Athelington, Horham & Redlingfield NEWS



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I'M ON THE DRAG WITH THIS ISSUE so I apologise to everyone for the mags late arrival. It's my fault. I got tied up with other things. Anyone here it is and I hope you enjoy. Our centrespread shows what you can do at an event and I would encourage everyone who is running something to get someone with a camera or decent phone to take pix. We don't get enough reports about events or pix from them so please send them in. *Mike Ager*

ALL OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH THE KERRY FAMILY ON THE SAD LOSS OF RUSSELL.

PLANNING:

To be decided: Environmental Impact Assessment & Scoping Opinion for 7 poultry sheds on land to the south of B1117 Horham & 12 proposed poultry sheds land to the east of Woodlane Road, Southolt; application for a Lawful Development Certificate for use of land at Little Meadow Farm. Stradbroke Road. Horham. for permanent unrestricted residential use; application to erect a new annex and garage building at Rose Farm. Athelington Road. Horham: plan to erect a two-storev side extension following demolition of single storey side extension, front porch and rear conservatory & erection of detached cartlodge, Mill Cottage, Mill Road, **Redlingfield:** application for removal or variation of condition following grant of planning permission to allow occupation throughout the month of February. Athelington Hall Log Cabin Holidays, Athelington Hall, Horham Road, Athelington; application for Lawful Development Certificate for Existing Use for continued use of land for siting of residential caravan. Little Meadow Farm. Hall Road. Horham. **GRANTED:** notification for prior approval for a proposed change of use of an agricultural building to a dwellinghouse on land east of Horham Road, Athelington. **REFUSED:** notification for prior approval under general permitted development of plans to convert an agricultural building to a dwelling at Mill Farm, Mill Road, Redlingfield. Planning information from Midsuffolk District Council

https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/

If you would like to advertise or contribute to the magazine or have an event or organisation you would like featured contact editors: 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. All issues are available at www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk

We aim to produce four full-colour issues a year, coming out at the end of February, May, August and November.

Deadlines for adverts & editorial:

Spring issue (covering Mar, April & May) Final deadline February 14 Autumn issue (covering June, July & Aug) Final deadline May 14 Autumn issue (covering Sept, Oct & Nov) Final deadline August 14 Winter issue (covering Dec, Jan & Feb) Final deadline November 14

Turtledove successes

HE FIRST TURTLEDOVES of the season arrived on May15th when Mike and Janet reported a pair perched on their roof. On the same day I called to see Peter Saunders and waiting at his backdoor, I heard the distinctive purring call nearby, obviously from one of the same pair in the same territory.

Not to be outdone, the Wash Farm one arrived a few days later. It is great to see our part of Suffolk providing such good habitat for them for they love very big hedges and Redlingfield has good hawthorns aplenty.

There is real doom and gloom in some parts of the country for the future of turtle doves where they will soon be as rare as pregnant pandas. This is because their Mediterranean migration routes are fraught with danger and once over here they find more and more of the countryside is failing to provide good nesting sites.

A number of arable regions have lost the small field pattern which persisted in our clay soils of North Suffolk, the legacy of "dog and stick" farming which is a nickname for mixed livestock farming.

It wasn't until the Sixties that Ministry of Agriculture drainage grants enabled these wet, heavy soils to be ploughed for cereals and the potential unlocked for good crops of wheat

NICK COOK OF ATHELINGTON IS a great fan of tawny owls but has been saddened and puzzled in finding three dead in the same woodland spot in his garden for three successive years. This may be explained by an old dominant male strong enough to protect his territory and to see off all-comers including his male offspring, a nasty case of filicide.

The barn owl has benefitted from a



Trevor Edwards' latest slice of Wash Farm Wildlife

neat mouse catching ruse by Terry Goddard of Framlingham. Plagued by mice in his workshop, he set up a large baited plastic bin with ramps. The result was that scores of mice were caught and then released near a barn owl nestbox where the owls swooped down



constantly, no doubt unable to believe their luck.

The secret of his success was the bait, irresistible peanut butter.

THE MAY BANK HOLIDAY Monday saw an extraordinary aerial spat between a chaffinch and a kingfisher over the pond near the house. They must have been squabbling over territory as the chaffinch was pretty riled and with some irony dunked the kingfisher in the water before sending it on its way. He then sat on top of a bush looking very pleased with life.

The buzzards have spent a few years making a home for themselves in Caroline's wood and this summer Reg Woodard climbed a big oak to pass the two juveniles down for ringing. He was pleased that the nest was unusually low and afforded good photo opportunities. *Continued over*.



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Continued from previous page.

Highly visible at harvest time, the buzzard family could be later seen hunting the straw swathes behind the combine and most days their distinctive "mewing" call is heard around the farm. Reg has had a good year with 13 juvenile buzzards ringed though he was frustrated to find a sparrow hawk's nest empty having established earlier that three eggs had successfully hatched. Experience tells him that the tawny owl was probably to blame.

THE FRUSTRATIONS OF A STOP-GO HARVEST are offset by some very good yields of wheat and barley. The editor's deadline of August 14th is marked by one of the wettest days of the summer and the low point of a distinctly average spell of weather since the famous heatwave of the last week in July.

It is also the first day (rained off) of the 2nd Test in the Ashes series and an occasion for a lovely quip from an Aussie cricket commentator who said Lords is as wet as an otter's pocket.

July 25th will not be forgotten for a long while as the burnt-out roadside hedges mark the site of a neighbour's straw trailer fire, a mini inferno which caused us to thank first the fire service, who arrived in 17 minutes flat, and second the Openreach engineers who restored our melted phone line and broadband in less than 24 hours. Praise for the latter service is quite a rarity.



THE SUMMER NEWS FROM THE BRITISH Trust for Ornithology tells us about the GBFS, which is yet another survey. It does make you scream when you have only to open up a website or buy a new product before some dippy person wants you to take part in a satisfaction survey. The answer to that is that you would be hugely satisfied if you weren't asked in the first place.

However, the Garden Bird Feeding Survey has run for years and tells us that in the Seventies house sparrows and starlings were dominant but now we attract a wider range of species with some people even reporting turtle doves and redpolls at the bird table.

Steve Parker of Thorndon, an author of nature and science books, has taken building garden bird feeders to a new level thanks to his interest in art deco design. With numerous species drawn to the garden, bossy starlings now feature strongly there again, a bird viewed negatively years ago but now enjoying a renaissance in popularity with its exceptional glossy plumage.

THE REDLINGFIELD STRAWBERRY stall was raided by a crow which sat eating from a punnet of strawberries. Peck your Own? *Trevor Edwards*



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Cyber Cafe celebrations

HIS SEPTEMBER THE OLD School Horham will be celebrating the fifth anniversary of our Cyber Café.

Join us on Wednesday 18th September when PC Simon Green, Community Engagement Officer will be with us to advise and answer questions on personal security, telephone and email scams and anything else you would like to know. Have your questions ready!

The Cyber Café/coffee morning has become a fixture in many people's diaries.

As well as delicious coffee and cake we have a free lending library,

computer advice, access to printing facilities, carpet bowls and petanque. Following the success of the art and craft workshops earlier in the year we are planning some craft workshops in the run up to Christmas; check our Facebook page for details! If you haven't visited us yet do come along, you will find a warm welcome.

The bar is open on Tuesday and Friday evenings from 8.30pm and on Sunday lunchtimes from 12.30pm. Yoga is on Monday afternoons 1.30-2.30pm and the Reading Group meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 2pm. Traditional music and Rapper dancing are on Monday evenings.





Our Facebook page is a mine of information. Check in to keep up to date with what is happening at The Old School and other local news. The Old School is available to hire. Please contact Pip on 01379384370 *Horham and Athelington Village Hall Management Committee*

STUMP GRINDING

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Something to really bleat

F YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY gone on the Sheep Art Trail in Eye the flock that has been decorating the town since mid-July will finally be herded up on Friday September 6th so you might just have a chance to see them before they are herded off for auction.

The 24 life-size sheep will go to Kenton Hall in Debenham for an auction on Thursday September 12th. The Blossom Charity organised the trail, which saw beautifully decorated sheep dotted around the town. The Blossom Charity, which is based in

Eye, aims to inspire and increase confidence in women and young people in East Anglia through coaching, mentoring, makeovers and style consultancy.

The sheep are a colourful celebration of Eye's historic connection to the Suffolk wool trade decorated by professional artists, local children and gifted amateurs.

Among the stand-out sheep are Ed Sheeram in the Cross Street Car Park, Rocky Ram at Linden House, Bumble outside the Co-op on Church Street and obviously The Ipswich Town Sheep on Cross Street.

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

There are also seven painted lambs in shop windows, which are to be auctioned alongside the sheep,

Each of the sheep were sponsored by a local business and following their sponsorship, the businesses



about in Eye

collaborated with an array of talented artists, all of which have volunteered their time designing and decorating the sculptures.

The trail aimed to encourage residents and visitors alike to get out and get active, helping towards Suffolk's ambition to be England's most active county. If the number of parents and youngsters I saw trooping around Eye during the summer holidays with their leaflets ticking sheep off their list is anything to go by it succeeded.

If you want to own a sheep an auction, sponsored by Imaginative Traveller, is to be held at 7pm, at Kenton Hall, Debenham in Suffolk on Thursday September 12th.

Anyone interested in acquiring a beautifully painted sheep as a piece of art for their business, their home or garden, or just as a talking point are very welcome to attend. There will be other items for sale too including decorated lambs and a T-shirt signed by Ed Sheeran.

Tickets are £15 per person and include food and fizz. If you would like to buy a ticket to attend the charity auction email info@theblossomcharity.co.uk or call 01379 678483.

If you are unable to attend the auction in person but are interested in bidding for a sheep or other item you can still do so by either bidding online or by completing a commission bid. See eyesheeparttrail.co.uk and theblossomcharity.co.uk. *Mike Ager*

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Redlingfield

Alcot, one of the oldest houses in Redlingfield, was once the parish workhouse. The starting date for this is not clear. Redlingfield does not appear on the National Survey of Parish Workhouses 1776. Ipswich Record Office has a box of vouchers and bills relating to our workhouse, the earliest I have found so far is a bill from 1803 for cheese costing £3 3s 3d and milk at 7s.

There is a bill for shoemaker work from John Clarke dated from 1808 Which gives a long list of names and the repairs or new shoes provided. This is a small part of it:

"May 14 the girl Mutimer's new shoes 2s ?d

22 Thomas Markes shoes soald 2s ?d and girl Thorndikes highlows soald 1s ?d

and boy and girl huntens new shoes 10s 6d

and boy Jacksons new shoes 5s ?d"

The pennies are missing because the edge of the paper has degraded. Highlows were ankle boots.

Repairs to the. "Town House" (ie. workhouse) are listed in 1826 by Mr. Lockwood.

There are bills for blankets, clothing, mending clothes, fabric – cotton, calico and flannel. Also doctors bills and charges for transport to hospital in Bury. $\pounds 1.15$ s worth of coal "laid in the Town House" cost 12s to transport from Debenham, in 1830.

In 1827 A. Wilson was provided with

"2 handkerchiefs 1s 2d,

parish workhouse

Walcot and Ray Whitehand's book on workhouses.

Jacket Waistcoat 12s 0d 2pr hose 3s 4d Cap 2s 6d Trowsers 8s 0d" Thomas Bean, carpenter/ wheelwright, whose workshop was close to the site of the old school, put in a bill for 1827/28 including:

"coffin for Ann Read 18s coffin for John Holms child 7s 6d coffin for Simon Brunnin 18s"

By 1837, Redlingfield had been incorporated with the Hartismere Union Workhouse on Castle Hill in Eye, as requests for payment to Hartismere for that year show. The tithe map of 1839 shows the property as a cottage and garden owned by William Adair and occupied by John Rose and four others.

Workhouses came about as the result of many Acts of Parliament going back to the reign of Elizabeth 1.

The care of the poor had been on a voluntary basis with religious bodies playing an important part. After the dissolution of the monasteries in 1536 provision for the poor declined sharply. Money had to be raised through taxation in the form of poor rates, a tax on land. An act of 1597 introduced the Parish



Overseer, an unpaid person from the parish to oversee the care of the poor. Larger parishes were more inclined to establish workhouses, Ipswich and Hadleigh had them by 1557. Out Relief was used before and during the time of the workhouse. Money collected through the poor rates funded the relief of the poor in their own homes by providing coal, food, clothing etc.

I have found no clues to the day to day running of Redlingfield workhouse or the diet of the residents but the bills

> show that quite a lot was spent on the poor of the parish. It is not possible to say whether this was always true or just for certain years.

The book "At the Overseer's Door" by Ray Whitehand gives some detailed information about Suffolk's parish workhouses. *Linda Hudson*



You can have your say on

WO DROP-IN EVENTS ARE being held in September in Eye to get your views on big local issues.

The first, on Tuesday September 10th, gives you a chance to find out about the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan and have your say.

The second, on Thursday September 19th, sees Suffolk's Police and Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore inviting people living in and around Eye to a Q&A session to talk to him and local officers about policing and crime issues in the area.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan is an important document which

will provide the strategy for the growth of the districts, setting out what and where development will take place up to 2036. Residents, local businesses and stakeholders are invited to have their say on the new joint local plan. See www.midsuffolk.gov.uk for details of the plan and other drop-in events. The event at Eye Community Centre, Magdalen Street, Eye, IP23 7AJ, is from 2.30pm to 5.30pm.

During the consultation stage the document and comment forms will be available to view at libraries including Eye Library, 6 Cross Street, IP23 7AA.

Suffolk's Police and Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore's



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big issues

informal drop-in session is at Eye Town Hall, Broad Street, Eye, IP23 7AB, from 4.30pm to 7pm.

Tim Passmore said: "Hearing at firsthand what is going on in local communities is crucially important in my role as Suffolk's PCC. I hope people will be encouraged to pop in and let me know what they think about policing and crime in the area.

"These public engagement sessions really do make a difference. It is only by hearing what people think that I can represent their views, I hope people will take the opportunity to drop in - I will be very happy to discuss anything that concerns them." *Mike Ager* ■ DEACON ORDAINED: There were celebrations at Suffolk's cathedral as a record number of men and women aged from their 20s to their 60s were ordained to serve in communities across the county. The Rt Rev Martin Seeley, Bishop of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, ordained 40 new clergy during two moving and packed services at St Edmundsbury Cathedral in Bury St Edmunds in June. Among those ordained as deacons by Bishop Martin was John McCracken for the Hoxne, Benefice.

■ **THANK YOU:** Thank you to all who donated, helped and supported St Mary's Church car boot sale on June 18th, which with the sale of plants before and after the event, raised £335.85 for church funds.





2019 Americana Day is

HE RED Feather Club's annual Americana Weekend continues to go from strength to strength.

Americana Day is held alongside a Saturday night dance and yet again it was sold out well in advance as they welcomed the hottest roots R&B band in the UK, the Revolutionaries. This was by far the biggest and best-known band to play at the Red Feather club to date. The band did not disappoint, a hot night in many senses, a tin roof, a sweltering summer's

evening, a packed house and an incredible energy from an experienced band putting on the ultimate show for the audience with DJ support from the Mailman & AndyAV8.

On Americana Day the show field was packed with vehicles of all shapes and sizes. Joint organiser Linda Woodward said: "Wow, was my reaction when I walked round the show field – at least 109 cars on show, wonderful weather, great music being played. Again a big thanks to everyone who took part and helped out."

The entertainment included a host of DJs playing a fine blend of music from the 1920s, 30s, 40s and 50s, a wide range of swing, jazz, R&B, Western swing, rockabilly, doo wop and jive. 1950s-style singer Danny Fisher sang hits from the era for over an hour entertaining the crowd.

Following on from its best-ever Americana Day and a great reunion it further events are lined up for the autumn.

On Saturday 28th September hot western swing band Junction 55





the best yet

return to the restored NCOs' club. The band will be supported by legendary DJ Gypsy John, local favourite The Mailman and house compere, DJ Andy AV8.

Due to the popularity of his previous presentation at the Red Feather Club in October 2017, former 95th BGHA Trustee and local USAAF historian Clive Stevens, has been invited to speak once again on Friday October 18th. His new presentation focuses on the closing days of Eighth Air Force operations in England. It also features the story of various archeological excavations in the area.

The season will be rounded off on Saturday 26th October with a Tea Dance and Poppy Dance featuring three-part harmony trio The Knightingales performing wellknown 1940s classics with Sunday 27th the final open day of the year and as usual there will be vehicles, reenactors and stalls. *Andy Garner*

■ RED FEATHER CLUB EVENTS Sat Sept 28: Dance - Tickets £12 from Andy (0778896640) or preferably from

www.eventbrite.co.uk.

Fri Oct 18: Talk - 7.30pm start with intermission at half-time. Sat Oct 26: Cream Tea with

The Knightingales -

2.30pm to 4.30pm. Tickets £7.50 from Linda 01379 384009 or Beverley 01379 678581. **Poppy Dance with The Knightingales** -7.30pm tickets £7 on door. To book phone 07794945646.

Sun Oct 27: Open day followed by AGM.

December - Carol Service:

details to be announced. For details of prices, times, ticket availability for events visit www.95thbg-horham.com. The Red Feather Club Museum is at Coldhams Hill, Denham, IP21 5DG.



First fun dog show brings

REDLINGFIELD'S FIRST FUN Village Dog Show on Sunday 9th June was a great success with 140 entries ranging from young pups to venerable old dogs.

The event raised more than £750 for historic St Andrew's church and

Redlingfield's Doorstep Green was busy well before the 11am start. Over 200 happy dog owners and spectators enjoyed the sunshine and attractions.

People came from all around, with many visiting the small village for the first time. Paws of Parham dog training

RESULTS:

Best Bitch: 1, Rowan & Avril; 2, Sasha & Tom; 3, Chilli & Guy. **Best Dog:** 1, Elmo & Chantelle; 2, Humpry & Fiona; 3, Teddy & Tracy. **Best Trick:** 1, Archie & Helen; 2, Winston & Grace; 3, Skipper & Jo. **Best Rescue:** 1, Poppy & Henry/Arthur; 2, Skipper & Jo. **Best Puppy:** 1, Bailey & Daisy; 2, Luther & Liz; 3, Teddy & Tracy. **Best Young Handler:** 1, Bailey & Daisy; 2, Archie & Tom; 3, Poppy & Henry/Arthur. **Best Veteran (over 10 years):** 1, Dusty & Bev; 2, Sasha & Tom; 3, Jasper & Gail. **Waggiest Tail:** 1, Teddy & Tracy; 2, Pip & Elaine; 3, Skipper & Jo. **Scruffiest Mutt**: 1, George & Daisy; 2, Suzie & Tom; 3, Fuzzy & Leslie. **Dog Judge Would Most Like to take Home:** 1, Teddy & Tracy; 2, Elmo & Chantelle; 3, Dusty & Bev.



group provided agility demonstrations in their ring and also let people and their pooches have a go too.

There were cakes, honey, tea, a BBQ, raffle, kiddies colouring stall, a bone stall and a bar – which had to be restocked with soft drinks as the sun shone down. The bar, which was raising funds for the village, took more than $\pounds400$.

The judges, both vets, were Jim Woodger, from Syleham, and Emma Hewitt, from Redlingfield, who certainly had their work cut out judging the classes.

Kings Farm Boarding Kennels, Cattery & Day Care Facility in nearby Cranley donated 120 rosettes for all those placed. There were prizes for the best rescue, best puppy (under 1 year), best young handler (under 12 years), best veteran (over 10 years), scruffiest, waggiest tail, best bitch & best dog, dog with the best trick and dog the judge would like to take home.

Dog Show organiser and Church committee secretary Alison Smith said: "We all had a brilliant time, everyone had fun and I'm just so pleased with how well the day went. It was great seeing so many lovely dogs and their owners – we plan to do this again next year. It was a real team effort and we want to thank everyone for their help and all the sponsors for their wonderful gifts and donations."

Many thanks to Skinner's Pet Foods in Stradbroke who donated prizes for class winners and the raffle, Pooch &



Pet beauty parlour and pet shop in Stradbroke, who donated a gift voucher, Easton Farm Park who donated day passes, Banham Zoo gave a day pass as a prize for the colouring competition and Myhill's Pet and Garden in Diss, who gave dog toys for the raffle.

Alison said: "St Andrews Church is a thousand years old and needs a lot of work to repair the floor and walls ... We also want to improve the church so we can use it for community events – with a kitchenette and toilets and more sustainable heating and lighting"

Janet Norman-Philips ■ Janet Norman Philips' pictures from the event are on pages 16 & 17.































Sumday Stri June Starts Liau Rosettes for all entries, classes to include: best rescue. Best puppy (under J year), best young handler (under 12 year), best veteran (over 10 years), scruffies, waggiest tall, best birth & best dog, dog with the best trick & dog the judge would like to take home.









WHAT'S ON

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1 Redlingfield Produce Show: Doorstep Green. MONDAY SEPTEMBER 2 Multicultural Textiles: Morning talks with afternoon workshops, The Bank Eve. 10.30am-3.30pm. **TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 3** Horham & Athelington Parish Council Meeting: Horham Community Centre. WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4 Redlingfield Coffee Caravan: Centre of village, 10am-noon. **THURSDAY SEPT 5-SATURDAY SEPT 7** Framlingham Camera Club Annual **Exhibition:** Framlingham Unitarian Meeting House, 10am-5pm. SATURDAY SEPT 7 & SUNDAY SEPT 8 Country Railway Gala: Mid Suffolk Light Railway Museum. Sandringham Game & Country Fair: Sandringham, 10am-6pm. Tickets on gate: adults £15; over 65s £14; children (5-15) £4; under 4s free. Online at www.sandringhamgameandcountryfair. co.uk until Sept 5. SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7 Adrian Nation - Live in concert: The Bank Eye, 7.30pm, tickets £10. Annual Hoxne Garden Club Show: Hoxne Village Hall, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8 Stradbroke CARnival: Stradbroke High School, 10am-4pm. MONDAY SEPTEMBER 9 Community Centre AGM: Horham Community Centre. **TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10** Local Plan Drop-in Event: Eve Community Centre, 2.30-5.30pm. THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12 Eye Sheep Trail Auction: Kenton Hall, Debenham, 7pm. Tickets £15 inc food & fizz. 01379 678483 or email

info@theblossomcharity.co.uk. FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 13 **Hoxne film night:** Red Joan (12), Hoxne Village Hall, 7.30pm, £4. SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14 Burgate Singers Jumble Sale: Eve Town Hall, 10am-noon, Framlingham Horticultural Society Autumn Show: United Free Church Hall, 10-11,45am. Ride + Stride: The annual sponsored Suffolk Historic Churches event. SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15 Rock 'n' Roll Record Hop: Occold Village Hall, 2pm-5pm, £5.50. Autumn Plant Fair with Artisan **Market:** Helmingham Hall, 10am-4pm. £7 for adults inc entry into gardens. THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 19 Suffolk's Police & Crime Commissioner Drop-in session: Eve Town Hall, 4.30-7pm. Stradbroke Cinema: Red Joan (12), Stradbroke Community Centre, 7.30pm. £5.50. FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20 Cricket Club Annual Music Quiz: Stradbroke Community Centre, 7.30pm. SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 21 Jumble Sale: Worlingworth Community Centre, 10am-noon. Dream On – Charity Fundraiser Quiz Night: Eye Town Hall, doors 7pm for 7.30pm. Glass of bubbly on arrival. £10 per ticket inc fish & chips or sausage & chips. Veg option available. BYO drinks (alcohol permitted). Max 8 per team. Tickets from Dream On shop in Eye & proceeds to The Blossom Charity (theblossomcharity.co.uk). Quiz Night: In aid of Fressingfield Scouts, Hoxne Village Hall, 7.30pm,

teams of up to 6, £5 a head.

What's On

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26 Sunday Craft Fair: The Bank Eye, Hoxne Produce & Craft Market: Hoxne 10.30am-3.30pm. Village Hall, 9.30am-12.30pm. Harvest lunch: Horham Community FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 27 Centre. WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 2 Framlingham in Wartime: St. Michaels Rooms, Framlingham, doors 6.30pm, Redlingfield Coffee Caravan: Centre of 7-9pm. £5. Illustrated talk by John village, 10am-noon. Bridges about life in Fram during WW2. SATURDAY OCTOBER 5 SATURDAY SEPT 28 & SUNDAY SEPT 29 Border Craft Collective Craft Fair: All About Dogs Show: Trinity Park. Local craft men & women exhibiting & Ipswich, 9.30am–5pm. Adults on gate selling their handmade crafts, Eye £14, online £12; over 60s on gate Town Hall, 10am-3pm. £13.50. online £11.50: children (5-16) **THURSDAY OCTOBER 10** on gate £8, online £6.50; under 5s free. Wreath laying: at the PC Ernest Booking fees Whiting memorial, Fingal Street, 3pm. (www.allaboutdogsshow.co.uk). **FRIDAY OCTOBER 11** SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 28 Hoxne film night: Late Night (15), Dance: Red Feather Club. Junction 55 Hoxne Village Hall, 7.30pm, £4. supported by DJ Gypsy John. Tickets SATURDAY 12TH OCTOBER £12 from Andy (0778896640) or High Suffolk Rotary Ceilidh/Barn preferably from www.eventbrite.co.uk. Dance: Debenham Leisure Centre. 2-SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29 course supper. Tickets £17.50 from events@highsuffolkrotary.org or 01728 Public Open Day: Red Feather Club

685 522.

Museum, 10am-4pm.

VENUES etc:

The Bank Arts Centre - Eye: The Bank, 2 Castle Street, Eve, IP23 7AN, 873495 & www.thebankeye.org. Cinema at Eye: Eye Community Centre, Magdalene St, IP23 7AJ, tickets Eye Pharmacy, The Handyman, or on door. Doors 7pm, film 7.30pm. £5 adult, £2.50 child up to 12. Framlingham: www.framlingham.com. Helmingham Hall: 01473 890799. events@helmingham.com, www.helmingham.com, Horham & Athelington Community Centre: Karen, 384754. Hoxne Film Nights: 7.30pm, Hoxne Village Hall, Goldbrook, Hoxne, bar, popcorn & choc-ices available before & in the interval. Further info/booking: 668060 or www.hoxnevillagehall.co.uk. Mid-Suffolk Light Railway. Brockford Station, Wetheringsett, Suffolk, IP14 5PW, www.mslr.org.uk, 01449 766899. Museum of East Anglian Life, Stowmarket, enquiries@eastanglianlife.org.uk, 01449 612229. Redlingfield village events, 678835, pc@redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk, www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk. Mid-Suffolk Showground & Stonham Barns: Stonham Barns. Pettaugh Road, Stonham Aspal, IP14 6AT, http://stonham-barns.co.uk. Stradbroke Cinema: Stradbroke Community Centre, 7pm for 7.30 pm. Adults £5.50, 16 and under £3. Bar open, ice-creams 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. 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association/Red Feather Club, Coldhams Hill, Denham, IP21 5DG, www.95thbg-horham.com, enquiries@95thbg-horham.com.

WHAT'S ON

SUNDAY OCTOBER 13 Rock 'n' Roll Record Hop: Occold Village Hall, 2pm-5pm, £5.50. The Great Framlingham Sausage Festival: 10am-5.30pm. www.framlinghamsausagefestival.com. THURSDAY OCTOBER 17 Stradbroke Cinema: Rocketman (15), Stradbroke Community Centre, 7.30pm. £5.50. **FRIDAY OCTOBER 18** An illustrated presentation: Red Feather Club. 7.30pm start. FRIDAY OCT 18-SATURDAY OCT 19 Cider and Song Festival: Museum of East Anglian Life, Stowmarket. Friday 5.30-11pm: Saturday 10am-11pm. SATURDAY OCTOBER 19 NEW DATE Pub on the Green: The last of the Pub on the Green nights for 2019. Doorstep Green, 6pm-midnight.

SATURDAY 19 OCT-FRIDAY OCT 25

Indian bar meal: Horham Community Centre.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 26

Cream Tea with entertainment by The Knightingales: Red Feather Club, 2.30pm to 4.30pm. Tickets £7.50. Limited numbers available. To book phone Linda 01379 384009 or Beverley 01379 678581. The Knightingales are a close three-part harmony trio that performs wellknown 1940s' classics.

Poppy Dance with The Knightingales: Red Feather Club, 7.30pm tickets \$7 on door. To book phone 07794945646.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 27 Public Open Day: Red Feather Club Museum, 10am-4pm. Sunday Craft Fair: The Bank Eye, 10.30am-3.30pm.

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22 Autumn 2019

What's On

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 30

Keith James in concert: The songs of Leonard Cohen, The Bank Eye, 7.30pm, £10 in advance, £12 on the door.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 2

Free members night: Horham Community Centre.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 7

Creative Music Workshop: Creative & unusual rhythms & scales, The Bank Eye, 7-9pm, tickets £8.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 8

Hoxne film night: Rocketman (15), Hoxne Village Hall, 7.30pm, £4.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9

Samia Malik + Band: The Bank Eye, 6-8pm £10 in advance, £12 on door. Harvest Hoedown: Horham Community Centre An evening to celebrate the end of Harvest with a light supper & local traditional live music. Entry ticket only available shortly at £6 inc light supper.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 10

Rock 'n' Roll Record Hop: Occold Village Hall, 2pm-5pm, £5.50.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19

Wreath-laying: Redlingfield memorial at 8.30am.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 21 Stradbroke Cinema: The Front

Runner (15), Stradbroke Community Centre, 7.30pm, £5.50.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 24 Sunday Craft Fair: The Bank Eye,

10.30am-3.30pm. Sunday December 1

Rock 'n' Roll Record Hop: Occold Village Hall, 2pm-5pm, £5.50.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 6 Annual Christmas Dinner Dance:

Horham Community Centre.

REGULAR EVENTS:

Mondays: Coffee & Chat: Horham Baptist Church hall. 10am. No charge. Everyone welcome. 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. **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: Autumn dance-outs at local pubs. Winter practices, Ron Ross. 643563. Eye Country Market, every Wed 10am-11am, Eve 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.
- FRIDAYS: Bingo: Stradbroke Community Centre, Wilby Road, 2nd Fri monthly. 7.30pm. Mary Ellis, 384642. Worlingworth Swan, live music, last Fri evening of month.
- SUNDAYS: Public open days: Red Feather/95th Bomb Group Heritage Association & 95th BG Hospital Museum last Sun of month May-October inclusive,

Pound Lane Wood all set for

HE SECOND ANNUAL Great Crested Newt hunt took place throughout May with the aim of establishing the population age, numbers, sexes and species present in the pond at Pound Lane Wood. As before New Reeding Woods Group chairman David Mitchell and ecologist Sue Morgan conducted the survey and here is their report. The methodology was extended slightly on the 2018 event.

"Casual observation from members of the public indicated there might be rather fewer adults of all species than evident in the pond than in previous years. This information accorded with similar comments regarding other ponds in the locale. A series of bottle trapping episodes were carried out throughout the month- findings supported these initial observations."

A total of 22 individual fullydeveloped newts were recorded throughout, of which nine were Great Crested Newts (GCN); the rest being Smooth Newts.

• Male GCN: one male fully grown and two immature.

• Female GCN: six immature females.

• None of the recorded GCNs matched the largest/oldest ones seen in2018.

A mass observation event scheduled for 24th May included bottle-traps,

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bumper newt year in 2020

netting and DNA analysis, as well as an egg-search among emergent vegetation. 12 volunteers from the Environment Agency, water companies and private contractors assisted in the operation.

Apart from the fully developed newts listed above, significant numbers of eggs from both Great Crested and Smoothies were found together with large numbers of newly emerged newt tadpoles and efts (partially developed newts). These were significantly greater in number than was the case in 2018.

All in all then, a disappointment that mature newt numbers appear to have reduced somewhat this year, counterbalanced by great excitement over the number of eggs and juveniles, promising a bumper newt year in 2020!

On June 15th the Group put on a wood craft display at the Horham Fete. Demonstrations of log-splitting, woodturning and willow-weaving were on display and bird feeders, pegs, stools and whistles were sold as the group demonstrated their woodworking skills.

For information about events see the notice board at the wood. To join the group please contact Peny Conway (01379 870165).

Margaret Reeves

■ SEASONAL FLU CLINICS: Seasonal Flu Clinics for 2019 at Fressingfield & Stradbroke Medical Centres. The information below is for patients aged over 65 or if you turn 65 before March 31st 2020 (the vaccines for the under 65s will be available later in October). Fressingfield Medical Centre Saturday September 28th & Stradbroke Medical Centre Saturday October 5th. Please attend the clinic as follows: 8.30am to 9am, those with a Surname that starts with A; 9am to 9.30am, those with a Surname that starts with B; 9.30am to 10am, those with a Surname that starts with C; 10am to 10.30am, those with a Surname that starts with D, E & F; 10.30am to 11:00am, those with a Surname that starts with G & H; 11:00am to 11.30am, those with a Surname that starts with I, J, K & L; 11.30am to noon, those with a Surname that starts with M & N; noon to 12.30pm, those with a Surname that starts with O, P, Q & R; 12.30pm to 1pm, those with a Surname that starts with S & T; & 1pm to 1.30pm, those with a Surname that starts with U, V, W, X, Y & Z. Refreshments will be provided at the clinics. Further information about the delay with receiving the vaccine for those eligible patients aged under 65 is on www.fressingfieldmedicalcentre.co.uk.

■ **RIDE + STRIDE:** The Annual Sponsored Ride & Stride is on Saturday September 14th between 9am and 5pm. If you want to help your local church out by cycling or walking you can find details at shct.org.uk/ride-and-stride (in Redlingfield contact Pauline Abbott or Alison Smith). The money raised by each participant is shared equally between the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust and the place of worship nominated by the cyclist. It s the main source of income to SHCT.

If I have an addiction it

ELEVISION IS A MUCH bigger part of my life than it should be. I watch sport, both US and UK sit-coms, the odd soap, documentaries and numerous repeats of 'Family Guy'. I'm sure there are certain people who will say that is a bit pathetic, but it's what I do.

People have heroes and admire musicians, artists, sportspeople and judging by the way I hear Trump and Johnson lauded recently, even some politicians. People like actors and actresses. My admiration is of the skill it takes to make a decent quality TV programme and the way everything comes together to make entertaining viewing for their target audience.

Today we have a digital world of programmes so removed from the old method. We have Freesat, Freeview,

in Porridge and the Griffins from Family Guy.

Ronnie Barker

Sky, Virgin, NetFlix and other suppliers I don't know of or can't remember. We have online-only channels and each station has it's online way of watching programmes at any time. YouTube and other social networks have ways to watch films and short sketches. People watch events on tablets and mobile phones. Basically there is a lot of competition for your attention out there and numerous ways to watch it.

A lot of people will tell you they don't make comedies like they used to and since the 1980s it has all gone downhill. The first part is right – they don't make programmes as they did. Humour has changed. What is deemed acceptable to laugh at has changed. 'In Sickness and in Health', 'Love Thy Neighbour' and 'Curry and Chips' are taboo.

Women have more respect now in comedic exchanges. People like Benny Hill were castigated in their lifetimes over their style of comedy. Seventies shows like 'The Comedians', in which Bernard Manning was prominent, with jokes about colour and mother-in-laws, raised smiles at the time but are confined to history. In those days there were three channels and you had little choice of what to view. Now you probably have three chances to watch any given show the same day.

People still holding certain values and views don't like the fact that comedy doesn't respect their views now.

is to TV

Comedy hasn't deteriorated since the days of 'Dad's Army', 'Fawlty Towers' and 'Porridge', it has just changed. Programmes such as 'Gavin and Stacey', 'Not Going Out' and 'Bad Move' still have the basics but it is just our perception of what made us laugh has changed. It is just certain sensitivities have to be considered now and today's jokes are subject to a lot more scrutiny. I accept some people will think this desire not to offend reduces humour levels.

Remakes are difficult to pull off as it is hard to move them away from the original. A series of 'Porridge' with a character played by Kevin Bishop, who was related to Ronnie Barker's Norman Stanley Fletcher, was recently made. It's main problem, I heard from other people who watched it, was that it wasn't as good as the original and subsequently it was seen as below par. Treated as stand-alone, shows like the 'Dad's Army' film made recently, can hold their own. I've seen a lot worse.

My admiration for these programmes is the skill of the dialogue and the way these shows are constructed. I guess the major thing used to be to get central characters or a subject that people could relate to and laugh with. In the days of less choice the characters and plot was important. Now it is more about getting a vehicle for a popular comedian or comedy actor. The target audience is less about mass family entertainment and more



targeted. They are hoping to get about a fifteenth of the audience of the televisual heyday of 40 years ago.

As what is deemed acceptable in society changes, entertainment that mirrors life has to change as well. The problem is that as we have seen in the USA and UK with polls and elections recently, lots of people resent it. Certain groups in modern society feel there are grey areas as to what is acceptable and what isn't. Aspects of religious or political beliefs are not open to satire but others are.

Writers have a lot more skill and talent than people realise to entertain and make people laugh in this climate. My fear is that people are now so sensitive to what is important to them that they cannot tolerate any criticism of their own core beliefs or values. The general rule is you can't criticise or parody something people cannot control such as gender, sexuality, race. To label a person as fat though is acceptable but you cannot criticise physical disability such as an elongated nose. Continual evolution of society this way could see the quality of comedy shows further watered down but addicts like me will still be Ian Crane watching.

Awards for pupils & staff

ILBY SCHOOL continues to be a hive of activity both within the school and in our work with other organisations.

This term our headteacher was appointed a Leader in Local Education(LLE) and as a result of this will be able to offer further help to leaders of schools in Norfolk and Suffolk. She also received a prize at the raising the Bar Awards 2019 in June for 'Educational Leader and Setting of the Year'. Progress and achievement across the school continues to be outstanding. Our congratulations go to both our hardworking teachers and their pupils. The Summer term saw the school taking part in a wide range of sporting activities and claiming a number of medals –most notably in gymnastics, swimming and netball. Our swimmers progressed through to the regional finals in Bury in June!

All of KS2 took part in a brilliant performance of Pirates of the Curry Bean! Our 'Music for a Summer's Evening' was a huge success and it was wonderful to welcome back Jude Mills and Jo Most and their jazz band.

Pupils have been on an amazing range of trips. Our Year 2 and 3 pupils visited Norwich castle, Norwich synagogue and had an amazing day sailing on Alton Water. Our Year 6



Features & News

at Wilby

pupils have been away for a five-day trip at the Hollowford centre in the Peak District and our Year 4 and 5 pupils have been to Thorpe Woodlands Outdoor Adventure Centre.

Year 4, 5 and 6 have been out and about in the locality practising compass and map skills. Our younger pupils have been to BeWILDerwood and most classes have had Forest School outings at Charlotte's Wood. Mrs Pickess is also taking her Forest School qualification so that we can lead sessions on our own school grounds from September.

In the Autumn term as part of our topic on Healthy Me we are inviting members of the community to come into school for a health check run by the NHS Health Check Team. Health checks will be run all day at the school on Tuesday 26th November between 8.30 and 4pm. If you want a health

■ CHAIR EXERCISES: Stradbroke Community Centre is hosting a new gentle chair-based exercise class. Their is a free taster session on Monday 23rd September 2-3pm, followed by a weekly class for £4. It offers gentle chair-based movements with an experienced physiotherapist, focusing on strength, balance and stretching. It is a great way to do some light activity and meet new people. All welcome! Light refreshments provided afterwards. For information or to book call Lisa Kippen on 07887 613042 or lisa@lkphysio.co.uk.



check you should be aged 40-74 years, have no current diagnosis of or medication for: heart disease; high blood pressure; atrial fibrillation; high cholesterol; diabetes; stroke or mini Stroke; kidney disease; or dementia. You should be resident in Suffolk or Essex and not had an NHS Health Check in the last five years. To book in for a health check please call the school on 01379 384708.

Our whole school open day is at 9.30am on October 8th. Join us to find more about Wilby Pre-School and Primary School or book a visit for another day that suits you better.

Roisin Wiseman (01379 384708 www.wilbyprimary.org.uk)



Talk on Buffalo Bill's 1903

TRADBROKE AND DISTRICT Royal British Legion branch's next meeting will feature a talk and authentic film of Buffalo Bill and his Wild West Show's 1903 visit to East Anglia.

Geoffrey Robinson will speak about the famed scout, bison hunter, and showman who toured Europe eight times, between 1887 and 1906. The talk is in Stradbroke at 7pm on September 12th. All are welcome to, to book a seat phone 01379 388602 leave name and telephone number. There are a maximum of 35 seats.

On June 28th branch members met to honour past president Ted Bootle.



His ashes were scattered at Laxfield by his family. Rev Ron Orams, the branch chaplin, took the Service.

The branch's July meeting saw Dr John Wyke, consultant in gastroenterology, Ipswich Hospital talk



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visit to UK

at Stradbroke Old Court about the prevention of bowel cancer, diverticulitis and charity, The Digestive Disorders Foundation (Suffolk).

Dr Wyke, said that there were many digestive disorders, all of which caused pain and discomfort. Some could kill if left undiagnosed. It was important to note persistent changes in bowel movement, or of an unexplained pain. A visit to the doctor was a sensible precaution. Each year in the UK, more than four million people consult doctors about such problems -500.000 go into hospital and about 60,000 die of these diseases. He explained how polyps in the bowels might be removed and checked for malignancy, helping prevent cancer developing or alerting its presence. It was a helpful and informative session with a comprehensive Q&A session.

The DDF (Suffolk) raises money to help Suffolk Hospitals. Volunteer-run, around 92p of every pound donated helps, research, treatment, cure and prevention of digestive disorders. The Ipswich Heath Road Endoscopy suite is one recipient. About £500,000 has been raised to date. Support is always welcomed (www.ddfsuffolk.org.uk) Maureen John was thanked for the use of the room and James Hargreaves for his technical assistance.

For information about the RBL contact Bernard Mills mills.laxfield@gmail.com.

Rosemary Warne



Rose Cottage B & B

01379 384680 www.rosecottagebandbsuffolk.co.uk enquiries@rosecottagebandbsuffolk.co.uk The Street, Horham, Eye, Suffolk, IP21SDX



COLUMNS

DR DAN POULTER, YOUR LOCAL MP



BEING AT HOME IN SUFFOLK over the summer months makes me appreciate all that is good about our county, but due to its rural nature, we can

often take for granted the work that goes on here to keep us safe in our communities.

But this is not to say that crime does not feature here in Suffolk - I would like to commend the outstanding work going on around the clock with our dedicated team of Police Officers, PCSOs and those working tirelessly behind the scenes to combat the scourge of crime and indeed. online crime. Along with my fellow Suffolk MPs, I meet regularly with our Police and Crime Commissioner to hear about advances in the service, the

achievements of Suffolk Constabulary and also to find out what more we, as Suffolk MPs. can do to help support our fantastic Constabulary.

Perhaps number one on our Police and Crime Commissioner's request list is more and fairer funding for Suffolk's Police. That's why I am delighted to welcome our new Prime Minister - Boris Johnson's pledge to invest in recruiting 20,000 new police officers across the country. People want to see more officers in their neighbourhoods, protecting the public and cutting crime.

Suffolk remains a wonderful county in which to live and do business, and a safe place to visit, but we do need to work together to tackle crime effectively. There are a great many dedicated people

2 Lambseth Street, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7AG We hope to see	
you soon!	
OPENING T	IMES 2019
Monday	10am-6pm
Tuesday	11am-8pm
Wednesday	9am-6pm
Thursday	11am-8pm
Friday	9am-6pm
Saturday	8am-3pm
32 Autumn 2019	

EYE SALON 01379 871996 EXCITING NEWS

Eve Salon is a small friendly hair salon in Eve. We have been trading as Eve Salon for over two years now & have gained a large client base.

Isabel is now offering a wide range of relaxing beauty treatments such as dermatological facials, spa manicures & pedicures, Swedish, hot-stone & deep tissue massages, St Tropez spray tanning, waxing and tinting.

We have a large range of hairdressing and beauty services that we can adjust to suit our client's individual needs. whatever style or age, male or female.

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working tirelessly in our public services and in our communities to help discourage our young people from a life of violence and crime. But they can't do this alone. Together, our Police, Councils and communities in Suffolk share a collective responsibility, along with Government, to stop violent crime – that's why I am delighted with the Government's announcement to urgently boost policing numbers to help us to tackle the scourge of knife crime head on, as well as other criminal activity.

But let's be clear - crime of any nature

is a blight on our communities, intimidating those who live and work in the area, and affecting quality of life. Our Prime Minister has been clear the he fully supports the Police's use of 'Stop and Search' to tackle and disrupt those carrying knives and I am therefore especially pleased that as part of its ongoing work to tackle serious violence, the Government will also urgently review a pilot, which makes it simpler for officers to use stop and search powers, with a view to rolling this out across all Constabularies at the earliest opportunity.

Dr Dan Poulter, MP, 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

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COLUMNS

GUY MCGREGOR ... YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR



THE ISSUES OF RURAL transport are very much in the news at the moment, especially in the Hoxne & Eye Division.

The three-times-a-day stage bus service from Diss/Eye, Horham, Stradbroke to Framlingham is due to end at the end of October as Suffolk County Council is due to end its Revenue Support for this Service. I know that numbers of passengers using this route are often low but there are many who regard this service as a lifeline. And I want a service to continue.

As County Councillor I have been working hard with officers of the Council to find a solution. As we go to press I think one has been found! Details have yet to be finalised but the idea is to extend the Ipswich/Framlingham Service into High Suffolk to Stradbroke, Horham, Hoxne, and Eye to Diss as part of the Diss, Eye, Debenham to Ipswich Service Contract (the A140 route). If this can be achieved then villages in the Division will have a much better service. If it does happen then we must all work hard to ensure the service is used.

With more and more schools in Suffolk moving from local authority control to being academies (with their own admission policies) Suffolk County Council on School Transport is moving towards providing "free" transport to schools more in line with its Statutory Responsibilities. In essence this means that age limits will be strictly applied, distances will be measured using footpaths where appropriate and transport to the nearest school will be the norm. The new policies have had an impact for some children and their parents in the division. Again I have been holding discussions with officers, parents and schools to see what can be done.

Mid Suffolk District Council has published its Local Plan and part of the process was an open meeting at Stradbroke.

At this meeting concern was expressed about the potential growth of facilities to provide for intensive food production, especially chicken units. Unchecked, this development has the potential of transforming the division. These are large units dominating the countryside requiring servicing by increasing the number of HGVs and with potential of increased pollution. I hope MSDC can develop policies that will address the challenge and I am working with officers in the County's response.

The state of our local roads has been a concern for some time now (I suffered damage to the wheel of my car on a pothole). However, I do believe that Suffolk County Council has recently improved its performance in the repair of road defects but what I have noticed is the increasing number of road signs that have collapsed and remain in the verges for months. I appreciate that signage replacement is a lower priority than road surface repair but it does give out the wrong message about our care for the countryside and where the signs are mandatory their failure can be a road safety issue.

Guy McGregor is Suffolk County Council Member for the Hoxne & Eye Division Telephone: 01379 668434 (home) or 01379 870339 (office). Email: guy.mcgregor@suffolk.gov.uk

THE REVEREND REFLECTS ... THE COMMITMENTS



NOT THAT THE Commitments is a film that I've ever seen. Firstly thank you to everyone who commented on my last piece,

and my continuing thoughts about suicide.

Special thanks to the person who pointed out my poor drafting (and yes it was my poor drafting); where I wrote,

Times change though, and for over a hundred years the Church of England has held that someone of *sound* mind who kills themselves can have a church funeral. This suggests that the exception is a criminal seeking to avoid justice, but otherwise I'm sure **you can** see the huge loophole in the law (there's two actually).

That should have said, *someone of unsound* mind (i.e mental health issues) you can have a church funeral.

Another comment which gave me plenty to think about was the observation that it's wrong to talk about committing suicide because suicide isn't a crime and you commit a crime, and it is certainly that **suicide is not a criminal offence**. But it made me think about what it means 'to commit'. Yes, a crime is one thing that can be committed; but nations can commit to war, committing to war is not automatically illegal.

Then I noticed something in the wedding service, one of the prayers says: Pour out your blessings upon *N* and *N*, that they may be joined in mutual

love and companionship, in holiness and commitment to each other

Weddings contain two things, legal bits and prayers so has the church been inciting illegal acts in the middle of a legal ceremony? No!

So, what does commitment mean? It occurs to me that there's a huge difference between being committed and anything else.

For example, in a breakfast of bacon and eggs, the chicken is involved, the pig is committed. Sometimes in life we have to be more than involved; we have to be committed. Perhaps we all need to take some time to think about the things in life where we need to be committed, because sometimes its absolutely necessary to be committed!

■ LAMMAS SERVICE: This annual celebration, on 1 August, attracted a congregation of about 120 who enjoyed the tractor parade, service and the hog roast, (provided by Peter Havers of Athelington Hall). The final collection, to go to the Addington Fund for farming families in need, came to £2,600. Thank you to all who came.

■ FAMILY@CHURCH: Volunteers still wanted to join the team for our family@church 2nd Sunday benefice services ... If you are interested in being part of this new, monthly project, please let me know.

HORHAM PARISH REGISTER:

March 16 Baptism Florence Hellier (infant). March 27 Funeral Peter James Clements aged 91. August 5 Funeral Edna Elizabeth Cox aged 94 years.

Revd Michael Womack is rector of the Hoxne Benefice

(hoxnebenefice@gmail.com or 388889).

CHURCH & INFORMATION

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES etc:

- SEPT 1 9.30am, HC, **Redlingfield.** Also Harvest Festival Service to follow produce show 1.45pm, Doorstep Green.
 - 8 9.30am, BCP HC, Horham; 11.15am, Harvest Family@Church, Denham.
 - **15** 9.30am, Harvest Communion, **Athelington.**
 - 22 10am, MP, Redlingfield.
 - **29** 11.15am, Benefice Harvest Communion, **Horham.**
- Ост 6 9.30am, HC, Redlingfield.
 - 13 9.30am, BCP HC, Horham; 10am, Bishop Mike will be visiting to dedicate J Leader's memorial, Syleham.
 - 20 9.30am, HC, Athelington
 - 27 10am, MP, Redlingfield.
- Nov 3 9.30am, HC, Redlingfield.
 10 9.30am, BCP HC, Horham, followed by act of Remebrance; TBA, Redlingfield; 10.45am, Remembrance Family@Church, Denham.
 - 17 9.30am, HC, Athelington.
 - 24 10am, MP, Redlingfield.

HC = Holy Communion, MP = Morning Prayer, BCP = Book of Common Prayer

Rev Michael Womack: Rector of the Churches of the Hoxne Benefice serving the communities of Athelington, Denham, Horham, Hoxne, Redlingfield, Syleham and Wingfield. St Andrew's House, Vicarage Road, Wingfield, Diss, Suffolk, IP21 5RB (01379-388889)

Enquiries: Daphne Harvey, St Mary, Horham (384216); Colin Palmer, St Peter, Athelington (01728 628747); Hazel Abbott, St Andrew, Redlingfield (678217). Services for all churches in the benefice are on notice boards. A monthly benefice newsletter is available in the churches. Email hoxnebenefice@gmail.com for your copy or see www.redlingfield.suffolk.gov.uk.

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