

Athelington, Horham & Redlingfield NEWS



*Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year*

**WINTER 2015-16
ISSUE No. 32**

SPURLING & REMBLANCE



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A lot has been happening in our corner of Suffolk since our last issue and making the news on Radio Suffolk, the *EDP*, *EADT*, *Diss Express* and *Diss Mercury*. One story even made all the nationals and had *Sun* journalists tramping through Redlingfield looking for pictures and quotes. That was the release of newly declassified files from the National Archives detailing Ronald Creasy's support for the Nazis. This caused a bit of a kerfuffle for a few days and made my old neighbour Eddie Coe, who now lives in Fressingfield, the go-to guy to talk about the Creasys. The Old School's new cyber cafe also made the news as did the Red Feather Club's reunion visit from Americans and Redlingfield's bid to save its historic church (see inside for more on all of these). Sadly the other major story to make all the local media was the death of the colourful and kind David Streeter (obituary and tributes inside).

Mike Ager

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all from everyone at your village mag.

CHRISTMAS 2015 & NEW YEAR WASTE & RECYCLING COLLECTIONS

Usual day	Revised	Usual day	Revised	Usual day	Revised
Mon 21 Dec	No Change	Mon 28 Dec	Tues 29 Dec	Mon 4 Jan	Tues 5 Jan
Tues 22 Dec	No Change	Tues 29 Dec	Wed 30 Dec	Tues 5 Jan	Wed 6 Jan
Wed 23 Dec	No Change	Wed 30 Dec	Thur 31 Dec	Wed 6 Jan	Thur 7 Jan
Thur 24 Dec	No Change	Thur 31 Dec	Sat 2 Jan	Thur 7 Jan	Fri 8 Jan
Fri 25 Dec	Mon 28 Dec	Fri 1 Jan	Mon 4 Jan	Fri 8 Jan	Sat 9 Jan

Brown bin collections are suspended for two weeks over Christmas and New Year.

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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We aim to produce four issues a year, coming out at the end of February, May, August and November. The next issue - Spring 2016 - is due to be published at the end of February. The final deadline for all submissions is February 14th.

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

- 1/6 page £8.50 (60mm deep, 60mm across)
- 1/3 page £16.50 (60mm deep, 125mm across)
- 1/4 page £12.50 (90mm deep, 60mm across)
- 1/2 page £25 (90mm deep, 125mm across)
- A whole page £50

You can supply the artwork and/or logos or we can design the adverts for you.

Buzzards prove unlikely allies for gamekeepers

Trevor Edwards' latest slice of Wash Farm Wildlife

THE CHANGE IN THE clocks and the onset of winter is marked by the noisy passage of rooks flying from their roost at dawn. Their chattering to each other is non-stop and brings to mind the joke that in France, the cocks only crow at dawn to get a word in before the hens wake up.

Rooks are a welcome part of the farming scene unless they locate the late-sown wheat fields. Here they can happily clear out the crop by walking up the rows of the drill.

A dawn patrol with Kip to scare them off also showed me a buzzard, sparrow-hawk and jay all on the same walk. So we have plenty of predators at Wash Farm which should mean plenty of prey. Or so they say; I always worry that too many sparrow-hawks must reduce the LBJ's in our gardens.

Reg Woodard, Suffolk's veteran tree-climbing nest recorder, can add some knowledge of the buzzards' eating habits due to an exceptional mid-summer storm. Just after the young had fledged, a high wind brought the nest crashing to the ground and Reg was able to examine the remains of the larder provided for the

chicks. It included the backbone of a rabbit, the head of a crow and a pile of magpie feathers. Gamekeepers far and wide would be well pleased.

THIS IS THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY of the Suffolk Community Barn Owl Project and to celebrate, the Waveney Bird Club threw a little party at the Halesworth Cut. The guest speaker was Colin Shawyer, who really is the UK's Mr Barn Owl.

Reporting on the successful barn owl story across the country, he was then asked from the floor what the future held. Expecting a learned scientific response, I nearly laughed to hear him say that Health & Safety was the biggest problem because some organisations are now restricting the use of ladders to reach the boxes. It won't be long before Big Brother will want gardeners to do training courses



Three young swallows leave the nest but wait the next move. Facing page Austin Edwards with his first Barn Owl.



broods and it was memorable for turtle-doves too. We have provided a home for this welcome but declining visitor for many years now, although this was the first time I had caught both adults and two young lined up for a family photo on the electricity wires.

The one exception to the good news was the barn owls' breeding season which was fairly barren. With plentiful sightings of adults throughout the year, we were in optimistic mood for good numbers, but the cold late spring, not dissimilar to 2013, meant that we produced only one juvenile from our two boxes, a story repeated over much of Suffolk.

In fact, our local ringer, Chris Macca, arrived to record our one success and arrived with a face as long as a violin after a day of eight empty boxes. It took a good

gin and tonic to cheer him up. His visit, however, was well-timed as our grandchildren were visiting and could enjoy their first barn-owl experience under his watchful eye.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON IS coming and poultry farmers are watching their flocks to ensure that top quality birds of the right weights reach the butchers' shops.

Last year, 2014, was a nervous time for all poultry producers as two outbreaks of avian influenza on the continent were isolated from wild ducks, the Eurasian wigeon and the common teal, both of which migrate in large numbers. *Continued on page 4*

in spade skills and hole-digging.

Some people do sound work in studying the contents of barn owl pellets and you are not alone in thinking there must be better jobs. However, it is extremely worthwhile as barn owls swallow their food whole and thus the expelled skeletal remains can be identified by the trained eye.

THE REMARKABLE WARM weather of the 1st November, when the record was broken for the country's warmest November day, came at the end of a very good season for our local breeding birds.

House sparrows, swallows, martins and spotted flycatchers all had second

Continued from page 3

Each year the weather will affect both the weight and feathering of the turkeys as they grow. If it's too mild, the birds will only eat to maintenance and not put on the extra pounds.

MANY BIRD WATCHERS

reported mixed fortunes for their swallows this year but Wash Farm has had a good one. Willie of Worlingworth (the one who picks up pheasants for the Royal family) saw the first flight of his swallow brood whence they came to rest in the branches of a leylandii tree.

On flying again, one crashed straight to the ground and was quickly hoovered up by Maisie, his latest labrador. She brought it to hand and Willie found the wingtips were glued together by the resin from the leylandii tree. After a careful clean-up, the young swallow was released to fly another day.

For a man qualified in washing-up this was not a problem, and as well as complimenting him on his bird-saving skills, I admired his disciplined puppy training.

Willie boasted that her skills were manifold, as Maisie will bring him a chocolate and not eat it. I always believe every word he says.

A NORFOLK DOCTOR DID another good deed of the day by saving a brood of ducklings from his swimming pool. Mallards are never the brightest ducks on the pond, and this one led her brood to his pool and onto the plastic cover, where he found them skittering around and very funny to watch. The only answer was to roll back the cover, dump them into the water and then, with a scoop of the pool net, tip the whole brood back out on the lawn. Job done.

THE COMMON POPPY, THE symbol of remembrance since 1921, was famous for its profusion on the battlefields of Ypres and the Somme and became immortalised in John McCrae's poem *In Flanders Fields*: "*In Flanders fields the poppies blow, Between the crosses row on row*"

Each plant can produce thousands of seeds a year which will then survive for 80 years, so that should ensure they will decorate the edges of our fields for a long time to come.

*There was a young farmer called Drew,
Who was known for downing a few,
But now that he's forty,
He must stop being naughty,
And give in to his wife's point of view!*

Trevor Edwards

■ **COFFEE & CHAT:** Alan Hawes and his wife have started "Coffee & Chat" sessions at Horham Baptist Church Hall, and now that they have settled down they would like to make people aware of them. They meet every Monday (excluding bank holidays) at 10am. They don't charge although people seem to like to make a donation. They have an information desk, a jigsaw puzzle library and a selection of board games – as well as tea, coffee and cake! Their motto is "Everyone welcome - especially you!" Alan is also keen to promote local events where possible, so if you have anything for them to display on the information desk feel free to drop it in to him. Alan Hawes, 388330.

The untold story of a name on the village memorial

HARRY LINCOLN IS A name on the Redlingfield WW1 Memorial at St Andrew's church and also on the Menin Gate at Ypres. He died on 5th May 1915 fighting with the 1st Bedfordshires on Hill 60 as documented in the regiment's war diary.

Thanks to information now available on line it is possible to learn more about Harry and his connections with Redlingfield and Horham than Mike Ager and Stephen Govier were able to do when they researched the names on the memorial some years ago.

He was born to Lizzie Lincoln in Horham on 28th April 1887 and baptised on the 14th July at St Mary's church. No father's name is recorded.

The 1891 Census lists him as a lodger, aged three, in the house of Samuel and Mary Muttock in Mill Road, Redlingfield. Harry's grandmother was a Sarah Muttock born 1833. His mother Lizzie was working as a general servant at White House, Bedfield.

Ten years later the 1901 census shows that he is an inmate of Willow

House Children's Home in Eye. Lizzie is working as a monthly nurse for the Whatling family in Worlingworth.

By 1911 he is 23, unmarried and an infantryman with the 1st Bedfordshire Regiment in Aldershot. A letter written by Harry in August 1914 (available in

full on Redlingfield's website) tells us that he is in Ireland about to leave for Belgium on active service. This letter was addressed to Clara and says that if he never returns he leaves the "boy" in her charge and that she should give his medal to the "boy" to wear.

The UK Register of Soldiers' Effects shows that Miss Clara Harvey

was Harry's sole legatee. She received £19.19s.09d. in December 1915 and a further £5 in August 1919.

Clara's parents George and Caroline Harvey with siblings Sidney, George and Agnes were living on Horham Road, Redlingfield in 1901. Agnes married Reggie Lister, whose name is with Harry's on the memorial. Later she married his brother Arthur.

Harry's letter is poignant and quite long. It is well worth reading on the local history pages at www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk.

Linda Hudson



Seaside summer fun with

STRADBROKE HIGH SCHOOL was transformed into a seaside summer theatre on Saturday 5th September when the Stradbroke & District branch of the RBL hosted a show with the theme to Relive the Relief of the 70th anniversary cessation of war in Europe and the Far East.

The 'theatre' was full to capacity with an audience who were able to avail themselves of the hugely

discounted tickets, made possible by local benefactors who sponsored the show, in order to make it affordable and accessible for all.

The entertainment was provided by Nigel 'boy' Syer and Olly Day, with special guests, singer Maria Willis from Norwich, and a core section from the Colchester Pipes and Drums.

The prize draw raised in excess of £700. The draw prizes consisted of 13 themed hampers prepared by Penny



**Entertainers
Olly Day &
Nigel Syer with
the show's host
MC Major
Rosemary
Warne, DL,
MBE &
representatives
of Suffolk RBL
Standard
bearers.**

■ **STRADBROKE RBL:** The event which topped all others was the death of our branch secretary and chaplain Rev David Streeter. I had worked with David since he came to Stradbroke so I knew him very well. He will very much be missed by the branch. Many thanks David for all you did for us. May you now rest in peace. Youth played a big part in the branch's Remembrance Sunday with Steve Cook of Castleton Brass Band playing "The Last Post" and Reveille" around Stradbroke war memorial, Diss Air Cadet Holmes carrying the Suffolk County "H" Group local standard and winner of the branch's Stradbroke High School war poems competition reading his composition at Stradbroke Baptist Church. Few members attended the recent annual general meeting. Bernard Mills is the new branch secretary and Rev Ron Orams is the new branch chaplain. The appointment of a new treasurer is pending. The next event is the branch's annual Christmas lunch and carols at Laxfield "King's Head" on Thursday 17th December.

Michael Burton

the RBL

Stanford, and a top prize of £50 donated by Rosy Warne, who also acted as MC for the evening. Refreshments consisted of Pimms-alike and delicious shortbread made to an undisclosed royal recipe by Dr Patrick Thompson.

The Stradbroke branch thanks representatives from the Royal British Legion Bikers Branch, and the Diss 1070 Squadron Air Cadets who gave invaluable help on the night.

What they said about the concert: "I would like to thank you and the team for your hospitality, it made me feel proud to be part of a wonderful evening," Nigel Syer.

"...many congratulations to your team of helpers for arranging such a wonderful evening, it was brilliant from start to finish, it must have taken so many hours of time to plan and organise this event. My 90 year old mother-in-law has asked can it all be repeated again tonight, she enjoyed it so much with tears rolling down her face at the corny jokes, superb," Gordon. "Congratulations on the success of your night on Saturday... We are only sorry that we could not be there," Denis Bloomfield, Suffolk County RBL Chairman.

Michael Burton, Stradbroke RBL chairman said the concert was "an outstanding event, the best by far I have been involved in". He thanked organisers Rosemary Warne, Joyce Cooper, Joyce Baker and Penny Stanford.

Joyce Cooper

■ HORHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE:

Despite dreadful weather during the preceding week, the rain cleared for the Horham Fireworks display on 7th November, which was enjoyed by a big crowd. Many tucked in to soup, hot dogs and chips afterwards and a good time was had by all. Thanks to Donny and team for organising the display. A new innovation came to the community centre on 13th November – a Curry Night cooked by Pete and Clare. It was a sell-out and by popular demand, the event will return, probably on March 4th. Keep your eyes and ears peeled! Sign up in advance (lists in Horham Shop and the community centre). Next up on 18th December is the Christmas Dinner Dance. A welcome drink and a three-course meal with coffee and mints will be followed by dancing to the music of Felix and Sam. Tickets (£20 members, £23 guests) from Karen 384754 and contact her to register menu choices. Christmas Eve sees the centre open for a jolly evening and the Christmas raffle will be drawn. Then there's the New Year's Eve Party – everyone is invited to bring either a dish of food to share or a raffle prize. The first fish and chips night of 2016 will be on 22nd January (this will also be the membership evening), then on 19th February and 18th March. A list will be posted in the community centre and shop around two weeks beforehand. Numbers at events were well down this year. It was suggested that we were putting on too many events. So the ball is in your court! Please let us know what sort of events you would like us to put on, and when. One suggestion is to have a party to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday. And do we want another Village Fete? What do you think? **Clare Webb**

■ **FATHER CHRISTMAS:** Santa will once again be delivering gifts on Christmas Day morning by tractor in Horham and Athelington. To book a delivery, please ring Mother Christmas on 384231. A donation is requested for the East Anglian Children's Hospice for this service. There is no age discrimination – young, old and every age in between. Mother Christmas is looking forward to receiving yours and booking your delivery.

Mother Christmas

■ **WINTER COFFEE MORNINGS:** The details of the five Redlingfield Winter Coffee Mornings are as follows: All are on the first Wednesday of each month and run from 10am until noon in private homes. 2nd December – Andrew and Christine Gerken, Eastern Barn, 3 Abbots Meadow, includes a free raffle. Wednesday 6th January – Linda Hudson, Woodvale. 3rd February – Pauline and Herbert Abbott, Rookery Farm. 2nd March – Chris and Midge Gibbons, Rush Meadow, includes a free raffle. The Coffee Caravan should then return to the village on the first Wednesday in April 2016.

David and Jacqueline Love

■ **USAAF TALK:** On Saturday 17th October popular local American Air Force historian Clive Stevens gave a talk on 'The Friendly Invasion' of East Anglia during World War Two. The presentation at Horham Community Centre, near Eye, was about the US Army Air Force's occupation of East Anglia. His informative and interesting talks are always well attended. The £6.50 admission included a finger buffet and all proceeds went to Redlingfield Doorstep Green, which is a recreation and amenity area for all villagers.

FEATURES & NEWS

Time flies at

THE ACADEMIC YEAR started in September so we are already in the second half of the term – time flies when you are having fun, which is certainly what that children are doing at Wilby Primary School! There have been trips, sporting events, assemblies, harvest festival and a film night to name but a few – and this is all alongside the serious business of learning with children enjoying the challenge of being in new school years.

If you would like to find out more about what goes on at the school why not pop along to the school's open morning on Tuesday 8th December, 9am to noon. You are also warmly invited to the School's Christmas Fayre which is on Saturday 5th December, 11.30am-2pm, at the school. Lots of Christmas goodies are available as well as a visit from you know who!

So far this term children have visited supermarkets as part of "Enterprise Fortnight" where children increased their understanding of business, and even had a go at starting their own enterprise. They all showed a profit and had great fun at the same time so well done everyone. Each class has led an assembly where they have showcased their work. This has ranged from studying the Great Fire of London and visiting a fire station, work on Anglo-Saxons with a visit to an Anglo-Saxon Visitor Centre, to

Wilby Primary School

William Shakespeare. Beech Class attended a specially adapted performance for children of Macbeth, have studied Shakespeare and are performing a play celebrating his work which promises to be one not to be missed!

The school continues to attend local sporting events and recently had some very good results and excellent individual performances at the School Cross Country Running competition.

Music remains an important part of life at Wilby with the older children continuing to learn their brass instruments and Beech Class attending

a singing workshop at Snape Maltings. The whole school will be singing at the School Christmas service to be held at St Mary's Church, Wilby, at 1.30pm on Friday 18th December at which you are very welcome.

The Thursday morning "Tea and Toys" group for children up to 5-years-old and their parents continues to run 9am-10.30am during term times. No need to book, just turn up – the team would love to see you.

If you have any queries regarding the School please contact the Headteacher, Mrs Coleman, on 384708 for more information.

■ OLD SCHOOL

INTERNET CAFE: The coffee mornings at the Old School, Horham have been really buzzing throughout the summer and autumn. We were very excited to be awarded grants from the Red Nose Day and Awards for All funds which has enabled us to buy computers, a printer and a broadband connection. We are now the Old School Internet Cafe! Every Wednesday morning we continue to serve lovely coffee, tea and homemade cake and now we also offer help with computer issues. Come and learn how to send emails, use social media, upload and download photographs, use photoshop and Microsoft office. We have laptops and tablets available to use, or bring your own. Don't miss the mulled wine and mince pies in the run up to Christmas!



Christine Cooper

WHAT'S ON

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1-TUESDAY, MARCH 31

Stepping Out in Suffolk - Health Walks:

For info www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourfreetime/steppingout/ or visit Eye & Stradbroke libraries. A programme of health walks across the county by Livewell Suffolk. Low-impact, guided walks that enable you to increase or maintain your levels of physical activity. Walk with trained leaders & at your own pace. Accompanied children welcome. Buggys & wheelchairs welcome where stated. Most walks will state if they are dog friendly,

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Have Your Say About Hartismere: see page 13.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

Redlingfield coffee morning: Andrew and Christine Gerken, Eastern Barn, 3 Abbots Meadow, 10am-noon, free raffle.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 4

Framlingham Christmas Festival: Framlingham Business Association's festival of late-night shopping, entertainment, market stalls, Santa's Grotto and more.

The Klaxxon Club: Live music, The Bank, Eye, 8pm/doors 7.15pm. Free.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Christmas Tree Festival Opening: St Michael's Church, Framlingham Festival will be opened and tree lights switched on at 10am - Fairtrade beverages and cakes until 2pm. Home-made soup and rolls noon until 2pm. Raffle, Fairtrade stall & children's activities. College Choir will sing carols around 11am.

Santa Special: Mid Suffolk Light Railway Museum, £12 per person, for children up to 10-years-old (www.msrlr.org.uk/open-days/santabookings). Eight trains daily 10.30am, 11.10am, 11.50am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 2.10pm, 2.50pm & 3.30pm. All places must be pre-booked. Travel from Brockford Station to meet Railway Santa at North Pole Halt. Each child will receive a special ticket & present by Santa.

Stradbroke Cinema - Inside Out (PG):

doors at 10.30am for 11am. Admission £5.50, under sixteens £3.

Christmas Fayre: Wilby School, 11.30am-2pm. Mulled wine, BBQ and a visit from Father Christmas. Crafts to buy and make.

Christmas Fayre: Worlingworth noon-3pm.

Wingfield Christmas Fayre: Wingfield Barns, noon-4pm. Stalls, crafts, decorations, paper flowers, scarves, shabby chic, vintage items, Body Shop, Christmas wreaths, hand painted wooden items, jewellery, raffle, mince pies. An afternoon out for the family.

Orac Christmas Dinner: Occold, 7.30pm 3-course meal £15/£12.50 (concessions) Call Dee or Di 678647/678198.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

Santa Special: Mid Suffolk Light Railway Museum, £12 per person, for children up to 10-years-old (www.msrlr.org.uk/open-days/santabookings). See December 5.

Framlingham Town Council's 15th Annual Charity/Voluntary Organisations Christmas Market: Market Hill Framlingham 11am-3pm. The road around the Market Hill area will be closed to traffic from 8am to 4pm. New this year the Pop Chorus performing & the East Suffolk Morris Men along with Francesca who will be singing and playing her guitar.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

Redlingfield Christmas Lunch:

Badingham White Horse. Please contact Linda on 678984.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

Stradbroke Cinema - Mr Holmes (PG): doors at 7pm.

A Christmas Carol: Hoxne Village Hall, Spinning Wheel Theatre's touring adaptation of Charles Dickens' Christmas classic. Not suitable for very small children as there are some scary scenes! Tickets £9.50/£7.50 concessions, from www.spinningwheeltheatre.com or Diss Corn Hall.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

Christmas Festival: Debenham, 5-7.30pm, stalls & shops open late. Music on streets inc Salvation Army.

Hoxne Film Night - Mr Holmes (12): 7.30pm.

Quiz Night: Stradbroke Community Centre, 7.30pm. For all the family.

1st Fressingfield Scout Group Gang

Show: Stradbroke High School. Doors 6.30pm for Christmas market and refreshments. Curtain 7pm, interval 8pm & grand finale 9.15pm. Admission free.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11-SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

Christmas tree and wreath festival: St Mary's Worlingworth. Switch-on of lights Fri 6.30pm by mystery guest. Light lunches Sat noon-2pm. Winning trees announced at Carol Service Sun 3.30pm.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11-THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Ice Skating Rink: Stonham Barns, 10am-8pm daily. adults £6, children £3.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11-THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Father Christmas in his Log Cabin: Stonham Barns, 10am-5pm daily. £2.50 per child including gift.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11-MONDAY, JANUARY 4

Russells Circus: Stonham Barns, tickets www.russellscircus.co.uk (closed Christmas Day & Boxing Day). Shows noon & 3pm daily.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

Cake Stall: Church Street Stradbroke, 8.30-10.30am. A Christmas special - proceeds in aid of All Saints church.

Santa Special: Mid Suffolk Light Railway Museum, £12 per person, for children up to 10-years-old (www.mslr.org.uk/open-days/santabookings). See Dec 5 entry.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

St Nicholas Christmas Experience: St Nicholas Street, Market Place & yards in Diss, 10am-3pm, shops & cafes open.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

HORHAM Christmas Dinner & Dance: Horham Community Centre, welcome drink. 3-course meal, coffee & mints followed by dancing Felix and Sam. Tickets (£20 members, £23 guests) from Karen 384754.

Eye Bach Choir Festive Concert with Castleton Brass: Eye Town Hall, 7.30 pm.

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, **Hoxne Cinema:** 7.30pm, Hoxne Village Hall, St Edmund's Hall, Goldbrook, Hoxne, bar, popcorn & choc-ices available before & in the interval. Admission: £3.50.

Further info/booking: 668060 or www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk. **Midsuffolk Showgrounds &**

Stonham Barns: Stonham Barns, Pettaugh Road, Stonham Aspal, IP14 6AT,

<http://stonham-barns.co.uk>. **Mid-Suffolk Light Railway,** Brockford Station, Wetheringsett

nr Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 5PW, www.mslr.org.uk, general enquiries 01449 766899. The

MSLR is open on Sundays & Bank Holidays from the beginning of May until the end of

Sept. **Museum of East Anglian Life,** Stowmarket, 01449 612229,

enquiries@eastanglianlife.org.uk. **Redlingfield,** 678835, pc@redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk,

www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk. **Stradbroke Cinema:** Stradbroke Community Centre, 7pm

for 7.30 pm. Admission £5.50. Bar open, ice-creams on sale in the interval. **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,

tickets also available from www.wegotickets.com **95th Bomb Group Heritage**

Association/Red Feather Club, www.95thbg-horham.com, 01728 860930 or

jamesmutton@suffolkonline.net

WHAT'S ON

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

Christmas Walk in the Dark: 7.30pm, a walk in the dark from Stradbroke Community Centre along the footpaths to Battlesea Green for mulled wine and mince pies (about 3 miles). Accompanied children welcome. Bring a torch and wear boots as the paths might be muddy or frozen. Gerald Jenkins, 384825.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve at the Centre: Horham Community Centre, bring your visiting relatives & meet up with local friends for a convivial get-together, 8pm. Everyone is invited to bring either a dish of food to share or a raffle prize.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

New Year's Eve: Horham Community Centre, shared buffet & dancing. Bring a plate of food to share, or a raffle prize. Thorndon & District Community Council

New Year's 15-16 Party: Thorndon Village Hall, 8pm till late. Live 60s & 70s music by The Zephyrs, buffet supper, late bar, super raffle. Tickets £15-from Clinton 678551 or Graham 678676.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

Redlingfield coffee morning: Linda Hudson, Woodvale, 10am-noon.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

1st fish and chips night of 2016: Horham Community Centre (this is also the membership evening).

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

Hoxon Hundred Morris Dancers Open

Afternoon: Diss Youth Centre, Shelfanger Road 2-4pm (see story on page 13 for details).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Redlingfield coffee morning: Pauline and Herbert Abbott, Rookery Farm, 10am-noon.

MONDAYS: MONDAYS: Coffee & Chat: Horham Baptist Church hall. 10am. No charge.

Everyone welcome - especially you! Alan Hawes, 388330. **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-8pm, Terri Cave, 01728 627756 & 07563 534086. **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 to see what's on.

WEDNESDAYS: Coffee mornings & cyber cafe, every Wed, 10.30am-noon at Horham Old School. **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). **Social mornings:** Horham Old School. 10.30am each Wed tea, coffee, cake, crafts, a chat and good company. Info from Christine (384168) or Pip (384370). Admission free - small charge for refreshments. Wingfield barns Midweek Movies : alternate Weds 7.30pm screening £5. For info 384505 or email enquiries@wingfieldbarns.com

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 May-October inclusive,

Woodland well established

THE HEDGEROWS AT Pound Lane Wood are brilliant with hips and berries and the leaf colour is astounding!

After ten years the woodland is establishing itself. The fruits and berries will certainly provide food for the birds, but we were intrigued to know what else is benefitting from the woodland habitat.

In mid October Chris Johnson came to help us investigate, and he once again set his traps to help us with our small mammal survey. The last time that we tried the weather was so cold and wet that nothing was recorded, so on another wet evening the traps were set with some apprehension!

The traps are baited with nesting material and dried dog food and set on the edge of the rides and left overnight. Next morning the traps are checked and any visitors identified, sexed and weighed before being released back into the woodland.

Thirty traps were set up and the next morning we found that nine of them were occupied. All the animals we found were wood mice, a mix of males and females, some juveniles and others mature, and all vigorous to escape their comfortable overnight lodging.

Some of the traps had been sprung but were unoccupied; they had probably been disturbed by dogs, as the woodland is a favourite venue for dog walkers.

We know there are other small mammals living in the woodland as we have seen them, and we look forward to repeating the survey in the spring in the hope of identifying other residents of this wildlife sanctuary. Our thanks to Chris for his equipment and expertise.

This woodland is always open, child and dog friendly and flourishing, visit it soon! Contact Mike Reeves on 668 179 for more details.

■ **HOXON HUNDRED MORRIS DANCERS' OPEN AFTERNOON:** Hoxon Hundred invite you to come along with or without a partner to join in a social afternoon of traditional dancing, being held in the Diss Youth Centre, 30 Shelfanger Rd, Diss IP22 4LN. The date is Saturday 30th January and the time, 2pm till 4pm. In the break you have the opportunity to chat and learn more about the history of the traditions and the Club whilst enjoying tea, or coffee and biscuits, and all for free. Insurance regs people under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. We look forward to meeting you.

Jan Robinson, Secretary Hoxon Hundred

■ **HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT HARTISMERE:** You can have your say at the Community Healthcare in Suffolk: Mutual briefing on Tuesday 1st December from 5pm to 6.30pm at Hartismere Health and Care, Castleton Way, Eye, IP23 7BH. Suffolk Community Healthcare in collaboration with Hartismere Hospital League of Friends will be holding a public briefing about community health services in Suffolk and possibilities for expanding services at Hartismere Health and Care (previously Hartismere Hospital).



Wartime memories shared

CHILDREN OF THE 95TH WAS the theme Beverly Abbott and Linda Woodward chose for this year's 95th Bomb Group reunion to recreate those parties that were held at Horham airfield during WW2.

They had three 95th BG veterans booked to come – Ed Yursky, Ben Roujansky and Herb Wilkov – but sadly for various reasons they had to pull out. That left the 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association with one widow Jackie DeHart – who has since sadly passed, 21 other American guests and two from Belgium.

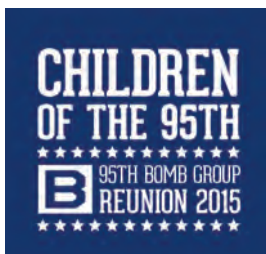
The welcome night was a 1940s Christmas style party in the Red

Feather Club's Blue Lounge with paper chains, a ten-foot tree and Christmas dinner.

Saturday was the jeep run, it was a wet start but that did not dampen everyone's spirit of adventure as they went down the country lanes to Parham, home of the 95th's sister Bomb Group the 390th, and on the way back to Horham a wreath was laid at Redlingfield memorial.

That evening there was a dance with resident band Skyliner and DJs Graham Welton and Terry Benjafield.

On Sunday, months of hard work paid off, with a military procession and church service at St Mary's with Revd Canon





at reunion

Andrew Vessey taking the service. Re-enactors carried the 95th's colours following serving US military personnel.

This was followed by open day at the RFC where benches in memory of 95th BG stalwarts Joan Roper and Norman Feltwell were unveiled. This was followed by afternoon tea in the Blue Lounge with guests including many that remembered the airbase during WW2. There was a sing-a-long and the ladies of the Red Feather Club dressed as "nippies" to serve afternoon tea.

The visitors and club regulars also enjoyed trips to Holkham Hall and Dunwich.

After a hog roast farewell meal the microphone was passed around for tearful thanks and goodbyes.

Report: Linda Woodward.

Pictures: Jon Wilson, Mike Ager & Linda Woodward.



Bottom: Jeep run. Above: Christine Mutton lays a wreath in Redlingfield.

Top left: Before the church service.

Top right: The Red Feather Club "nippies".



DAVID STREETER DIED PEACEFULLY IN HIS SLEEP AT HOME ON TUESDAY 20TH OCTOBER.

From the East Anglian Daily Times:

“One of Suffolk’s most colourful clergymen, Rev David Streeter, has died aged 73 after nearly 50 years in the priesthood.

Mr Streeter, who was rector of Stradbroke, Horham, Athelington and Redlingfield when he retired three years ago, served as rural dean of Hoxne from 1991 to 2000.

Deeply compassionate but considered eccentric and sometimes awkward in manner, he was most widely known for his colourful clothing and his love of the Royal Family. For many years he wrote a hymn for each big Royal occasion.

Born in Essex, Mr Streeter was educated at Harrow School, going on to study at Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he obtained BA and MA degrees. His first jobs as a clergyman were as curate at first Saffron Walden and then Shrub End, Colchester. He was rector of Rayne in the Chelmsford Diocese from 1973 till 1979 and then vicar of Higham’s Park, near Walthamstow, until 1982.

Mr Streeter became priest-in-charge at Stradbroke and nearby parishes in 1982 and rector of the same patch from 1987 until his retirement three years ago, moving from the rectory to a house in the village. During more than 30 years in the area he dabbled in amateur drama and was a great fan of Gilbert and Sullivan musicals.

His fundraising activities led him to various stunts, including abseiling down the church tower... Mrs Streeter said... “He was a very caring priest, a very trusting and humble person and he had a quirky sense of humour.” ”

Donations to David’s memory should go to St Elizabeth Hospice, Foxhall Rd, Ipswich, IP3 8LX.

David arrived in Horham to assess his future employment on a glorious sunny summer’s day but in the middle of an altercation over the maintenance of the church graveyard. A young man full of enthusiasm and willingness to work hard, albeit instilled with a very independent character which unfortunately invited controversy which would cross his path later in his ministry.

David was an intelligent man, which was sometimes masked from the casual observer by his colourful and flamboyant attire and his daring and somewhat dangerous activities.

He had the ability to quickly assess the circumstances of a parishioner and respond in a way which made them feel at ease, no matter what walk of life they came from. He could be relied on, at a moment’s notice, to give a vote of thanks, or a prayer, at any occasion and construct a sermon on a topic of the day after a quick

■ *Phew! Who could keep up with David, a breath of fresh air. He worked so quietly delivering pastoral care to his parishioners, making time for anyone, young or old. His clothes as colourful as the beautiful flowers he arranged in our churches. In retirement he continued to support Athelington making one of his delicious fruit cakes as a draw prize for our Patronal festival lunch in June 2015. He always responded to a question straight away and with a helpful comment.*

Mary Hawes, Athelington PCC

scan of a newspaper – normally *The Times*. At a function he could also speak at length, without notes, about a person's life and family with facts and anecdotes he had remembered or researched from the years gone by and weaved into a religious context.

David was a man who gave freely of his time and money especially to the young and the hospitalised and never gave up on the belief that he could make a difference. Behind the public gaze he most probably gave away more than he earned (money had little value to him) and his reward would come when a disadvantaged youngster came good and his smile would expand when he related their story to you.

Many things David instigated and helped with went unseen and unspoken of. One example was brought to our attention when a visitor to Horham



church (from the other side of the country) was astounded when he saw David and informed us that together they went to Russia in the 60s, an astonishing thing in those days. David had never spoken of this – like many other things.

David retired from his fulltime ministry some years ago but still continued ministering to the sick and infirm and spent time during his debilitating illness to pursue his hobbies of flower arranging and cake making at local shows, examples of which reflected his unique colourful character and determined personality.

David passed away on 20th October and although not appreciated by all during his time he will be sadly missed by many.

May he rest in peace but may his spirit live on. God bless.

Horham PCC

Margaret would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards, letters, prayers and comforting words.

GOODBYE by Manday Miller

*A group of villages are missing a man
who touched the lives of one and all,
A man for whom the door was always
open,
A kind word was never far away,
He was always at any village do, big or
small,
He would call when you needed help,
You would be noticed in a room full
others and he would say hello,
Not a man to be in the shadows but
stand tall and shine,
Ho yes! We had a man for all villages,
Our old vicar, dear David Streeter*

■ Well what can one say about David? We loved his brightly-coloured shirts and jumpers and those red trousers. It was great that he was different. He was very supportive of most of the events in his parishes and very caring. He would often go with a list of people to visit in Ipswich hospital. Edmund's cousin was there after a bad car accident and although she didn't live in his parish he visited her and she was quite touched. We will all remember him for lovely rich fruit cakes and his very large and colourful church flower arrangements. He will be missed by us all. God bless you David.

Hazel Abbott, Redlingfield PCC

A hotbed for those with an artistic inclination

RECENTLY SOME of us from Redlingfield sat down to one of our village lunches in the Sir Alfred Munnings – a pub so named as it is in Mendham, the birth place of the artist.

Lifting my head only momentarily from my plate, I looked around at the framed reproductions of his work hanging on the walls. They weren't really at all bad and a lot better than most of the critics of his time would have us believe. I suppose however that two things should be considered. First, that he was painting at a time when the long tradition of figurative art was about to all but disappear, or at least to be radically transformed and second that he was always a tireless opponent of anything modern.

In this he could be and often was partnered with another traditionalist, Sir Albert Richardson. Both were staunch reactionaries; both became president of the Royal Academy at a period when it was the last bastion of artistic conservatism.

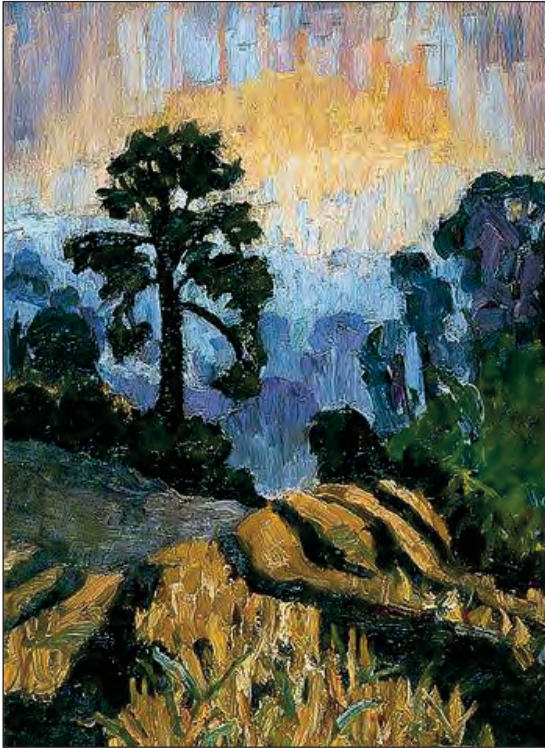
Albert Richardson was an architect who was, if anything, even more set in the past than Munnings.

Munnings at least accepted the late 19th century work of the Impressionists whilst Richardson considered anything in building post 1830 to be vulgar and debased. Stories of both men, some of them true, abound but my favourite is about

Richardson: in the 1940s while he was the head of the Bath school of Architecture it was his custom of an evening to go about the town in a Sedan chair carried by two of his students. One evening a policeman halted their progress and declared that they were breaking the law by travelling without lights after lighting up time. Nothing daunted, Richardson declared that as he was being carried the chair was not a vehicle and that he, Richardson, was a parcel!

Alfred Munnings, although born a Suffolk man spent most of his adult life from 1920 over the border at Dedham in Essex where he lived in some style in a large, comfortable, Georgian (of course) house. There is something about this part of the world which has over time continually attracted people of an artistic inclination. John Constable was born here in 1776 into a family that made their comfortable living as millers, as incidentally did Munnings' family.

Unlike Munnings, Constable was no traditionalist for, make no mistake about it, whatever his popular regard today, he was looked upon by the Art Establishment of his own time as an unconventional maverick and, although his ability was not questioned, he was not elected to the Royal Academy until late in his fairly short life. At this point I can declare a very tenuous link with the great man



Personal favourite Lucy Harwood's Furrowed Fields.

important commissions including university and church work as well as many private houses. He designed innovative, thoughtful, beautiful and functional buildings that always sat well on their sites. There are quite a number of his lovely houses still around Dedham; not only grand residences but also smaller more everyday cottages for farm workers which are still, nevertheless beautifully designed and carefully built. Nearer to home there are two of his houses in Walsham Le Willows which are well worth seeking out when you are next in the area.

for when I was a small boy during a family visit to relatives in Dedham, I met an old lady who was introduced as a great granddaughter of John Constable. On that occasion, I must have been uncharacteristically well behaved because sometime later I was sent a very small water colour by her. It was a still life and, I have to say, not at all good!

Raymond Erith was another creative soul drawn to Dedham. He was an architect who, like the aforementioned Albert Richardson, declined to work in any style of his own time. He set up his practice in Dedham just after the second world war at a difficult time of post-war restrictions and materials shortages. Nevertheless he was able to create a commendable number of

Dedham again was the first location of the grandly named East Anglian School of Painting and Drawing. This unusual establishment was set up in 1937 and was the brainchild of Cedric Morris and Lett Haines. Both had distinguished careers as artists before founding the School and Morris was also an eminent plantsman.

The school was an informal affair based very much on the philosophy of the early 20th century Parisian ateliers with a lot of painting being done by the students and a minimum of tutoring.

Morris believed that "You can't really teach painting but you can encourage talent" also he understood that students tended to learn from each other.

Continued on page 18

Continued from page 17

Seemingly easy-going as the school was, they must have got something right as over the years, artists who began there or later spent time there have included Lucian Freud, Maggi Hambling and a lovely, underrated New Zealand painter called Francis Hodgkins.

My personal favourite is Lucy Harwood, a lady who had studied at the Slade school as a girl and then abandoned painting when she got married as women all too commonly did in those days but in later life picked it up again at the School.

A pleasant way to see some of her work is to have lunch at the Lighthouse restaurant in Aldeburgh where they have got a number of her luscious, colourful paintings hanging on the walls. The proprietor calls them his pension fund!

The original premises of the School were burnt to the ground one night in 1939 and Cedric and Lett then moved over the border to Hadleigh and set up the School in their own home – Benton End, a large 16th cent. Timber framed house. Here also Cedric started work on what was to become an important garden where he bred Irises.

On the night that the original School building in Dedham burnt down it is claimed that an eminent local artist of the old school was seen driving up and down in his open topped Rolls-Royce shouting “Death to all modernists!”.

It was of course non other than our irascible old pal from Mendham – Sir Alfred Munnings!

Neville Butcher

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. Other enquiries: Daphne Harvey, St Mary, Horham (384216); Evelyn Adey, St Peter, Athelington (01728 628428) Hazel Abbott, St Andrew, Redlingfield (678217). A monthly benefice newsletter is available in the back of the churches. Email hoxnebenefice@gmail.com for your copy.

Dec 6 Redlingfield 9.30am HC

Dec 8 (Tue) Denham 7.30pm Benefice HC

Dec 13 Horham 9.30am HC

Dec 20 Athelington 9.30am HC;
Horham 4.30pm carol service

Dec 22 (Tue) Redlingfield 6pm carol service

Dec 24 Horham 11.30pm Benefice Midnight Mass

Dec 25 Redlingfield 10am HC

Dec 27 Denham 10am Benefice HC

Jan 3 Redlingfield 9.30pm HC;
Horham 11.15am gift service

Jan 10 Horham 9.30am HC

Jan 17 Athelington 9.30am HC

Jan 24 Redlingfield 10am MP;
Horham 11.15am FS

Jan 31 Benefice HC, venue to be announced

Feb 7 Redlingfield 9.30am HC

Feb 14 Horham 9.30am HC

Feb 21 Athelington 9.30am HC

Feb 28 Redlingfield 10am MP;
Horham 11.15am FS

There may be changes to services in the New Year so it is advisable to check notice boards as services across the Benefice are displayed on notice board. HC = Holy Communion; MP = Morning Prayer; FS = Family Service.

■ **REDLINGFIELD CHURCH REPAIRS & SWING DANCE:** Congratulations and many thanks to everyone involved in Redlingfield's swing dance at the Red Feather Club – the total raised for the repair and updating of St Andrews church was £1,335. So thank you to everyone who has helped and a very big thank you to the Red Feather Club for hosting the event for us and to the DJs who helped the night go with a swing. Work is now due to start on repairing the roof of the church in March, finishing in May, as the builder was unable to make the original 2015 start date. Radio Suffolk's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/bbcsuffolk/videos/1167697383244540/) has a great piece on the church which as we went to press had 1,400-plus views.

Janet Norman-Philips

■ **SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE:** It is amazing what can be achieved by our small villages, so again a big thank you to all those who rode, walked and recorded and of course, thank you very much to all the generous sponsors. Athelington church had 34 visitors, Horham had 33 and Redlingfield 35. Horham raised £449.30 and Redlingfield raised £480. Half the money goes to the church and half to the Historic Churches Trust.

Revd Susan Loxton

■ **HORHAM THANK YOUS:** Thank you to Horham cyclists Abbie, Jake and Ella Hawes, Daniel Streeter, Lawrence Weaver and David and Michael Whatling, church stewards and all the sponsors. Thank you to all who helped raise £23 for Christian Aid with the sale of harvest produce. Also thanks to all who supported the church stall at the car boot in September and raised £157.65 for church funds.

Daphne Harvey

■ **REDLINGFIELD THANK YOUS:** Many thanks to all the boys who did a wonderful job tidying up Redlingfield churchyard. Also many thanks to all the cyclists who took part in the sponsored bike ride.

Hazel Abbott

■ **OLD SCHOOL QUIZ:** The quiz at the Old School on 17th October raised £243 to be divided equally between Horham church funds and the hall committee (for the Old School). We are most grateful to all who helped and supported this event and especially quiz mast John Kirkum.

Daphne Harvey

■ **CHURCH REGISTER:** Horham - 15th November, the baptism of Erin Anne Fitzgerald daughter of Eoin Fitzgerald and Emma Cockett.

■ **PLANNING: To BE DECIDED** - application to erect a two storey side extension (following demolition of existing single storey side extension and front porch) and a detached double garage and install ground mounted photovoltaic solar panel array at **Frances Cottage, Athelington Road, Horham**; application for the provision of external storage area in association with supply, maintenance and refurbishment of wind turbines at **Horham Business Park, Horham Road, Hoxne**. **GRANTED** - application to reconstruct and convert grade II listed barn and side wings to form new dwelling with the creation of new private access route to east of farm buildings, installation of foul drainage package treatment plant, parking area and associated landscaping at **Athelington Hall, Athelington**.

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

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