Cook's stunning four-acre wildflower meadow at Barton Grange, Worlingworth was being used by the BBC for a documentary about bees. The four-part The Wonder of Bees with presenter Martha Kearney from nearby Wortham, my mum's home village, was aired in May. It was a real treat and if the Beeb ever decide to repeat it – what chance a repeat on BBC– I recommend you take a look if you missed it first time round.

IF THIS ISSUE IS LATE POPPING THROUGH YOU LETTERBOX I apologise – for various reasons I've been, as they say in these parts, on the drag. So I'd like to thanks all those other people who despite my best efforts try to get you your magazine on time. It takes a surprisingly large number of people to produce this little mag. My wife Jan prints them all. co-editor Evelyn writes, collates and staples all the copies for Athelington. Then there is an army of deliverers, contributors and of course advertisers. Anyway many thanks to everyone involved and I hope you enjoy this latest issue. *Mike Ager*

Front page picture: Courtesy of Orangeaurochs.

If you would like to advertise or contribute to the magazine or have an event or organisation you would like featured contact: Evelyn Adey on evelyn.adey@btinternet.com or 01728 628428 at Ivy House Barn, Southolt Road, Athelington, IP21 5EL; or Mike Ager on mike@gn.apc.org or 01379 678835 at Hidcote Lodge, Mill Road, Redlingfield, IP23 7QU.

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Springing back into action

Trevor Edwards' Wash Farm is a haven of wildlife activity

PRING SEES THE RETURN of great activity to the garden, and leading the way at Wash Farm are blackbirds and house sparrows, or blackies and spadgers as they are known up-north.

The blackbirds' success is aided by a very long breeding season, sometimes starting in March and continuing through to late August, and I have once seen a blackie nesting as early as February.

On Sunday March 9th, we had great viewing of four circling buzzards over the farm, followed by the high-rise mating flight of a female sparrowhawk. This female is dominant in size, a feature of many birds of prey, and she takes the lead with the courtship display, soaring way above her



This page: We wish Rick Waters a good recovery from a triple heart bypass. Here he is pictured by the newly-laid hedge at his restored Cranley pond. Facing page: Easton Harriers hounds ready to move off.

territory and showing off to her mate that it is party time.

All hawks are designed to hunt in woodland and other confined spaces, surprising their prey by a combination of stalking and ambush. With blunt wings and long tail, the male can do aerial sidesteps better than the old Welsh winger Shane Williams.

A buzzard burst out of Caroline's Wood as I cycled past with my dog, a lovely close-up which nearly had me off my bike. This was an eventful ride, as the same hedge was the scene of a noisy spat between a blackbird and a song-thrush, with alarm calls all round as the thrush was driven off. It makes you wonder if the two are somehow in competition and the success of one is at the cost of the other.

The sparrow-hawk is patrolling the garden on regular occasions, which makes a good reason for siting our three bird feeder sites adjacent to hedges. Any defenceless tit, sparrow or finch which is caught napping is quick to panic and belts for cover when the air-raid starts.

Our thatched house is a safe haven for nesting and some birds will stick close by. We have a collared dove in a climbing rose on the wall and a chaffinch sitting not two metres away from the front door.



THE END OF WINTER WAS marked by a turn-off from the farm of the local Easton Harriers hunt. Hunting was once cruelly ridiculed by Oscar Wilde as the unspeakable in pursuit of the inedible, but he was speaking about fox hunting, whereas harriers traditionally pursued hares. Nowadays, under new regulations the sport has seen a resurgence in popularity with followers of all ages.

As the hunt moved off on March 1st, young children were out riding with their first ponies and at the other end of the age range, it appeared you are never too old. One fine hunts-woman, whose age and waistline were similar, told me that her father refused her a new saddle when she was nine years old, hoping to discourage her hunting ambitions, so she improvised with a hessian sack and binder twine and went off hunting one day instead of riding to school.

Having seen the damage old Reynard can do in a chicken run, I struggle to see why Chris Packham admires urban foxes at all, but this spring he earns full marks for his exposé of the Maltese hunters. He has brought serious publicity to the slaughter of Britain's everyday migrants returning from Africa. Think again about that holiday in sunny Malta, because hunters on the lovely island shoot four million song birds every year, including 11,000 turtle doves killed with permission under government licence. Quite unbelievable.

Thank goodness they didn't get our returning turtle dove, as the trademark purring song is heard again from our big paddock hedge on a fine mid-May morning.

WITH THE BARN OWLS SO numerous and a kind breeding season this year, the prospects are for a bumper crop. Our box has a female sitting on five eggs, and Charlie at Benningham has one incredible brood of six owls already hatched. Paul the Gamekeeper is in charge and says that although next time he looks he may find that the biggest has eaten the smallest; if things go well, it could be a fledging record.

Now isn't that something? This year, it is also the turn of the Little Owl for some attention. We have two Little Owl sites in the village, and Paul made up some boxes of the right design. Coupled with site advice from David Mitchell, the tree guru from Redlingfield Wood, the boxes are erected and we are ready and waiting for next year's bookings.

Ivy is a controversial subject, good for winter berries and cover but a tree strangler in the end, and we took the opportunity to relieve a decent ash tree of overwhelming ivy to set up the Little owl box properly.

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3 WASH FARM HAS acquired a new member of the household, Kezi the stuffed kestrel. It is fascinating how wildlife can be perfectly preserved by this technique and I found this beautifully marked female dead in a field last summer.

As it appeared to be in good condition, I bagged it up, put it in the freezer, and promptly forgot all about it. Despite numerous threats by Anita, who wasn't at all

happy with Kezi next to the frozen veg, my kestrel avoided being dumped and eventually made it to the taxidermist. He declared it an excellent



specimen with neither poison nor shot damage – which was good news.

If taxidermy is right in your cockpit, a visit to Norwich Castle Museum this summer will suit you well. The curators are choosing exhibits from their huge 20,000 bird collection to combine taxidermy and paintings in a summer show. Artwork will support numerous bird exhibits, from a huge condor to a tiny hummingbird, in an exhibition called The

Wonder of Birds which runs from May to September. If you go, be kind to the Norfolk boys and don't mention football. *Trevor Edwards*

HAWES FAMILY HISTORY: I am currently researching the family history of Michael (Mick) Hawes, a friend of mine for the past 50 years. He is particularly interested in the paternal side of his family, whose roots are in North Suffolk. Mick's father, Percy Hawes, was born in Wickham Skeith, but his father George Hawes (Mick's grandad) was born in Horham in 1870. George's father, also called George and his mother, Jemima (née Elliott) were born in Horham, in 1833 and 1838 respectively. They had a total of eight children: William (b.1858), Anne (b.1861), Frederick (b.1863), Charlotte (b.1866), Louisa (b.1868), George, Angelina (b.1873) and Thomas (b.1875). The family lived in The Street, Horham and George snr. was a farm labourer. Going back further, George Hawes' mother Charlotte (b.1796) was from a Redlingfield family, her parents being Robert and Lucy Hawes (née Baldwin) who married in Redlingfield Church in 1784. Jemima's mother Mary, was born in Horham in 1817 and was the daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Elliott (née Harvey) who, I believe, married in Rishangles Church in 1804. The name Hawes is relatively common in this area and I wonder if anyone has any family connections with George or Jemima, or has done any research on the Elliott, Baldwin or Harvey families. If so, I would love to hear from them. I can be contacted at 25, Precosa Road, Botley, Southampton SO30 2NW (rodcross@btinternet.com or 01489 781208). Rod Cross

Help save our hedgehogs

EDGEHOGS. THE gardeners friend and just so cute! Though it seems they are under threat and need our help. They are disappearing across the county and Suffolk Wildlife Trust is trying to find out what is happening – starting with a survey to find out how many there are and where they are. You can find the survey at www.suffolkwildlifetrust. org/hedgehogs or call them on 01473 890089.

Our garden is large and wildlifefriendly – in other words unkempt. We have lots of native plants, a natural pond and log piles for insects and other creatures to hide in and munch on. We've also around six hedgehog homes. So it should be the perfect location for them. Until recently we've had five resident hogs but this year we are down to one young individual. We have no idea what has happened to the others, they just haven't turned up.

We've been feeding our remaining hog meaty cat/dog food (you should never give them milk – you're likely to kill them), now every day at dusk s/he comes snorting along to get supper and



has stopped curling up when I approach with food.

If you want to make your garden more hedgehog friendly you need to:

• Create gaps under fences so they can roam and forage;

• Feed hedgehogs dog food or meaty cat food;

• Never feed them milk;

• Leave piles of leaves for them to sleep in;

• Only build bonfires when you are ready to set light to them as hogs will see them as a nice nesting place;

• Create escape routes from ponds and water features;

• Avoid using pesticides.

If you find an injured Hedgehog there are several places that provide help and advice though if it's bleeding or in a serious condition contact a vet – they are normally happy to help wildlife. Here are a couple and you can find more on our website: **Waveney Valley Hogspital**: www.hogspital.co.uk, 07813 967136 or 07912 674844. Ipswich Hedgehog Rescue: www.clearwhitelight.co.uk/ihr, 01473 687120. Janet Norman-Philips

Visitors to B-17 memorial

RYSTAL GRAY, WHOSE uncle 2nd Lt. Richard E. Diete died when his aircraft crashed shortly after take off at Redlingfield during the Second World War, recently visited with her partner John Spitzer.

Crystal and John arrived in the country from Boulder, Colorado on Tuesday 6th May. The pair enjoyed a reception at the Red Feather Club on Tuesday evening and were given a guided tour of the club by 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association chairman James Mutton and Alan Johnson on Wednesday.

Ten crew, serving with the 95th Bomb Group, died when their plane crashed in Green Farm, Redlingfield, at about 8.30am on 19th November, 1943. On Wednesday Crystal and John visited the memorial in Green Lane where Crystal made a heartfelt speech and Rev Michael Womack gave a short address to a small crowd of villagers, including some who remembered the crash. Crystal laid a wreath provided by Beverley Abbott.

On Wednesday evening Alan Johnson entertained them at Horham & Athelington Community Centre before they left to continue their trip with visits to Cambridge the Cotswolds and Cornwall.

STUDENTS FROM SEATTLE WILL be performing a play about the Mighty Eighth at the Red Feather Club on the afternoon of Sunday 20th July. The Northwest School student actors are bringing their play based on Boeing workers and veterans' reminiscences to London, Cambridge and Horham.



This page: Crystal Grav who's uncle 2nd Lt. Richard E. Diete died when his aircraft crashed during WW2 at Redlingfield, with her partner John Spitzer (picture Janet Norman-Philips). Facing page: Flanagan & Allen at the Red Feather Club's oldtime variety show (Stephen Plumb Photography.



They hope to talk to locals and include their stories in the performance at the RFC. Entrance to the matinée performance will be £5.

Other upcoming events include: a Quiz Night on Saturday 21st June; Jive & Wail - 1940s & 1950s Retro Swing Dance on Saturday 5th July: and an American Re-enactment Day on Sunday 6th July. Public Open Days are the last Sunday of the month, April to October inclusive, with a vintage softball match in September.

The Red Feather Club is open on Saturdays if the flag is flying. You can find more up-to-date details of RFC events on the association's website at www.95thbg-horham.com.

THE RED FEATHER CLUB'S recent old time variety show received rave reviews from the full-house..

The Old-time Music Hall, the brainchild of regular supporter Stephen Hollington, featured 18 acts, included tributes to: Laurel & Hardy; The Andrews Sisters; George Formby; Vera Lynn; Glenn Miller; Flanagan & Allen; Abbot & Costello; Judy Garland; Wilson & Keppel; vintage dance demonstrations and Django Reinhardt. *Mike Ager* WW1 REMEMBERED: Eye Town Council and Hartismere School are collaborating to host an exhibition in August commemorating the contribution made by the people of Eye and the surrounding parishes to World War I. They would like to hear from you if you know of or have any stories, photographs or artifacts relating to the period that could be included in the exhibition. They are interested in the men who went to war and the people who were left behind and what life was like for them. Contact Eve Town Councillor Maria Ford on maria.ford@eyesuffolk.org or 870466.

Maria Ford

CALLING YOUNG MUSICIANS: The Rotary Club of High Suffolk would like to hear from young musicians in the area who would like to take part in the 2014-15 Rotary Young Musician contest. Debenham High School student cellist Olivia Da Costa, who won the East of England competition in 2012, is one of 20 talented musicians from across the world who will attend a Rotary International "MusiCamp" in San Diego, California, in July. Eddy Alcock **STRADBROKE CINEMA:** The last film of the season. The Railwav Man. was shown on 15th May, The cinema starts up again on Thursday, 18th September, and there will also be films on 16th October and 20th November.

Margaret Streeter ■ CAR BOOT: Horham Church will have a stall at the Car Boot event at the community centre on Saturday June 21st and they would be grateful for donations of items to sell.

Daphne Harvey (384216)

Well met by moonlight

N THE LAST COUPLE OF months we have had the most wonderful spring which has seen what you might almost describe as an 'explosion' of blossom in our gardens and along our hedgerows.

In our own garden the cherry has been remarkable and the old pear tree at the back of the house – although you might suppose it to be half dead it is so smothered in ivy – has been blanketed in beautiful white blossom. On a clear calm night with a full moon making all as bright as day it is reminiscent of one of Samuel Palmer's most magical paintings called (appropriately) "the magic apple tree" which shows the heavily laden tree glowing in full moonlight. In his work he often featured the full moon illuminating evening scenes in the bucolic countryside around Shoreham in Kent. The Victorian artist Atkinson Grimshaw also specialised in moonlit scenes. In his case the scenes were in leafy suburbs – usually in winter with the light from the moon augmented by rather feeble gas street lights.

What is it about the moon and moonlight that has such a hold on us? For us it is and always seems to have been a constant subject of romance, folklore, scientific speculation, philosophy, weather lore and many other areas of human thought. In Literature, Drama, or Opera, although rarely the principle subject of any work, the moon is often used to set the scene:- "Ill met by moonlight, proud Titania" is Oberon's rather testy greeting to the Queen of the fairies in "A Mid-Summer Night's Dream". While at the end of the play the Man in the Moon and his lanthorn and his dog are principal players when the rude mechanicals entertain the quality in their play of "The most lamentable comedy and most cruel death of Pyramus and Thisbe".

The moon even now has its place in religion, we may not directly worship the moon but just remember that the date of Easter is set each year according to the first full moon after the Spring equinox. In folklore the cycles of the moon have been marked in various ways - "never look at the new moon through glass" or "turn your money over at the new moon and it will double". In this case, officially, the new moon is the time when there is no moon apparent in the sky but we all know really that the new moon is the night after this when that narrowest of silver slivers is hanging in the sky. Gardeners in the know always set seeds when the moon is waxing in order to get full germination. Another scrap of folklore; any blade such as a knife, hoe or spade will be blunted if exposed to moonlight. In other words don't leave your tools out!

The moon has always been considered less constant than the Sun. But to me their movements seem in some degree to complement each other through opposition. In summer the sun is high and the moon is low while in

moon doing the full Book of Revelations act of turning seemingly to blood. Once, on a sharp, frosty night, I stood and watched as the blood red moon high overhead took on a deeper and deeper hue sending shivers down my spine. It's a good job that I am not superstitious. Although the moon is our

Although the moon is our nearest neighbour, from earth we never see its backside (feminine modesty?) and it's only since we have had flights into space that we have been able to map the derriere.

Something else that observation and measurement from space has revealed to us is that the moon is slowly slipping away from us. Nothing to concern us as apparently it is happening very, very, slowly. It is difficult to imagine what the consequences of this are likely to be – will there be no more tides?

What then of the effects of the lunar cycles on the cycles and tides within ourselves? We all use the term *lunartic* and know that its original derivation is to do with the phases of the moon. We have also heard of the legends of werewolves and vampires and will know that their activities are influenced by the moon's activities.

But how much are we "normal" beings affected by our satellite? Who can tell? But we do know that our fascination is age-old and continuing. People have dreamed endlessly of what it would be like to go to the *Continued on page 10*

winter when the sun is low the moon at night can have so high an arc as to seem directly overhead. In the dead of winter around Christmas, moonrise and sunset occur simultaneously but they occupy opposite ends of the sky and at the end of the night you will see the moon setting while the sun is rising but again they are as far from each other as can be. In J R R Tolkien's world of the Hobbit he calls this Durin's day and it is considered very magical.

The connection between sun and moon has stronger, more direct effects on our lives and environment:- spring and neap tides are caused by the alignment and non-alignment of the two bodies. Their alignment also creates eclipses of both the sun and the moon. An eclipse of the sun still attracts large gatherings of serious scientific observers as well as casual sightseers ,bathing all in a rather baleful light. An eclipse of the moon can be downright apocalyptic with the

Sowing seeds with poppy

TRADBROKE & DISTRICT Branch of the Royal British Legion has been quite busy in the community recently with the incentive to sow poppy seeds for this commemorative year.

Four primary schools have taken part in this initiative, plus St Mary's Church in Horham. This has been achieved by sowing seeds which are inside blown up balloons! Children (and adults) love the chance to be noisy and destructive by jumping on the balloons in order to burst them, thus scattering the seeds in the process.

In the month of April, Worlingworth and Stradbroke Primary Schools were visited by the invitation of School Heads, Rebecca Draper & Linda Walsh respectively. More recently, Laxfield &

Continued from page 10

moon and have had some pretty wild theories as to how to get there:- Cyrano de Bergerac claimed (to get himself out of a tight spot) that he had come down from the moon and when crossexamined said that he would get back by the use of small glass phials sewn to his jerkin which would be filled at night with dew, so that with the heat of the day the dew would evaporate and he would then rise and float gently back up whence he came. Later in the 19th century H G Wells and Jules Verne both wrote tales of lunar voyages, the latter's story being turned into a charming silent film by the early French cinema director, Georges

Wilby Primary Schools have been visited for the same purpose at the invitation of School heads, Lucy Hammond, Roisin Wiseman and Philippa Nunn.

At all these visits, Children have had the opportunity to meet with branch members, and branch D-Day veterans Ted Bootle and Alan King. At the latter two schools, Laxfield and Wilby, children also had the opportunity so see the Branch Standard, and try on the strap, beret and gloves. Standard Bearer Joyce Cooper explained to the children the symbolism depicted on an RBL Standard.

ON 27TH APRIL, THE SUFFOLK County's annual Anzac parade took place in Hadleigh. A large number of

Milliets. Although his studio at the time was little more than a large greenhouse, it did not limit his imagination. In his film the rocket carrying the Victorian astronauts from earth crash lands on the moon by hitting the man in the moon painfully in the eye!

All this may seem very far fetched and just moonshine but perhaps it's the moon getting its own back in my favourite song of Dean Martin's "When the moon hits your eye like a big piece of pie~ that's AMORE!".

Anyway, as I said that's all moonshine! Talking of which – Where did I leave that bottle of poteen!

Neville Butcher

balloons

standards were carried through the town, including the Branch Standard for a service at St Mary's .

ON SATURDAY 3RD MAY, Laxfield village, and museum organised a day to Commemorate WW1. The two branch veterans led the parade to the village memorial, behind the standards of their own branch, and that of Fressingfield branch carried by Mike Kennard.

THE MAY MONTHLY BRANCH meeting was chaired by John Graham, vice chairman in the absence of the chairman who was on holiday. The guest speaker was Nigel Pitstock from Fressingfield, who talked about his career with the BBC as agricultural editor and correspondent. He spoke of experiences working in 49 countries. A 90th birthday cake was provided for member Alan King.

THE 28TH ANNUAL DINNER since the branch was reformed was attended by 50 members and guests. The theme of the dinner at Stradbroke Community Centre was Shoulder to Shoulder. A speech was made by East Anglian Daily Times editor Terry Hunt. Alan King received the Ken Richardson Memorial Shield on behalf of his daughter Joyce Cooper and the Tommy Campbell Preston Memorial Tankard was presented to branch secretary, Rev David Streeter.

Branch Chairman, Michael Burton

WORLINGWORTH & SOUTHOLT

OPEN GARDENS : Gardens in the villages will be open from 10am to-5pm on Sunday 15th June. Garden guides which are £4 each admit visitors to all 12 gardens (accompanied children free). They are available from Worlingworth Church or from any of the gardens. Lunches will be available at Worlingworth Community Centre from noon to 2pm. The event is in aid of St Marys Church Worlingworth.

Val Swallow

■ AUCTION OF PROMISES: A Grand Auction of Promises with supper is being held at Stradbroke Community Centre on Saturday, 4th October. The event is being held by the Friends of All Saints to raise money to keep the Parish Church well repaired for future generations. Can you please "Promise your Promise" to Carol Darling ASAP, at Frythe Barn, IP21 5JP or contact her on: 388098, or caroldon01@gmail.com

Margaret Streeter

■ FLOWER FESTIVAL VISIT: Friends of Hoxne Church are planning a visit to the 53rd Annual Flower Festival at Walpole St Peter's Church (known as the Cathedral of the Fens) on Monday June 2nd, and afterwards on to Kings Lynn for a couple of hours. Contact John Chapman on 740821 for details.

Jean Chapman

■ HORHAM LENT LUNCH Special thanks to Gail and Brian Marsh for hosting this year's Horham Lent Lunch and providing a delicious lunch. Thank you to all who attended and supported it raising £135 for church funds.

Daphne Harvey

POLICE REPORT



Mid Suffolk North Safer Neighbourhood Team, PCSO 3172 Steven Long & PC 878 Jacqui Thomas, Eye Police Station, Mid-Suffolk North Safer Neighbourhood Team, The Lodge, Castleton Way, Eye, Suffolk IP23 7BH. Phone 101, email Midsuffnorth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

SHOPPERS WARNED OF DISTRACTION TACTICS AT SUPERMARKETS

SHOPPERS ACROSS SUFFOLK ARE being warned of distraction tactics being used by criminals to steal bank cards from pockets, wallets, purses and bags.

Since 1st October 2013, there have been 19 offences reported to police where shoppers at supermarkets have been distracted by someone when they left the store or returned their trolley to the trolley park.

The offenders are known to target older people or people parked in disabled parking areas.

Known to work in pairs or more, it is thought the organised groups identify their victim and follow them whilst shopping, taking note of their PIN at the check-out.

The victim is then approached either at the till, at their vehicle whilst unloading or when returning their trolley, by someone advising they have dropped some money, have a nail in their tyre or asking for directions.

Whilst the victim is distracted a second person will steal their bank card from their pocket, car or trolley.

The offenders leave without being noticed and the bank card is often used within a few minutes to withdraw money from a nearby ATM using the PIN number seen at the check-out.

Suffolk Constabulary's Community Safety Manager Alan Osborne said: "It would appear that these distraction type offences are on the increase, not only in Suffolk but across the country and are likely to be carried out by organised crime groups.

"We would remind people to always check-out securely ensuring you cover the keypad when you enter your PIN and then always being aware of the distraction tactics used at your vehicle or whilst with your trolley. Keep your personal belongings with you at all times, and lock your vehicle if you walk away from it or bend down to check your tyres.

"Criminal groups are always looking at different and elaborate ways to dupe and distract people so we would remind you to be on your guard and aware of what is happening around you."

Some of the known distraction techniques are:

Being told you have a nail in your tyre;

• Being told you have dropped a £5 or £10 note;

Being asked directions/for change;
 Being asked the contents of tinned food;

• Being offered help to pack shopping into the boot of the car.

If you notice any suspicious activity or believe a crime is in progress you are asked to contact police straight away on 999 or if you would like to find out further information about crime prevention advise you should call your local Crime Reduction Officer on 101.

Suffolk Open Studios: 130 artists open their studios to the public over the four weekends in June. Directory published in early April. Also see www.suffolkopenstudios.org/ SUNDAY, JUNE 1 Mayor making: Eye Town Hall. MONDAY, JUNE 2 Fens Flower Festival Trip: see story. **TUESDAY. JUNE 3** Debenham Historical Society: Wheels of Ipswich – 200 years of Ipswich Transport. Redlingfield Village Committee meeting: see story. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4 **Coffee Caravan:** centre of Redlingfield, 10am-noon. THURSDAY, JUNE 5- SUNDAY, JULY 6 The Artist's Journey: exhibition at The Bank, Eye. FRIDAY, JUNE 6 The Klaxxon Club: original music and collaborative performance at The Bank, Eye, 8pm/doors 7.15pm, £2. FRIDAY-SUNDAY, JUNE 6-8 Vintage Festival & D-Day Remembrance: Midsuffolk Showground (www.midsuffolkvintage.co.uk). SATURDAY, JUNE 7 **Death And The Maiden:** Performance by The Mustard Theatre Company, The Bank, Eye, 7.30pm/doors 7pm, £8. TUESDAY, JUNE 10 Redlingfield churchyard clear up; 6pm. SATURDAY, JUNE 14 Redlingfield Pub on the Green: Doorstep Green, 6pm to late. SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JUNE 14 & 15 Mediaeval Experience & Father's Day Special: Suffolk Owl Sanctuary. SUNDAY, JUNE 15 Worlingworth & Southolt Open Gardens: see story. THURSDAY, JUNE 19 Rory Mcleod: A modern travelling troubadour, The Bank, Eye, 8pm/doors 7.15pm, £8/£6.

JUNE WEEKENDS

THURSDAY-SATURDAY, JUNE 19-21 Hi-De-Hi by Debenham Players: Debenham Community Centre, 7pm, £8 (www.debenham-players.co.uk). SATURDAY, JUNE 21 Horham Car Boot Sale: The Community Centre, 10am (11am buyers). In aid of Horham & Athelington Community Centre funds. Ring Karen on 384754 (£5 pre-booked, £6 on day). Worlingworth Village fete: 2pm. 7 Parishes Summer Show: formerly Crow's Hall Country Fayre, Crow's Hall, Debenham. **Quiz Night:** Red Feather Club, Horham, 7.30pm. SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JUNE 21 & 22 Journey Through The Ages - Vintage Rally and Country Fair: Goodrich Park, Palgrave (see story). Handlebars & Helmets Motorcycle **Festival & Rally:** Midsuffolk Showground SUNDAY, JUNE 22 Goods by Road & Rail: Mid-Suffolk Light Railway. WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, JUNE 25 & 26 Royal Norfolk Show: Norfolk Showground. FRIDAY-SUNDAY, JUNE 27-29 **Debenham Art Exhibition.** FRIDAY-MONDAY, JUNE 27-30 Festival of Beer and Brewing: Museum of East Anglian Life in Stowmarket. SATURDAY, JUNE 28 Summer Serenade: 7.pm, St Michael's Church, Framlingham, £8 (inc refreshments). SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JUNE 28 & 29 **2014 Festifull:** Stradbroke. A programme of arena entertainment & market, stalls, bouncy castle, traditional village fair favourites, sports competitions, food, drink & the biggest five-a-side football tournament in the area. Sunday an "It's a knockout/wipeout" event. The West Suffolk Game & Country Fair: Rougham Airfield, Bury St. Edmunds (www.oakleighfairs.co.uk/rougham/).

WHAT'S ON

TUESDAY, JULY 1 Debenham Historical Society: The Cretingham Murder Mystery. WEDNESDAY, JULY 2 Coffee Caravan: centre of Redlingfield, 10am-noon. SATURDAY, JULY 5 Occold Village Fete: 2pm-6pm. St Peter's Band: Worlingworth, 2pm. St. Peter's band with afternoon tea. Ticket price to be set. 1940s & 1950s Retro Swing Dance: Red Feather Club. SUNDAY, JULY 6 Debenham Open Gardens and Village Yard Sale. American re-enactment Day: Red Feather Club. Stonham Dog Extravaganza: Midsuffolk Showgrounds. THURSDAY, JULY 10-SUNDAY, JULY 10 The Bank Awards: Second annual under 18s exhibition at The Bank, Eye. SATURDAY, JULY 12 **Bedfield Village Fete.** Caribbean evening: 8pm-midnight, Thorndon Village Hall, SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JULY 12 & 13 Heveningham Hall Country Fair with Wings and Wheels: Heveningham Hall. SUNDAY, JULY 13 Falconry Fair: Suffolk Owl Sanctuary. WEDNESDAY-MONDAY, JULY 16-21 The 26th Debenham Country Music Festival: Info Jan or Ed on 01473 405 672 or 07808 628 945. Tickets debenham.onesuffolk.net/ SATURDAY, JULY 19 Redlingfield Village BBQ. SATURDAY, JULY 26 King & Rackham: The Bank, Eye, 8pm/doors 7.15pm, £8/£6. SUNDAY, JULY 27 Suffolk Dog Day: Helmingham Hall. FRIDAY, AUGUST 1 The Klaxxon Club: original music and collaborative performance at The Bank, Eye, 8pm/doors 7.15pm, £2.

Friday, August 1-Sunday, August 31 Art is the Word: The Bank, Eye. SUNDAY, AUGUST 3 Fire engines & Classic Vehicles: Mid-Suffolk Light Railway. S.O.S. Conservation Fair: Suffolk Owl Sanctuary. Festival of Classic and Sports Cars: Helmingham Hall. WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6 Coffee Caravan: centre of Redlingfield, 10am-noon. SATURDAY, AUGUST 9 Redlingfield Pub on the Green; Doorstep Green, 6pm to late. SATURDAY, AUGUST 16 Juan Ramirez: The Bank, Eye, 8pm/doors 7.15pm, £10/£8. SUNDAY, AUGUST 17 Model Railways: Mid-Suffolk Light Railway. Stonham Barns Classic Car Show & Autojumble: Midsuffolk Showgrounds. FRIDAY-TUESDAY, AUGUST 22-26 **Ipswich Beer Festival:** on Ipswich docks (part of Maritime Ipswich). SATURDAY, AUGUST 23 Worlingworth Flower and Produce Show. SATURDAY-MONDAY, AUGUST 23-25 Rail 'n' Ale Bar: Mid-Suffolk Light Railway. Sunday. August 24 Eye Town Show. Monday, August 25 August Bank Holiday With Extra Fun Events: Suffolk Owl Sanctuary. Sunday, August 31 Walk with a Fork: Helmingham Hall. Family Kite Day: Mid-Suffolk Light Railway. WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 Coffee Caravan: centre of Redlingfield, 10am-noon. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4-THURSDAY, SEPT-11 95th Bomb Group Reunion: The Red Feather Club welcomes US visitors. Thursday, September 4-Sunday, Sept 28 Portrait: exhibition at The Bank, Eye.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 Redlingfield Pub on the Green; Doorstep Green, 6pm to late. SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Plant Heritage Autumn Plant Fair: Helmingham Hall.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 An evening with Charlie Haylock; Horham Community Centre. Charlie is one of Suffolk's leading entertainers.. TUESDAY-SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23-27 10th annual Fressingfield Music Festival (http://fressingfieldmusic.com/). SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 Harvest lunch; Horham Community Centre. A Celebration of Rural Life: Show Jumping completion event, full working horse display and rural life event, Midsuffolk Showgrounds.

The Bank, Eye: The Bank, 2 Castle Street, Eye, IP23 7AN, 873495 & www.thebankeye.org/. Diss Corn Hall: Corn Hall, St Nicholas Street, Diss. Box Office: 652241 & boxoffice@disscornhall.co.uk. Full programme at www.disscornhall.co.uk ; Framlingham: www.framlingham.com. Helmingham Hall: 01473 890799, events@helmingham.com, www.helmingham.com. Horham & Athelington Community Centre: Karen, 384754; Clare, 388878; & Kerina, 669376, Hoxne Cinema: Tickets from Jenny Knights 668060, Hoxne PO & Stores, or via www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk. Midsuffolk Showgrounds: Stonham Barns, ,Pettaugh Road, Stonham Aspal, IP14 6AT, www.midandwestsuffolkshow.co.uk. Mid-Suffolk Light Railway, Brockford Station, Wetheringsett nr Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 5PW, www.mslr.org.uk, general enquiries Keith Froom 01449 672670 or keith.froom@ftinternet.co.uk. Museum of East Anglian Life, Stowmarket, 01449 612229, enquiries@eastanglianlife.org.uk. **Redlingfield**, 678835, pc@redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk, www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk. Suffolk Owl Sanctuary, Stonham Barns, 08456 807897, info@owl-help.org.uk, www.owl-help.org.uk. Wingfield Barns, 384505, enquiries@wingfieldbarns.com, www.wingfieldbarns.com (Midweek Movies: Tickets £5 on the door, 1.30pm matinee and 7.30pm evenings).

Mondays: Ballroom dancing: St Edmund's Hall, Hoxne, 7.30pm-9.30pm (for adults). Sandra Hartley, 01728 723887.

TUESDAYS: T PLUS: Community Café with stalls, All Saint's Church, Thorndon every Tues, 10am-noon. **Bingo:** Thorndon Village Hall, 7.30pm every other Tues. 678178. **Zumba:** Horham & Athelington Community Centre, 7pm, Terri Cave, 01728 627756 & 07563534086. **Debenham Historical Society:** Regular lectures at Room 31, Debenham High School, 7.30pm, £3 per lecture, including a soft drink in the interval. Enquiries: Clive Cook 01728-861754. Non-members welcome see what's on.

WEDNESDAYS: Redlingfield & Occold WI, 1st Wed of the month at, 7.45pm, in Occold Village Hall. Hoxon Hundred: Summer dance-outs at local pubs. Winter practices. Ron Ross, 643563. Eye Country Market, every Wed 10am-11am, Eye Town Hall (closed Jan).

THURSDAYS: Zumba: Worlingworth Community Centre, 7pm, Terri Cave, 01728 627756 & 07563534086. Over 50s Belly Dance Class: Occold Village Hall, 11am-noon, £30 for 6 weeks 27 Feb till 3 April.

FRIDAYS: Bingo: Stradbroke Community Centre, Wilby Road, 2nd Fri monthly. 7.30pm. Mary Ellis, 384642. Worlingworth Swan, live music, last Fri evening of month.

SATURDAYS: Occold Market & Car Boot: Occold Village and Village Hall, 9.30am-noon, last Sat of the month from March to November.

SUNDAYS: Public open days: Red Feather/95th Bomb Group Heritage Association & 95th BG Hospital Museum last Sun of month April-October inclusive,

Rally gets a second chance

POPULAR ANNUAL EVENT Horham Bygones Country Rally is being resurrected just a few miles away from its village home thanks to the organisers of Palgrave's Journey Through The Ages – Vintage Rally & Country Fair.

The Bygones Rally used to attract thousands to the village but it had to finish due to loss of car parking and insurance problems.

However, Bygones organiser Gary Woodrow did not want to call it a day so he was pleased when a visit to 2013's first Journey Through The Ages event in Palgrave offered a solution. He was introduced to event organiser Gareth Mutimer who offered to keep the spirit of the rally alive in the 55 acres of historic parkland at Goodrich Park in Palgrave.

Gary said: "People kept asking us if we were going to have another Horham Bygones Country Rally. But we have decided to pass the torch on. It's an ideal event with a village feel and no parking worries. Many of our Bygones regulars will be at this year's event."

Fellow Bygones organiser Don Moyes added: "It's great to think that the Bygones Rally will live on in some way." Gareth added: "All exhibitors from Horham have now been invited to Palgrave with a fantastic response so far. To date we have double the number of exhibitors that we had last year."

Gary said that he is pleased to be joining Gareth and Journey Through The Ages event manager Lucinda Arnold and looks forward to greeting old and new faces on the day.

Journey Through The Ages will be in Goodrich Park in Palgrave on Saturday (10am-6pm) and Sunday (10am-5pm) 21st and 22nd June. Admission is £6 for

> This page: A big line-up of tractors at Horham Bygones. Facing page: Vikings at last year's Journey Through The Ages.





adults and £4 for children aged four to 16. There will be free parking and dogs are welcome.

This year's event will offer Viking re-enactment groups, full- size and model steam engines, vintage vehicles, countryside crafts, donkey rides, an auto-jumble, a vintage fairground, a dog show with agility ring and a flyball course, trade stands, fairground organs, vintage and modern commercial vehicles, car clubs and a licensed bar.

Originally started in 2002 as a one-off event to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee the Horham rally went from strength to strength to become an annual feature. In 2011 more than 3,000 visitors flocked into Horham the for the event. In 2012 Horham Bygones fell foul of an awful summer of rain and in 2013 problems finding sufficient parking led organisers to bring its 10-year run to an end.

Anyone interested in exhibiting a vintage vehicle or trading at the event can contact the organisers at vintage.rally@gmail.com or thunderburst@hotmail.co.uk. Further information can be found on their Facebook Page or www.throughtheages.co.uk

Mike Ager

■ HORHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE: The village fete planned for 21 June has been cancelled in the face of intense competition in the surrounding area. Instead, we are holding a Late Risers Car Boot Sale on the same date. Gates open 10am for booters and 11am for buyers. We hope there will be light refreshments available. Book your pitch with Karen 384754. Also on sale from this date will be tickets for "An Evening with Charlie Haylock", to be held on Saturday 20th September at 7.30pm in Horham Community Centre. Known and appreciated in Suffolk and beyond, Charlie will give us an interesting talk on Suffolk customs and its villages, people and dialect. Cheese and wine will be served during the interval. Tickets for this event are £8 for members, £10 for non-members, available from Karen 384754 and Clare 388878. Forthcoming events will include a Hallowe'en party for children (earlier) and adults (later) on Friday 31st October and Bonfire and Fireworks on Saturday 8th November, Watch out for further Clare Webb details.

PLANNING: To be decided -plan to remove existing cement render to south elevation. replace with lime render, add a window in south elevation, reinstate attic window, repair and replace barge boards and soffit boards to south elevation and install a freestanding boiler, Grove Farm, Southolt Road, Athelington; plan to erect a one-and-half-storey side extension (following the demolition of existing single storey side extension, garage and car port), Oakdene, Church Road, Redlingfield; application to use land for siting marguee for events during 2014. Marguee to be in-situ from 1st May to 4th October, Athelington Hall, Horham Road, Athelington, Granted – application to install and operate a 49.75kW ground mounted solar PV system, **Lodge Farm**, The Street. Horham.

Planning information from Midsuffolk District Council' (http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/).

COLUMNS

YOUR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR



2013/14 HAS BEEN A TIME of huge change for Midsuffolk District Council. The integration with Babergh and the re-organisation of staff

and officers has been very confusing for everyone.

While we have saved some £1.8 million this year in staff and costs we have also had to shoulder a 13 per cent cut in Government funding and this will continue for at least another one to two years.

On the plus side we have been able to continue to support and part fund many community improvements and developments. While the Council is anxious to add growth to the rural villages with housing and small businesses, I am very conscious that many villages in the Hoxne Ward are very content with life in their village and will certainly tell me or the council where they would like to see development.

While the Planning Department is somewhat depleted, they are able to fast track some planning applications via the pre-planning system, and I think they are now becoming more aware of the fact that families need extensions for domestic reasons.

We have no overall directions on wind turbines, each application is taken on its own merits but the applications do seem to have slowed down.

Leisure and hobby pursuits are getting a good share of funding, adding to the quality of life that the council has signed up to.

Broadband continues to hold us all up

and while we are in negotiations with BT they do seem to have their own agenda and it is unlikely that we will see any improvement until 2016/17.

Midsuffolk continues to win awards for green and recycling issues and a small group of us are continuing to support the Brome Recycling Centre to remain open.

There is still pressure on our council housing stock especially for one- and two-bedroom accommodation.

At last, all accommodation has been brought up to date and refurbished to modern standards. If you think there is a need in your village for affordable housing for local people we could talk about how this could be achieved.

While we are privileged to live in a safe environment here, we are aware of what weather and climate change can visit on us and the Council continues to support villages that want to set up Emergency Planning Groups to keep residents safe and able to move around.

Once again I must thank the Chairman, Clerk and members of both the Village Committee and Parish Council for their work on behalf of Redlingfield and Horham and Athelington respectively and for the trust you put in me as your District Councillor.

This time next year, 2015, all MSDC councillors will be seeking re-election for another four years.

I would love to take on the challenge for one more term but I am conscious that you might like a change or a newer model. Elizabeth Gibson-Harries,

District Councillor – Hoxne Ward

DR DAN POULTER, YOUR LOCAL MP, REPORTS BACK



AFTER THE STATE OPENING of Parliament, the budget is probably the second biggest event in the Parliamentary year. It provides the

opportunity for the Chancellor of the Exchequer to talk to Parliament and the nation about the country's finances, and the Government's spending priorities. The budget statement is such a big event that MPs often queue during the night to be the first into the chamber on budget morning to reserve their seats.

It is one of the few speeches which are heard in (relative) silence, without other MPs trying to interrupt with points of information or questions. Perhaps the most difficult job on budget day falls to the Leader of the Opposition, who must respond immediately with only a short time to prepare his or her speech.

This year's budget was perhaps the best received for over a decade. I had the good fortune to be sitting next to Ken Clarke, a former Chancellor, famous for drinking whiskey whilst delivering his budget speeches. Ken understands about budgets and appeared genuinely impressed with what was said this year.

As we all know from running our own households, you cannot run a home or lead your life by continually borrowing money. Similarly, in the budget, the Chancellor's first priority is to make sure that the UK can balance its books. We are well on the way to getting our country's finances back on track. Some decisions have been difficult, but getting the country's finances in order allows us to invest in more schools, hospitals and railways. I have always believed that if you work hard all of your life then you deserve a comfortable and dignified retirement and I was very pleased with the boost that this year's budget gave to pensioners.

The good news is that the basic state pension is soon to rise to about £145 per week. There is also more money for our NHS, which is good news for Suffolk, given the many older people which our local health service looks after. Young people trying to get on to the housing ladder received good news with the "help to buy" scheme for first time buyers.

Living locally myself, I spend almost every Friday visiting local businesses, and it is great to see so many of them doing so well. The great thing about Suffolk businesses is that in bad times, and now in good, they help and support each other.

As our local businesses do well the number of new apprentices and young people being helped into vocational training courses in agriculture, plumbing and building is also increasing.

Suffolk businesses such as Aspall Cyder, Skinners, and Gressingham have also benefited from this and other recent budgets through reduced corporation tax and other business rates, allowing them to help many more local people into new jobs and to get on in life.

• I hold regular constituency advice surgeries to help people who have problems. If you think that I may be able to help you, contact 01728 685148, or email me via www.drdanielpoulter.com. For more information please visit www.drdanielpoulter.com

Dr Dan Poulter, MP

COLUMNS

THE RECTOR REFLECTS ... ADAM SMALLBONE'S BIG MISTAKE



INITIALLY REV WAS AN obscure comedy drama watched by Anglican ministers. By the end of the current season newspaper

columnists were commenting on it, along with the Archbishop of Canterbury. Maybe that says something about the Church of England; most of the time it potters along quietly, appreciated and agonised over by a handful of people but generally on the margins. Then it goes and does something to attract a lot of attention and suddenly everyone has an opinion.

In the case of *Rev* this was a move into new territory, which might be another metaphor for the CofE – that it's best when it sticks to what it's good at. In the case of *Rev* the move has been a change of genre. The mood has become darker and mixed with a complicated allegory of the Easter story. I think this has muddled many commentators but rather than worry about them, it is Adam Smallbone that I really worry about.

Adam Smallbone (Tom Hollander) is the Rev of the title and has gone through

a crisis of faith/breakdown during the recent series. In previous series my own Mrs Vicarage (one of the names given to the long-suffering Alex) and I would whimper at some of the very perceptive scenes. This season we have shouted at Smallbone that he is making a big mistake. Namely, that as the crisis in his life has deepened he has told his wife less and less and failed to seek the help of those around him.

One thing that is increasingly recognised is that in a time of crisis, people with a big and active support network cope better than those without one. That support can come in many forms, the important thing is to seek it out and use it. Whatever you do, don't make Adam Smallbone's mistake and cut yourself off.

Rev Michael Womack is away from Tuesday June 24th to Monday July 21st, if you need support from the church please contact your church-warden or in emergency Rev Canon Andrew Vessey 588389 or Rev Susan Loxton 388493.

> Michael Womack (388889 or hoxnebenefice@gmail.com)

■ SUFFOLK FOSTERING SERVICE NEEDS CARERS: There are currently around 750 children in care in Suffolk, the majority of these are in foster care, and placed with registered foster carers. Suffolk County Council wants all children in its care to have a permanent, safe home in which they will be loved, nurtured and thrive. For some this will be with members of their family, while for others the best option will be for them to be adopted or be with a permanent fostering family. Suffolk Fostering Service needs carers for children of all ages, but is particularly interested in hearing from people able to care for sibling groups or children over the age of 11. Contact the Fostering Service on: 0800 328 2148 or visit www.suffolkfostering.com. Suffolk Adoption Agency is looking for families particularly for brothers and sisters to grow up together in pairs or groups of three; children over three and disabled children. Contact the Adoption Agency on: 0800 389 9417 or visit w.suffolkadoption.com.

C of E: Rev Michael Womack is rector of the Hoxne Benefice serving Athelington, Denham, Horham, Hoxne, Redlingfield, Syleham and Wingfield. St Andrew's House, Vicarage Road, Wingfield, IP21 5RB, 388889 or hoxnebenefice@gmail.com. St Andrew, Redlingfield; St Peter, Athelington; St Mary, Horham. Enquiries to: Daphne Harvey, Horham (384216); Evelyn Adey, Athelington (01728 628428) Hazel Abbott, Redlingfield (678217).

- June 1 Redlingfield, 9.30am, HC; Wingfield, 10am, MP; Horham, 11.15am, FS; Hoxne, 11.15am, HC; Syleham, 11.15am, Mattins.
- June 8 Horham, 9.30am, HC; Wingfield, 11am, HC & Dedication; Hoxne, 11.15am, Mattins.
- June 15 Hoxne, 8.30am, HC; Athelington, 9.30am, HC; Syleham, 10am, FS; Wingfield, 10am, FS; Hoxne, 11.15am, Baptism; Horham, 11.15am, FS.
- June 22 Syleham, 9.30am, HC; **Redlingfield**, 9.30am, MP; Hoxne, 10am, FS; Denham, 11.15am, FS; **Horham**, 11.15am, FS; Wingfield, 6.30pm, Evensong; .
- June 29 Athelington, 11.15am, Benefice Eucharist.
- July 6 Redlingfield, 9.30am, HC; Wingfield, 10am, MP; Horham, 11.15am, FS; Hoxne, 11.15am, HC; Syleham, 11.15am, Mattins.
- July 13 Horham, 9.30am, HC; Wingfield, 11am, HC; Hoxne, 11.15am, Mattins.
- July 20 Hoxne, 8.30am, HC; Athelington, 9.30am, HC; Syleham, 10am, FS; Wingfield, 10am, FS; Hoxne, 11.15am, FS; Horham, 11.15am, FS.
- July 27 Syleham, 9.30am, HC; **Redlingfield**, 9.30am, MP; Hoxne, 10am, FS; Denham, 11.15am, FS; **Horham**, 11.15am, FS; Wingfield, 6.30pm, Evensong.
- Aug 3 Redlingfield, 9.30am, HC; Wingfield, 10am, MP; Horham, 11.15am, FS; Hoxne, 11.15am, HC; Syleham, 11.15am, Mattins.
- Aug 10 Horham, 9.30am, HC; Wingfield, 11am, HC; Hoxne, 11.15am, Mattins.
- Aug 17 Hoxne, 8.30am, HC; Athelington, 9.30am, HC; Syleham, 10am, FS; Wingfield, 10am, FS; Hoxne, 11.15am, FS; Horham, 11.15am, FS.
- Aug 24 Syleham, 9.30am, HC; Redlingfield, 9.30am, MP; Hoxne, 10am, FS; Wingfield, 10am, Mattins; Denham, 11.15am, FS; Horham, 11.15am, FS; Wingfield, 6.30pm, Evensong.
- Aug 31 Wingfield, 11.15am, Benefice Eucharist. (HC = Holy Communion; MP = Morning Prayer; FS = Family Service. Please check times on notice boards.)

Benefice Service at Athelington on St Peter's Day, 29th June: A number of our helpers and providers are away this year so we are unable to offer lunch at Meadow Farm after the service. Instead, we will provide small refreshments in the church and hope that lots of people can join us to help celebrate our Patron Saint, St Peter. The service will start at 11.15 am. *Evelyn Adey*

YOUR PARISH COUNCILS & POETRY

REDLINGFIELD VILLAGE MEETING

Andrew Abbott was unanimously elected the chairman of Redlingfield Village Meeting at the recent AGM at Horham & Athelington Community Centre. He replaces Mike Ager. Sadly, Linda Hudson resigned from the village committee. The committee would like to thank Linda for all the hard work that she has done on the committee for the village and church. Existing committee members – Andrew Abbott, Graham Abbott, Katie Abbott, Mike Ager, Jeanette Brierley, Susan Chapman, Allan Chapman, Tony Freitas, Chris Gibbons, Pat Kelly, Russell Kerry, Jacqueline Love (also PCC liaison), Manday Miller and Janet Norman-Philips – were re-elected unanimously. Rev Womack reported that the guinguennial report into Redlingfield church identified £100k of repairs needed. The report also identified that our church was a rare example of its kind. The Heritage Lottery Fund would be a probable source of funds. Janet Norman-Philips agreed to use her expertise to work on the forms and bid for funds. The village meeting voted and unanimously agreed on the need to save the church and bid for lottery funding and additionally seek funding to: a) enable the church to be repaired/restored and sustainably improved to allow for greater community use, for example by the addition of toilets and a kitchen; b) To increase the size and facilities of the Doorstep Green so that it abuts the land belonging to the church thus allowing; c) better/safer access to the church and Doorstep Green. The committee will republish Parish Plan data which shows almost unanimous support throughout the village for the church's survival and used for more than worship.

Andrew Abbott, committee chairman (pc@redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk or 678835, www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk)

A DUEL COMES by Manday Miller

One team went down the other stayed the same, The game shall never be the same, For old grudges and new ones awakened, Scores to be settled and points made.

Next year, who shall rise and who will fall? We can not say now, The gladiators who fight in our name, Shine or fall says it all, he did well or not at all.

Ha, yes! The beautiful game says it all, Some love this game, some not at all, Yes, the GAME for some is all, One said it was more important than life or death,

Yes the game has it all, the game is football

I HAVE DONE SOMETHING author unknown

I looked at all the caged animals in the shelter; the cast-offs of human society.

I saw in their eyes love and hope, fear and dread, sadness, and betrayal. And I was angry.

"God," I said, "this is terrible! Why don't you do something?"

God was silent for a moment, and then spoke softly, "I have done something," was the reply. "I created you."

From the Suffolk Animal Rescue website

HORHAM & ATHELINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

■ The Parish Council has moved the "dog fouling bin" from the end of Pound Lane to the Community Council recreation ground. We would like to remind dog owners that they are legally obliged to clear up any "messages" their pets leave behind. Village folk have informed the council that some people visiting the recreation ground with their dogs are not complying with this legal requirement. If this behaviour is observed please inform the police giving the registration number of the vehicle.

■ The hedgerows along the road have grown in leaps and bounds this year. Please keep frontage hedges trimmed well back to allow pedestrians and road users good visibility on both the main roads and narrow lanes. The highways authority has the power to request that this maintenance is done in the name of safety and may decide to trim a hedge (charging the landowner) if no action is taken.

■ We are fortunate that the local police keep the Parish Council well informed of crimes and "happenings" in our villages. An officer regularly attends our meetings and listens to any issues that concern us. A regular topic raised is speeding and this is notable at times when people are travelling to and from work. The police are willing to do speed checks and will continue to do so at our request .

■ We have had a number of collisions and a death due to speeding in Horham; that's one fatality too many. So please give yourself time for your journeys and keep an eye on the speedo! **Angela Wilkins**

■ **NEW REEDING WOODS GROUP:** Earlier in the spring members of the Blyth Valley Woods Group, who like us, more than a decade ago, are hoping to plant a community woodland, came to visit Pound Lane Wood. We were pleased to show them round, and proud as we explained the pleasures and traumas that we had experienced as our project had been bought to fruition. The development of our project, under the auspices of the Green Light Trust, was full of enthusiasm; we collected and planted seeds from local trees, set up tree nurseries, tried to raise funds and awareness of the project and searched for land! Eventually the small parcel of land which is now Pound Lane wood was found and then the real work began. Raising grants to purchase the land and pushing through the legal purchase was slow and time consuming, but eventually we were ready for action! We described the traumas of fencing in the snow, digging out the pond and spreading the spoil on the meadow area, metal detecting the ground, stone picking, and eventually planting our saplings. Then we described cutting the green hay from local churchyards and the joy of our local children spreading the hay across the meadow on a hot summer afternoon. Then we showed them, with pride, our flourishing community woodland, and we wish them every success with their project. Visit the woodland along the Redlingfield Road in Horham and if you would like to help with the project or become a "Friend", please contact Mike Reeves on 668 179.

Mike Reeves



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