

TOWN and AROUND

ISSUE 179 SEPTEMBER 2020

PRICELESS!

NEWS FROM
NW NORFOLK
FREE



THE GREAT OUTDOORS: Sport, gardening, farming, nature and wildlife
LOCAL NEWS: Business, jobs, schools, clubs, council, civic and churches
FEATURES: A Page from the Sage, Lifeboats, Money Matters and more...

First word

Hello and welcome to the September edition of Town and Around. During the past few months some magazines have had to stop publishing and others are publishing bi-monthly; we have been very fortunate and have been able to carry on, albeit with some of our usual outlets unable to distribute as they were forced to close. I would like to thank all of our advertisers and contributors who have helped see us through this most difficult period.



Thanks also to our volunteer delivery team. It should be noted that some have had to stand down permanently and others have been self-isolating. You are all truly appreciated.

It is a bigger magazine this month and we welcome new and familiar businesses to our pages. The revenue from our advertisers pays for the magazine and more adverts mean more pages of interesting reading!

Autumn - dare I say it? 22nd September sees the Autumnal Equinox; Terry Parish (page 48) tells us that night and day become equal at 2.30pm.

Our local Lifeboat crew have had a very busy time of late with almost daily call-outs since lockdown was lifted. Most of these have been to rescue people cut off by the tide at Scolt Head Island. On at least one occasion multiple trips had to be made to rescue groups. Thank you guys and gals for all you do.

The cover this month features Chris Holt, secretary of the Hunstanton Lawn Tennis Tournament and you can read about the Tournament's prestigious award on page 4.

Until next month

Elaine

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Hunstanton Lawn Tennis Tournament scoops 'Competition of the Year' Award at Lawn Tennis Association 2020 Awards

A tournament dubbed the 'Glastonbury of Tennis' has hit the perfect note by winning the 'Competition of the Year' award at this year's Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) Tennis Awards that were held at Roehampton on 30th July.

One of 18 national winners, the Hunstanton Lawn Tennis Tournament received the 'Competition of the Year' accolade from the governing body for tennis in Britain on account of the outstanding event they hold and their work within the community throughout 2019.

Each year, the LTA delivers just shy of 10,000 recreational competitions via its network of officials, organisers and county associations, with the award paying particular attention to the efforts of volunteers and local venues.

With more than 1,300 entries, the Norfolk tournament boasts some of the highest player rates in the country, while last year they raised £2,000 for a hospice within the area.

This year was also set to be a celebratory one for Hunstanton, with its 100-year anniversary plans put on hold due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

But there is now plenty to savour in the centenary, with the competition virtually presented its award by Sally Bolton, CEO of the All England Lawn Tennis Club.

Chris Holt, secretary of the Hunstanton Lawn Tennis Tournament, who this year marks 45 years of involvement with the event, said: "To have the annual 'Sunny Hunny' Tournament held in the sleepy backwaters of North Norfolk recognised as the best competition in the UK by the LTA is a fantastic achievement.

"I have seen the Tournament expand from a small six-day Tournament with around 20 events held on about 10 courts to one which now hosts 43 events from under-12s to senior veterans with matches played across 38 grass courts. Alongside the main events we also hold a hugely popular informal round robin fun event for under-10s and under-12s and an afternoon 'adult and child' event for charity, and all on the Recreation Ground in

Hunstanton.

"The family-orientated Tournament, which sees second, third and fourth generations of families competing and spectating year after year, owes its success to a very supportive and hard-working committee, along with working hand-in-hand with the local authority, the Borough Council or King's Lynn and West Norfolk, Tournament sponsors, the ever-growing support of local caterers and trade stalls and most of all to the players returning year after year. They are all part of the Hunstanton Lawn Tennis Tournament 'family'.

"Immediately following finals' day, work starts on the next year's

of the Year', an honour we will treasure for years to come. Bring on 2021."

Ashley Martin, a Tournament committee member for 27 years and a player in the event for around 45 years, added: "The Tournament has existed for 100 years due to the love, enthusiasm, passion and hard-work of a committee and the support and affection for its existence from players, young and old, who compete across the generations year-after-year.

"There are no magic ingredients to the popularity of the event, but for the committee to have their work recognised and the competitors to know that the Tournament is recognised by the



Chris Holt

awards respectively, alongside 16 other deserving national winners.

This year saw more than 2,000 nominations across grassroots categories including Young Person of the Year and Club of the Year.

Nominations were drawn from more than 25,000 volunteers, 4,400 coaches, 940 officials, 20,000 schools, 2,700 clubs and more than 9,700 LTA approved tournaments, demonstrating the extraordinary contributions of individuals and venues who help to open up the sport and bring new fans and players to the game.

"The LTA Tennis Awards are a real celebration of the people that make our sport thrive," said LTA president, David Rawlinson.

"They celebrate the achievements made by outstanding volunteers, coaches, officials, venues and players, who are all vital in helping us to grow the game.

"To be named a national winner out of over 2,000 public nominations is a fantastic achievement so I'd like to congratulate all of this year's winners and extend my thanks to each and every one of them for all that they do to help tennis in Britain."

Next year's Hunstanton Lawn Tennis Tournament will be held on August 15-22, 2021. Further information is available at: <http://www.hunstantonlta.co.uk/>

Inspired by Hunstanton's story? To find out more information about the LTA Tennis Awards or for information on how to play, coach, volunteer or officiate in tennis, head to www.lta.org.uk.



Tournament. On the afternoon of the first day, I escape the committee marquee and walk into the sunshine and see all 38 courts packed with tennis players and all the spectators – parents, grandparents and other supporters – looking on thoroughly enjoying the tennis and I think 'yes, we have cracked it for another year'.

"This year has proved very difficult with the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. It has resulted in the cancellation of 'Sunny Hunny' 2020, which would have been the celebratory 100th anniversary year.

"However, we plan to roll the celebratory programme of events forward to 2021's Tournament and anticipate a bumper level of entries. However, the sadness of having to cancel this year's event has been counteracted by the jubilation when Hunstanton Lawn Tennis Tournament was awarded the title of 'Competition

Lawn Tennis Association as the best in Britain is the icing on the cake.

"As someone who has been involved with the Tournament for some 45 years – initially as a player in junior events and now as a competitor in veteran events and a committee member – it is humbling that the Hunstanton Lawn Tennis Tournament is recognised as the 'best in Britain'."

Currently in their fifth year, the LTA Tennis Awards celebrate the achievements made by outstanding tennis volunteers, coaches, officials, venues and players in Britain.

Streamed live on LTA channels and presented by Leon Smith OBE, the national ceremony – which was digital for the first time in the awards' history – saw the likes of current British No.1s Dan Evans and Johanna Konta pick up the LTA's Men's and Women's 'Player of the Year'

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Coronavirus is still with us. Cases in Norfolk are low and we want to keep them that way. The best thing to do to protect ourselves and others is to continue to wash our hands regularly, keep our distance from others and wear a face covering in shops and on public transport.

To protect others, you and everyone living in your house should isolate straight away if you show symptoms. The symptoms are: a new continuous cough, fever, or a loss or change in your taste and smell.

As soon as you isolate, visit www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call 119 to book a test. Everyone is eligible to get a

test if they have symptoms. You can choose either a drive-through test or a home test kit. Stay in isolation until you receive your results, which will include instructions on what to do next.

NHS Test and Trace will contact people who test positive for Covid-19. They will ask you about who you have been in contact with over the previous few days. This will identify people at risk who could pass on the virus before (or without) showing symptoms themselves.

For more information about how to stay safe and how to get support if you need it whilst isolating visit: norfolk.gov.uk/coronavirus

QEH to receive £1.9 million additional funding to upgrade A&E facilities ahead of winter

James Wild MP has welcomed news that Queen Elizabeth Hospital is set to receive an additional £1.9 million in order to support A&E capacity a head of the winter months.

The extra £1.9 million means that the Trust will be able to increase its A&E capacity, put enhanced infection prevention and control measures in place and make improvements to emergency care and urgent treatment services.

Across England, the Government is providing £300 million to A&E departments, with work to be completed by the start of next year so hospitals can benefit from the upgrades during the peak of winter.

In June, the Prime Minister announced plans to accelerate £5 billion of infrastructure spending as part of his New Deal for Britain – an ambitious economic strategy to rebuild Britain by putting jobs, skills and infrastructure investment at the heart of the Government's plans. This funding forms part of the New Deal, which allocated a total of £1.5 billion this year for hospital maintenance, hospital building and A&E

expansion.

The funding also comes on top of the additional £3 billion that the Prime Minister recently announced to help prepare the NHS for the winter months ahead. This funding will allow the NHS to continue to use the extra hospital capacity acquired from the independent sector through the coronavirus pandemic, and also to maintain the



Nightingale hospitals until the end of March next year.

Commenting on the investment, James Wild MP said:

“All the Staff at QEH have worked incredibly hard responding to Covid-19 and I pay tribute to everything they have done for the people of West Norfolk and beyond.

This welcome new funding as part of record investment in the NHS will upgrade A&E to help ensure we are as prepared as possible for the challenges that the winter months will bring.

The QEH is my top priority and I will continue to work with the QEH team to make the case for further investment to modernise the hospital as part of the health infrastructure plan.”

You in Mind

Dear all,

Hope you are coping well in this time of uncertainty.

I know some of you may struggle with anxiety on a day to day basis. This time may indeed cause you to think more deeply about the negatives that are all around us now. But there is some solace in knowing that like most viruses they do and will eventually pass.

For some, this time may lead you away from worrying over your concerns of the past and future, of playing over in your mind the fears for you and your loved ones, and now, you find your mind's focusing on this pandemic.

It is indeed going to be worse for those of you who struggle with anxiety, as you tell yourselves that you have now a real solid reason to be concerned and to over-think.

I do understand that anxiety is a very real uncomfortable emotion that strips away any good feeling and can leave you in a state of complete panic and where you feel consumed by fear of life. Yes life can be fearful but it can be helpful to find comfort in the NOW! And when we only think of Now! and do not become distracted on concerns of the past and what may or may not happen in our future.

I wanted to let you know, because it would seem this could go on for a while yet, that I am still open to seeing clients. I am abiding by the government's safety guidance, keeping a safe distance of over 2 metres away from my clients at all times through the sessions.

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Civic Society to launch petition to re-instate a staffed TIC in Hunstanton

Hunstanton & District Civic Society has issued an open invitation to residents of all ages/businesses of Hunstanton and surrounding areas and to all tourists who come to spend time here with us in North West Norfolk.

On behalf of the Society, Chair Amanda Bosworth writes:

“You will no doubt have learnt by now that the Hunstanton Tourist Information Centre in the Town Hall building has closed on a permanent basis and that an unmanned Tourist Information Point has opened in the ‘Coal Shed’. This is a temporary move – but temporary could last up to five years.

“The decision to close the Tourist Information Centre was taken by a small group of Hunstanton Town Council members and representatives of the Borough Council of King’s Lynn and West Norfolk.

“This decision was taken without any consultation whatsoever with the business or resident community of Hunstanton and surrounding areas.

“The Tourist Information Centre and its Staff offered a range of services, which are already being much missed by visitors and residents alike.

“H&DCS are now launching a petition on Saturday September 5th at 11am on the Green outside the Town Hall Building so that, together, we can gather support for the re-instatement of a staffed Tourist Information Centre, for the benefit of businesses, residents and visitors alike.

“If we do not make our support felt and our views known, we will be able to blame only ourselves when the next Hunstanton community facility is downgraded or disappears altogether.

“Hunstanton Town Council has responsibilities. The Borough Council of King’s Lynn and West Norfolk has responsibilities. And each and every one of us has responsibilities too. Please do join us and sign the petition on Saturday, September 5th between 11am and 3pm if you possibly can – the invitation is for everyone.

“Your support and presence will be much appreciated.”



Hunstanton's Town Hall and former home of the TIC

The call for a petition comes some two months after the closure of the facility at the Town Hall. When the decision to close was first made known on 12th June, the Civic Society raised concerns about the negative impact this would have, the ‘opaque’ manner in which the decisions had been taken and the lack of prior consultation or communication.

In a twelve page document issued in July, the Civic Society said there was almost unanimous opposition to the move amongst the 185 membership.

70% of the 106 Hunstanton businesses surveyed by the Hunstanton Civic Society say closure of the Tourist Information Centre (TIC) at the Town Hall is not in the best interests of the town. And 0% indicated a positive effect on their business from the closure.

It is hoped that the TIC will eventually be part of the new library complex that is planned for the Bus Station site. In the meantime, an unmanned display in the Coal Shed Gallery has been opened, and the Borough Council has confirmed this will remain the case of an indeterminate period. The authorities say the decision to move was made because it was impossible to maintain social distancing at the TIC in the Town Hall.



Yvonne Bridger suggests the Heritage Centre as a temporary home for the TIC

Civic Society member Yvonne Bridger said: “We want to see common sense prevail, and an interim solution could involve having the TIC in the Heritage Centre.

“The current arrangements do not serve the community.”

Whilst recognising the method providing tourist information is changing to become more reliant on web-based applications, in its report the Society points out that: ‘the TIC has been located within the Town Hall complex for a number of years and its location ensured maximum visibility and footfall. The reputation of its staff for providing informed and friendly advice ensured that it was truly a community hub in this coastal resort; not only did it provide visitors with information about the town and its facilities, it also provided services for local residents (parking permits, Rover passes, Radar keys for disabled toilets, reduced-price tickets to tourist attractions, etc.) Its closure has left a void in information and service provision, particularly for the elderly, that cannot be filled by an unmanned space.’

The Society has written to the Town and Borough councils asking them to reconsider the issue. Sheila and Stephen Kent on behalf of the committee wrote to members on 29th July with the news that the Society intends: “to continue to press for a response from HTC and the Borough to the issues we have raised with them.”



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Mollie Patterson, England table Tennis player, aged 17

After a short Christmas break, I returned to Grantham on the 6th January to start the new term, and get back to full time training.

January was a quiet Month for competitions, so I spent the month training hard and working on some technical aspects of my game. The one tournament I did play in was in Stockholm as part of the Swedish league and I won 8 of my 11 singles matches.

February began with another weekend playing in the Swedish league, but this time I travelled to Copenhagen to play two matches. I won 4 of the 5 singles games I played, and 1 of 2 doubles games.

The following weekend, I played Senior British League for Wymondham. We play in the championship division, which is a predominately male League, there is only 1 other lady playing. We drew 1 match, and lost the other, I was pleased with how I played as I won 3 of my 4 matches.

February finished with the Senior National Championships held at Nottingham University. I had a really good Championships, I won a silver Medal in the women's Under 21's event, and a Bronze Medal in the senior Women's singles. I lost 4-2 in the semi finals to the number 1 seed Tin Tin Ho, who went on to win the National title for the 4th time. This match is available to watch on the BBC i-player. It is the first match on the Table Tennis National Championships 2020. I hope some of you will enjoy watching me in action.

The first weekend in March were the final matches in Sweden, we finished the league in 5th place, which our coach was really pleased with.

On the 14th and 15th March I played another weekend of Senior British league, as a team we won 1 and lost 2 matches, and I won 3 of my 6 matches, I am not sure if we will play the final weekend.

Little did I know but that would be my last tournament for many months, as we were put in lockdown shortly after, due to Covid 19. I decided to come back to Norfolk to be with my family just before lockdown, so that I could quarantine with them. During this time I have completed all my college work for the first year of my course. I managed to achieve D* in all my units which puts me in a great position ready to start my second year.

I have continued my physical programme from home and through the table tennis academy, we arranged group fitness and service practice sessions led by academy members including myself. We have also had additional meetings where we covered many different topics



including mental game training, publicity and future career paths. Team England also arranged fitness sessions (that I attended on Zoom) led by top European players including Liam Pitchford (former no.12 in the world and current England no.1) and Jörgen Persson (former world champion). All to try and be as ready as we can for when we are allowed to return to playing Table Tennis competitively.

I mentioned in my last article that I was applying for a sports work experience trip to Malta, I was overjoyed to find out that I had been picked and was looking forward to going over Easter. I was really looking forward to putting the skills I have learnt through my years of playing high level sport, and my course at Grantham college into practice in a working environment. However, also due to Covid 19 unfortunately this trip was cancelled, we are all hopeful we may be able to reschedule for next year.

I hope you are all keeping well, and that these uncertain times are not proving too difficult for you.

Many thanks for your continued support,
Mollie and Team Patterson



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New Cycling Club in West Norfolk

Richard Bird

Velouse Flyers are based, as the name implies, near the river Ouse at West Lynn Sports and Social Club. Their mission is to bring on the sports riders of the future to a standard that will make them safe, competitive and potential winners. Their motto, "For people who want to improve". The club was started about 18 months ago by some excellent sporting riders, who are still prepared to train and coach youngsters, while keeping their own personal fitness to a very high level.

Although this year has been made difficult by Covid 19 regulations the club meets regularly under strict rules every Monday for juniors and Tuesday for over 16-year olds or accompanied even younger riders for road training. There is a great spirit of camaraderie within the club with the youngsters and their coaches. They are looking to increase the club membership for both students and teachers.

Velouse club riders will be competing, Covid rules permitting, in the Muddy Monsters league, where riders up to 16 years old compete in age groups in off-road events known as Cyclocross. Next year will see the return of the Summer Road Race League, organised by Eastern Region British Cycling together with Time Trial events organised locally. There are numerous other activities available, cycling associated, and the club is keen to establish itself locally.

Chairman of the club and head coach Maciej Malyszka, is ably assisted by Peter Elsegood, Nigel Diamond and Tom Middleton, other volunteers are on hand to help out and many are taking the appropriate



coaching qualifications. Old Friend of this writer is Ken Roesner, who was on hand to introduce the club and its organisers. Ken is now 60 years old and holds a title of national champion for his age group, still incredibly fit with a background of most disciplines in cycling, he has inspirational experience. Ken is a phenomenal asset to any cycling organisation. For full details of the club's ambitions and achievements contact via www.velouseflyers.co.uk or try Facebook.

Go Ride by British Cycling say: "Whether it's a spin in the back garden, splashing through puddles in the park or tearing around a local pump track: cycling is an essential part of growing up".

"Embracing this approach, we created the HSBC UK Go-Ride programme - with over 350 children's cycling clubs helping thousands of young people enjoy the freedom of cycling and develop lifelong skills."

Photo above shows some of the young riders with their coaches.

Ken Roesnor is a National Champion

Ken Roesnor races for team Bush Healthcare (CRT) for Track and Road racing and he is also a member of the Velouse Flyers for time trials, and still a 2nd Claim member of King's Lynn Cycling Club.

A dozen years or so ago he rode for the Fatbirds Racing team and below left is a picture of him taken in 2008 when he was District Champion, including the 100 miles Champion and 12 hour Champion titles.

Ken won the National Jersey and gold medal in 2019 for the British Masters National Closed Circuit Road Race Championship in the 60-64 age category.

It was held on the Hillingdon Circuit in West London and he was presented with the jersey and medal on the day then he received his certificate at the British Cycling Champions dinner and presentation in February 2020 when Chris Hoy was the main guest speaker.

Ken is pictured below right in his Velouse National Jersey



Carol presented with leadership qualification

It was a lovely occasion on 6th August when Carol Smith, the leader of Hunstanton Rainbows, was presented with her Leadership Qualification by her District Commissioner Alirae Bunkle in the Sensory Gardens Hunstanton.

Carol completed the 4 modules of the qualification which is undertaken by all Guiding leaders. This involved Safe Space and First Aid amongst other requirements, as well as being able to give the girls in her unit interesting and fun meetings.

It's been a difficult time for all Guiding units as they have been unable to have their usual indoor meetings. Hopefully they will be able to return to these in the autumn providing permission is given, and they are able to conform to the necessary requirements for safe meetings.

Carol has space at Hunstanton Rainbows for girls aged 5 – 7. If your daughter is keen to join this lovely group and enjoy all the activities they provide just log on to: girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents and register your daughter and your enquiry will be directed to Carol. If you are interested in volunteering use the same website with /get involved as the subject.



Alirae Bunkle, District Commissioner for Smithdon & Brothecross presenting Carol with her badge and certificate.

West Norfolk Schools will be alive with The Sound of Music

Budding young musicians at schools across West Norfolk will have a chance to fulfil their potential in the autumn term after an announcement that instrumental musical lessons will be rolled out across more schools in the region – with the first term free of charge.

The project is funded by the Norfolk Music Hub and underwritten by The West Norfolk Academies Trust, which manages eleven primary and secondary schools. Socially-distanced pupil assessment will be carried out in the first term, with group sessions starting after that, and organisers hope they can even put together a virtual orchestra of young musicians from across the Trust's schools. Additional music teachers have already been recruited, and should the scheme prove to be a success, Rob Galliard, the Trust's Director of Primary Music hopes to expand it to more schools and more teaching hours later in the academic year.

"The initiative started in summer 2019 at the Trust's primary and junior schools, where string, woodwind and



brass lessons were made available," he said. "Now we're expanding the string and woodwind programmes into more of the schools that feed into our secondary schools, and we'll also be adding extra brass lessons at secondary school level for those who are making the move up this summer."

The idea for the expansion of music teaching came from Peter Strudwick, who is director of music at one of the Trust's

secondary schools, Springwood High.

"He was disappointed at the number of children coming up to Springwood who hadn't had the opportunity to start learning to play an orchestral instrument and were unable to feed into the school's musical community," explained Mr Galliard. "Andy Johnson, who is the executive head teacher of the Trust, had seen what a positive effect musical activity has in schools so

the decision was taken to increase the availability of lessons across all the schools." Headteachers across the Trust's schools appreciate the wider benefits of music lessons, Mr Galliard said, beyond just the skill of learning to play an instrument.

"Children can acquire skills that are not always accessible in the normal curriculum. The ability to work alone and then bring that to being part of a team, the need to 'get it right', and later the opportunity to show their musical skills can create a character-building sense of self worth. It's an entirely positive thing."

At the end of 2019, around 100 children from the Trust's schools played together at Springwood, and the plan is for something similar to happen, in virtual form, at the end of this year.

Mr Galliard continued: "Long term, the plan is for children at all the primary schools that feed into our high schools will be part of the scheme. Springwood has been alive with the sound of music for many years, so we look forward to that being seen and heard elsewhere as well."



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A Page from the Sage

Well here we are again with the Page from the Sage for September's Town and Around, issue 179. My first write up is about a gentleman who was a really well known person in West Norfolk – Major Jamieson who lived in Thornham. In the Second World War whilst fighting against the Germans he won the Victoria Cross (VC).

Major Jamieson V C Commander 7th Battalion Royal Norfolk Regiment

Over a critical 36 hour period, with fewer than 100 men, Major Jamieson's company of the Royal Norfolk Regiment repulsed seven violent counter attacks by heavily armed Panther and Tiger tanks; even when wounded in the eye and arm he refused to be evacuated and continued to command, calling for artillery support over his wireless and reorganising his steadily depleted company. Regardless of his personal safety and in full view of the enemy, he walked among his men encouraging them to hold their ground and by the evening of the second day the Germans withdrew leaving a ring of unburied dead and mangled tanks.

It was Major Jamieson's first action; on the 6th August 1944 three battalions of British infantry had crossed the Orme river south of Caen and occupied the far bank, Jamieson was in command of D Company of the 7th Battalion of the Royal Norfolk Regiment situated on the outskirts of the village of Grimosq. The following day the Germans launched a counter attack on the village and as they attacked they were attached by two anti-tank guns. "It was as if they did not realise we were there", recalled Jamieson, "and they gave our gunners a wonderful enfilade shoot, three Panther tanks were blasted to a halt."

Next morning the 6 foot 5 inch commander realised that the Germans would be back in force. "I was determined that we would hang on, but I was worried", he was to recall. "My concern was that everyone would skit and run, it was not a happy position to be in." The company defending their right had been swallowed up by constant counter attacks, and there were reports of German tanks approaching from the rear. Jamieson's position seemed almost untenable. As the morning haze gave way to a brilliant day of sun, on 8th August Jamieson's already bleak position deteriorated alarmingly as both his anti-tank guns were taken out by devastating shell fire; German infantry advanced under cover of their tanks then the close quarter fighting became brutal and one platoon was overrun. Jamieson rallied his diminishing force to an orchard which was immediately fiercely attacked. Some hope was offered when three Churchill tanks of the Armoured Corps took up the battle, but to Jamieson's dismay they motored directly into the line of fire of a concealed

by
Dick Melton
01485 535658

enemy tank. Jamieson tried desperately to signal to the tank commander but to no avail, he then ran and tried to reach the phone at the back of the tank but he could not get through. Ignoring incoming fire he clambered onto the tank as he did so an armour-piercing shell drilled a hole through the driver's compartment. Jamieson was thrown off, peppered with shrapnel and badly shaken, yet with his eye roughly patched up and his arm in a sling he knew that as the sole surviving officer he was desperately needed by his men.

He gathered his by now sorely depleted company to meet what he considered would be the final onslaught, but the enemy who had already launched seven counter attacks and had sustained heavy losses thought better of it and switched their attention to the Canadians who were advancing towards Falaise. This proved to be an unwise move for the Germans. Throughout this intense battle Jamieson's inspired leadership, defiance and skillful handling of his artillery and his men prevented the advance of the enemy. At one point in the worst of the bombardment he saw a frightened soldier leave his trench. He recalled: "I drew my revolver and pointed it at him telling him to get back in his hole, he was a nice young fellow but I was worried if one went back the others would follow." After the battle and reaching the first aid post and having his wounds attended to, he fell asleep for 48 hours.

Of his award of the Victoria Cross he once modestly said: "It was certainly not personally deserved, it was won by a group of men in a tight position." The final part of his citation reads: "Throughout this 36 hours of bitter and close fighting and despite the pain of his wounds Major Jamieson showed superb qualities of leadership and great personal bravery; there were times when the position seemed hopeless, but on each occasion it was restored by his coolness and determination he personally was largely responsible for the holding of this important bridgehead over the River Orme and the repulse of seven German counter attacks with great loss to the enemy."



Development

In the Lynn News on Friday 26th June there were planning applications for building, the first one is land at Southend Road/Seagate for the construction of 32 apartments with associated access, cycle store, infrastructure and landscaping. Next is Hunstanton Bus Station, St Edmund's Terrace, construction of library, retail unit, public conveniences and 49 apartments with associated infrastructure and landscaping including demolition of existing buildings. Now we go to Valentine Road where some of the Valentine centre is to be made into a temporary public library; at the present time there are about 5,000 people living in Hunstanton and by the time of the next census in 2021 it will be over 6,000.

I could see no planning in the paper for a new medical centre/surgery, full size swimming pool and leisure centre, new school and the most important thing a new promenade, by the time all of this new building work gets done there will be no room for a new railway station, and of course all the money for the sale of this land will go to West Norfolk Council to be spent in Kings Lynn.

Coal Shed

After a lot of write ups in the press people asked me about the Coal Shed and the information bureau at the front of the Town Hall which is now being closed down and a temporary bureau being opened in the Coal Shed close to Le Strange Terrace on the corner of the old goods yard but this bureau will not be maned, it will just be opened so many hours a day. The first information bureau I can remember was in the old Sandringham Hotel along with the library; when the Sandringham Hotel was demolished in 1967 the bureau was then operated from a small cabin/hut on the corner of the Sandringham Hotel site next to the Harlequin Bar, then in 1984 when Harlequin House shopping centre was built the information bureau was moved into the front of the Princess Theatre before it moved to the Town Hall.

Now what about this so-called Coal Shed in the old station yard, yes you are right it never was a coal shed if you want to see a proper coal shed there is one on the marsh at Thornham. Where the coal shed is at Hunstanton on the eastern side, this was the goods yard with cattle pens and an end loading bay. When the railway first came to Hunstanton this goods yard was very busy and it kept on being busy 'till after the Second World War - there were many more farmers in the area those days and they used the goods trains for transporting many things, like sugar beet, corn, cattle, sheep and potatoes. The things that came into the goods yard were seed potatoes from Scotland and farm machinery, a lot of shellfish like cockles and mussels went to London by train but they went

in the goods van on an ordinary passenger train. In 1870 the gas works were built on the Tesco garage site so a branch line went across Southend Road to take the wagons of coke into the gas works and a level crossing was constructed in Southend Road.

A lot of coal came into Hunstanton; for many years these coal trucks would be shunted up a siding on the western side of the station yard, just here in Seagate Road was the coal yard, in this yard were big bunkers where the different grades of coal were kept before they were bagged up, for many years the coal was shoveled off by hand but then they had side tipping wagons, the old coal shed was used by railway clerks and shunters, the clerks would write out the tickets give the tickets to the shunters who would put the ticket in a wire holder on the end of the wagon which told the shunters which goods train the wagon had to be shunted to and where it was going, so that's a little story about our coal shed that's now going to be a information bureau.

Bert Wells and his mobile cinema

How many people in Hunstanton can remember Bert Wells who at one time had two shellfish stalls on the promenade? Bert was born in Northamptonshire and when he was thirteen he left school and went to work in a factory in Birmingham helping to make electrical appliances, then his parents moved

to Hunstanton where they bought a boarding house and Bert moved down with them, Bert got a job with a Mr Bernasni who ran the Mikado picture house, this cinema which had a capacity of 200 and stood on the site where the Waterside is now. There was also on that site a fish and chip shop and a fancy goods shop, unfortunately there was a fire and all the buildings on the site got burned down, no one died in the fire, but it was never found out what caused the fire.

Bert knew a bit about the cinema so he decided to take the cinema to the people, he bought an old truck and two generators as there was no electricity in the villages. Bert booked a few village halls and started out on his venture, on a Monday he went to Snettisham, Tuesdays Docking, Wednesdays Dersingham and on Fridays he was at Heacham. Bert charged sixpence, nine pence and one shilling for adults depending where they sat, children were charged three pence and they could sit on the floor at the front.

Of course all of the films were black and white, there would be a main film, a news reel and of course a serial that went on for many weeks, Bert's wife took the money and his brother-in law Bob Large was the projectionist. Bert's black and white films cost him £4 a reel, but after the Second World War when the talkies and colour films came about the price of a reel went up to £15, Bert put the

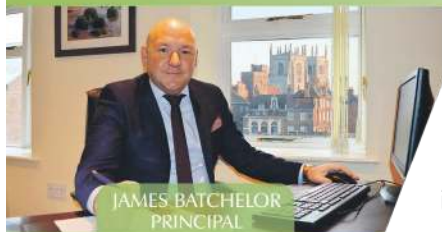
price of the seats up but that did not work as you could go to the Capitol Cinema at Hunstanton and sit on a nice soft seat for less, so in the late fifties 'Bert the picture man' packed up his mobile picture job and went to work for over 20 years for the Eastern Electric Company in Gaywood King's Lynn. Bert was also a volunteer fireman with the Hunstanton Brigade, and he and his wife also ran two shell fish stalls on the promenade at Hunstanton. When Bert packed up, Bob went to the Capital cinema in Hunstanton where he worked for many years,

Another man that ran film shows around the villages was Mr Ernest Swain from Hunstanton; he would come to the Forester Hall in Manor Road Dersingham, I think Ernest and Bert got together and made sure they were not in the same village on the same night, if I am right I think a Mr Ray Hunt from Snettisham also went around the villages with a mobile film show. In the last five or six years mobile film shows have come back to the villages but it is not like years ago when most of the films were either about cowboys and Indians or war films.

Well that's the lot for now from The Boy Dick (The Sage) from Sunny Hunny.

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NORFOLK HOLIDAY HOMES

Hunstanton Tourist Information Centre – Shambles

The Hunstanton and District Civic Society survey of businesses in Hunstanton on the subject of the closure of the Tourist Information Centre, which has kindly been passed around all businesses in the town and beyond, has 72 very valid and honest comments in it and the last point just says it all: *“This closure of TIC at the Town Hall is a DISGRACE. The Tic is an important and focal point of the town for both locals and visitors. The jewel in the crown of West Norfolk without a Tic fit for purpose, and all without any prior consultation with locals or visitors, was just rail-roaded through. SHAMBLES, SHAME ON YOU HUNSTANTON TOWN COUNCIL”*. No doubt there are many more comments that local people and visitors would like to add. We have heard many in our office. In fact is the subject of a large discussion with our holidaymakers and owners upon their arrival to the town. **They are shocked, disgusted and appalled.**

Being on a popular foot fall corner in the town and offering holidays, we always have a lot of people calling in and asking various questions. We try to help as we all know the area and if not we always sent them down the road to the TIC fully confident that their questions would be answered by someone who could help further. **No more.**

For a very popular tourist and day tripper destination, it is appalling that there is no-one available to offer a personal, friendly service and advice in order to enjoy their stay further. The staff were very knowledgeable, approachable and always willing to go the extra mile to help. Such a busy seaside town needs to provide this service to the public traveller plus to the locals whenever they need information too. It is the first place visitors head for. A Tourist Information Centre or Visitors Centre is in fact the first place any tourist heads for when on holiday abroad or in this country. **Not in Hunstanton.**

The influx of visitors to the area after 4 July, all desperate to escape their lockdown homes expected to find a reliable source of information about local attractions and facilities, especially as Covid 19 has taken over and commanding rules and regulations. **They were disappointed.**

How can the council expect businesses to thrive if there is no-one on hand to help and point people in the right direction, especially in our current Covid 19 circumstances when all trades are suffering? We all rely on people visiting us to keep us going. **The town will suffer.**

A very good point is the key to the disabled toilets too. I won't get started on that one.

It has all been said. It has hit the press. Reports and points have all been made. Businesses have completed surveys. So there must be someone out there or a handful of people, even the amazing helpful staff who used to run the TIC, who would be interested in starting up their own TIC. Leaflets are easy to get from businesses. Maybe a small solid 'pop up' marquee placed in an appropriate place would be a start with a few volunteers. Needs a lot of thought and nothing is ever easy, but getting a much needed TIC back into the town and starting afresh maybe a good idea. There is always funding out there if you dig deep to look for it. Where there is a will, there is a way and that has been proved a lot since the virus interfered with our lives. I may have sown the seed.....**From little acorns.....**

Sandra Hohol, Norfolk Holiday Homes

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James Batchelor comments on 'Mortgage Prisoners'

A Mortgage Prisoner is:

Someone who finds themselves unable to remortgage/refinance their existing property. The net result of this situation is that their existing finance deal keeps them "Prisoner" in their current home.

The reasons that a person may find themselves a mortgage prisoner are many and varied. Regardless of the path that leads to becoming a mortgage prisoner, the end result is always the same. That individual or family are tied to their home. This can have a seriously detrimental effect on a persons prospects, finances and mental well being.

A group of MPs are lobbying the government to help around 170,000 mortgage prisoners trapped on high interest rates.

LibDem, Conservative and Labour MPs have signed a joint letter to the Chancellor, calling for various actions including a cap on standard variable rate margins, and other changes to enable mortgage prisoners to switch to a cheaper deal.

They have joined up with the UK Mortgage Prisoners group, which has been campaigning for 18 months to help mortgage borrowers who have been penalised by circumstances since the financial crisis of 2008.

The letter outlines the financial hardship for mortgage customers that find themselves in this situation.

In October 2019, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) changed the affordability rules to allow banks and building societies to help mortgage prisoners, but the UK Mortgage Prisoners Group claimed that no lenders have utilised these changes yet.

Rishi Sunak from UK Mortgage Prisoners states: "Mortgage prisoners are being exploited, by regulated Lenders and unregulated vulture funds by being held on high standard variable rates".

Rachel Neale, lead campaigner at UK Mortgage Prisoners, said: "The Treasury has asked banks and building societies to follow the FCA's easing of the affordability assessment, but because they've made it voluntary, no banks or building societies have taken up the new affordability assessment".

The FCA is also now trying to resolve the issue for mortgage prisoners through other channels. Recently, the regulator launched a call for mortgage intermediaries who will consult with mortgage prisoners to help them identify opportunities and re-mortgage where possible, or signpost them to additional support such as debt advice.

The FCA said it hopes to see as many lenders as possible provide opportunities to switch mortgages.

James Batchelor is the Principal of Barrett Batchelor Mortgage Services LLP, and can be contacted on 01553 692800. www.barrettbatchelor.co.uk

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Hunstanton Lifeboat Station news

Geoff Needham, LPO

Saturday 13th July at 7.15 p.m. UK Coastguard requested launch of Hunstanton RNLI Lifeboat to report of kite surfer in difficulty off Old Hunstanton beach. Hunstanton volunteer RNLI crew launched on service, and quickly had the surfer, a 26 years old male safely on board the lifeboat, and landed him and his gear at the station, no medical assistance was required. High Water. Saturday 4.46 p.m. Wind. S.W.2 Sea state slight. Vis. good.

Friday 17th July at 14.55 p.m. UK Coastguard requested launch of Hunstanton RNLI Lifeboat to reports of persons cut off by tide at Brancaster. Hunstanton Lifeboat launched and proceeded to Brancaster, five persons were located at Titchwell, having crossed the Titchwell channel while walking from Brancaster, on returning the tide was flooding in the channel and they were unable to cross, they were not in danger but faced a long walk via the bird reserve back to Brancaster. To prevent further problems, Hunstanton crew transported them across the channel into the care of the local coastguard response team. H.W. 4.56 p.m. Wind.W.2. Weather Sunshine/cloud. Vis. Good. Sea state. Slight.

Thursday 23rd July at 4p.m. UK Coastguard requested launch of Hunstanton RNLI Hovercraft to assist in the search for two missing children at Brancaster. Hunstanton volunteer crew launched on service and proceeded to Brancaster, as they approached Holme they were stood down as children had been found safe and well, and could return to station. At 6.05 p.m. UK Coastguard requested launch of Hunstanton RNLI Hovercraft to reports of persons cut off by tide at Brancaster. Hunstanton RNLI crew launched and proceeded to Brancaster Scolt Head Island, on arrival two adults and two children were taken on board the Hovercraft and landed on the beach into the care of the local coastguard response team. As the Hovercraft was about to return to station. A report came in that two horse riders were also cut off on the Island at Burnham Overy end of island. As H-003 headed to Burnham end of island it was reported that the riders and horses had made it across the channel and were now safe. H-003 could return to station.

Saturday 25th July UK Coastguard requested launch of Hunstanton Hovercraft, to two jet Skis aground on the banks off Snettisham. Hunstanton Hovercraft launched and proceeded to area. Where it was confirmed the skiers were waiting for the tide to flood and they could return to shore, they were all right and well equipped for their activity. Hunstanton Hovercraft could return to station. H.W 11.33 p.m. Wind W 2 Vis. Good Sea state Slight. Weather. Sunshine/ Cloud.

Friday July 31st at 10.30 A.M. UK Coastguard requested launch to report of inflatable being blown out to sea opposite the lighthouse at Hunstanton. Hunstanton Lifeboat launched and proceeded to area, on arrival it was confirmed no persons with it, Lifeboat recovered inflatable and a further 4 inflatables were recovered by the lifeboat as they checked area. Lifeboat returned to station, they were requested to go to Brancaster to reports of a power boat broken down, two persons on it. On arrival, the power boat was taken in tow to meet up with Skegness lifeboat and hand over the tow to them as the powerboat had left from the Lincolnshire coast earlier. On returning to station a further 3 inflatables were recovered having blown out to sea, making a total of 7. Advice To visitors do not use inflatable dinghies or inflatable toys in tidal waters. H.W. 4.47 p.m. Wind. W.3. Weather. Sunshine. Vis.

Good Sea State Slight.

Saturday August 1st at 1.15p.m. Coastguard requested launch to report of persons cut off by tide at Scolt Head Brancaster. Hunstanton Lifeboat launched, on arrival at scene it was confirmed 16 persons were on Island, two persons made their own way back to shore, 14 persons were evacuated into the care of the local CG response team. H.W. 5.54. p.m.

Sunday 2nd August Hunstanton Hovercraft launched to report of persons cut off by tide at Scolt Head Brancaster. Hovercraft H-003 launched and proceeded to area, on arrival at scene it was confirmed 10 persons including a child, and one dog were on the Island. These people were taken on board Hovercraft and landed on beach into the care of the local coastguard response team. H.W. 6.48. p.m. Wind. W. 3. Weather. Sunshine/Cloud. Vis. Good Sea state Slight.

Friday 7th August at 6.50p.m. UK Coastguard requested launch of Hunstanton RNLI Lifeboat to reports of 2 persons cut off by tide at Scolt Head Island. Brancaster. Hunstanton Lifeboat proceeded to Brancaster and located the casualties. They were taken on board the lifeboat and landed on to the beach into the care of the local coastguard response team.

Sunday 2nd August at 1.30 p.m. UK Coastguard requested launch of Hunstanton Lifeboat to reports of people in the water at Brancaster and shouting for help, these people were assisted by other members of the public to the shore, and the boat was stood down before launching, no details of this incident, but visitors are reminded about swimming in the channel, strong tidal currents can soon overtake you, stay calm and float to live. H.W.10.00p.m. Wind. S.W.1 Weather Sunshine Vis. Good Sea state slight.

Friday 7th August at 6.50p.m. UK Coastguard requested launch of Hunstanton RNLI Lifeboat to reports of 2 persons cut off by tide at Scolt Head Island. Brancaster. Hunstanton Lifeboat proceeded to Brancaster and located the casualties. They were taken on board the lifeboat and landed on to the beach into the care of the local coastguard response team. The lifeboat was then released to return to station. H.W.10.00. p.m. Wind. S.W.1 Weather Sunshine Vis. Good Sea state slight

Respect the water campaign and advice to Holiday makers, Tidal waters have strong tidal currents, especially the approaches to the harbours. General coastal safety tips. 1. Check the Weather and tide times. 2. Read signs. Be aware of local hazards, ie; sandbanks. Channels Strong tidal currents. 3. Carry means of calling for help. 4. If you see someone in danger dial 999 or 112 and ask for the Coastguard who will page us.

The RNLI charity saves lives at sea. Its volunteers provide a 24-hour search and rescue service around the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland coasts. The RNLI operates over 238 lifeboat stations in the RNLI UK and Ireland and, *in a normal year*, more than 240 lifeguard units on beaches around the UK and Channel Islands. The RNLI is independent of Coastguard and government and depends on voluntary donations and legacies to maintain its rescue service. Since the RNLI was founded in 1824, its lifeboat crews and lifeguards have saved over 142,700 lives.

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Hunstanton blogger raises £2000 for Lifeboat Station

Andy Clifton has donated £2000 to Hunstanton Lifeboat Station raised by an appeal to his blog followers.

Soon after the lockdown started Andy, a fifty nine year old father of three, used his daily exercise period to record a video blog around the town concentrating on the popular areas of the promenade and beach, the fairground and old railway line.



Andy Clifton 'blogging' on the beach in Old Hunstanton



From left: Lewis Cleland, Ryan Darby, Jon Butler and Roger Smith. With the cheque are Jo Jutsum and Andy Clifton

He saw the hovercraft going out on rescues and when talking to his friend Jon Butler who is a crew member he learned there had been three call-outs that day. This news made him set up an appeal with a target of £500 - this was reached in just a few hours - and two weeks later it had reached £2000.

Sadly, Andy's mother Betty died during lockdown, she was 94 and had tested positive for COVID-19.

Back at work at the town's Princess Theatre, Andy continues to record blogs on his days off and his fundraising page remains open at [justgiving.com/crowdfunding/andrew-clifton](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/andrew-clifton)

Photos: Ian Burt



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Duchess of Cambridge volunteers at Baby Basics in Dersingham

On Tuesday 4 of August HRH The Duchess of Cambridge launched a new initiative with Baby Basics, Little Village and Abernecessities, following on from a private volunteering visit to her local branch of the national Baby Basics charity at St Nicholas' Church in Dersingham. The Duchess has brought together 19 British brands to donate items to support Baby Banks across the UK.

In May, The Duchess of Cambridge expressed a desire to see what happened "at the sharp end" of this organisation that supports expectant or new mothers. Maggie Anderson Co-Lead of Baby Basics West Norfolk explains: "The Duchess requested to volunteer with myself and a Health Professional to build a Moses Basket, ready to be delivered to a mum in need. During the visit she asked lots of questions and thoroughly enjoyed herself. Whilst it was exciting, because of social distancing requirements, it took a lot of organising and numerous telephone calls to ensure this private visit could take place."

Following on from this in June, at the Duchess' request, HRH met with two mothers and their babies who had previously received a filled Baby Basics Moses Basket. Over an informal afternoon tea, the Duchess heard their stories and how Baby Basics had helped them when they needed it most.

The Duchess of Cambridge said: "Over recent months, I have heard from families who have been supported by baby banks through the most difficult of times and I have been deeply moved by their stories. Having somewhere to turn to for support is important for all families, and baby banks work every day, up and down the country, to provide immediate, tangible and practical help for parents and carers when they are most in need."

"Baby banks are driven by incredible volunteers, demonstrating the power of community spirit in supporting families and coming together to raise the next generation. Thanks to the generosity of the companies taking part in this initiative, baby banks across the UK will be able to support even more families through this particularly challenging time."

Following several private visits to Baby Basics West Norfolk, The Duchess spearheaded a drive for donation of items for babies and toddlers from brands and high street retailers.

The Revd Mark Capron, Rector of St Nicholas Church Dersingham said: "It is wonderful that HRH has chosen to support this local Christian Charity. The Duchess is aware that sadly there are many babies who arrive into the world where there is so little. The Baby Basics Moses basket offers an expression of God's love and hope to new and precious lives as they begin their journey in this world; a



journey's beginning that to some degree echoes Jesus who was born in a humble place, being laid in a manger. The Duchess of Cambridge's involvement is will raise the profile of the wonderful work done by Baby Basics, and in doing so will support all those who need it most."

On hearing of the Duchess' care and involvement with Baby Basics, The Rt Revd Graham Usher, Bishop of Norwich said: "I am delighted that HRH The Duchess of Cambridge has supported the outreach work of St Nicholas' Church in Dersingham by filling a Moses basket. The arrival of a new baby should be a time of joy and delight, but for some women it can be a time of huge vulnerability. I pray that the gift of a basket of items will support them and encourage them so that they can delight in the remarkable gift of a new life."

Snettisham 2021 Calendars for sale

Photographer Jon Clifton has produced a 2021 wall calendar for his home village of Snettisham. The calendar features a selection of images ranging from stunning beach sunsets to winter scenes on the common.

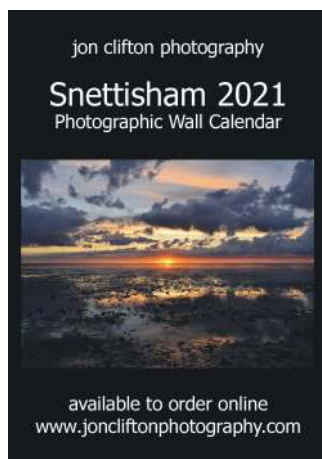
Jon says: "Every time I head out with my camera, I seem to find something new to photograph. The calendar has been created as a celebration of this beautiful village."

Since sales started in July, calendars have shipped across Europe and as far away as New York. Along with overseas sales, Jon has enjoyed delivering locally and talking to residents who share his love for Snettisham.

The calendar is A3 in size when opened and each one comes with a cardboard envelope for gift

purposes. £10 includes free local delivery to village residents or £11.99 includes 1st class postage.

Calendars are available to order online from: www.joncliftonphotography.com



Dersingham Open Gardens 2020

What a strange time we are all living through at the moment! So, knowing how much you have missed us and to give you the excitement of putting something into your diary, Dersingham Open Gardens is back! We will be opening our gardens on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th September 11am-5pm.

Governments guidelines on Covid-19 will be in place, which may mean some of our gardens are not suitable for opening. However, we aim to give you a great couple of days. It is the first time we have opened later in the year, although it has been suggested before. It will mean that all visitors will have the excitement of seeing the gardens looking very different to usual. It will also be a wonderful opportunity to see how our gardens have fared as our gardeners will have had a lot more time to devote to them. I know that we have had some of our usual problems with muntjac and moles, and the dry Spring.

Tickets will be £5 on the door and refreshments will be served in the Village Centre on both days. Governments guidelines on Covid-19 will be in place. Proceeds will be shared between St Nicholas Church and the Village Centre. We look forward to seeing you then!



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Changing spaces

It's a year like no other, but what do the coming months hold, asks West Norfolk Glass' managing director Geoff Parker

Wow, what a scorcher of a summer. While there's still a hope of an Indian summer to follow, we can't complain about the weather we've experienced this year, and as more of us staycationed in the wake of COVID-19, we've been lucky so far.

Of course there is climate change to consider and the experts tell us we are likely to experience more extremes of temperature in the future. Why am I focusing on weather, you may be asking...

Well, glazing is a fundamental element in the way we keep our homes temperate year-round. Double glazing not only helps to keep the cold out and in turn reducing the energy needed to heat your home, but also helps to reduce heat gain by up to 30 per cent compared to single-glazed windows. We've all heard the tips about keeping windows and curtains closed on the hottest days to keep rooms cool – it sounds counter-intuitive but it works, so give it a go next time the mercury rises.



This month is typically a busy one for us as homeowners get on with those home improvements they've been thinking about, ahead of the weather turning cooler. This has truly been an extraordinary year and, in truth, post-lockdown enquiries have kept us extremely busy. However, as I always do, I urge you to step outside – umbrella in hand – on a rainy day and spot check for signs of water damage to fascias and masonry from leaky gutters and poorly fitting windows and doors. It could just save you expensive repairs at a later stage.

There has been much talk in the news about the Government's



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initiatives to fast-track home extensions. As helpful as these schemes are intended to be, the pressure they might add to waiting lists if people delay plans until well into the season may leave some homeowners disappointed and waiting for work to be done to their home. It's an interesting area to watch but as recent events have shown us, sometimes it's best to just get on with things while we can.

As always, if you have any questions about home improvements, our team is here to help – we are working with the Government's recommended COVID-19 safety measures in place, and are happy to visit you in your home or by appointment at our Hereford Way showroom.

West Norfolk Glass, Hereford Way, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE30 4JD, tel: 01553 763164, westnorfolkglass.co.uk

KING'S LYNN FESTIVAL CHORUS – STILL SINGING

Nick Torry

Like many organisations, the Covid-19 lockdown from our activities in March and the cancellation of St Matthew Passion in April was a huge blow and disappointment.

However, after the initial shock, members of the Festival Chorus have taken advantage of technology. And thanks to our tech experts Mike Walker and Jim McGarrick, we have continued singing in the virtual world, producing a 'finished product' almost every week. Many of them may be heard on our website www.kingslynnfestivalchorus.co.uk where you may also contact us through the 'Contact' page too.

After a summer break we begin our new season on Sept 14th, holding regular weekly rehearsals online led by Ben Horden, our Assistant Music Director who has himself run a successful virtual 'Sing-in' over the holiday period.

With numerous scenarios still unknown, the programme for the new term is fluid and flexible. Nevertheless the central work for detailed

study this term is Handel's Messiah, well known and well loved by so many. We hope that it won't be too long before we can meet up physically, enjoy the camaraderie and mental wellbeing that comes with singing together, as well as meeting our supportive audience community again.

If you would like to receive our quarterly newsletter, please register through our 'Contacts' page on our website, on Facebook or on Twitter @kl_festchorus



Free admission to Fenland Aviation Museum for all NHS, Police and Fire Service personnel

As a way of saying thank you to those of you that have helped keep the community safe Fenland Aviation Museum are offering free admission to all NHS, Police and Fire Service personnel on production of an ID card.

The museum has lots to see including complete aircraft, Cockpits and other displays. It also has a number of displays from local WW2 crash sites with the stories and details of the crews. Some survived and sadly other did not.

There is a one-way system in place and hand sanitisers on site. Please remember to take a face mask for your visit. There is a quiz for younger visitors for £1 and they get a prize at the end.

For those not in the emergency services the museum is still open to all and for just £3 an adult, £2 for 14 to 17yrs and under 14's free. It is a great way to spend a couple of hours.

Fenland Aviation Museum is open Wednesdays at 1pm, Saturdays at 9am and Sundays from 10am. Each day closing at 4pm with last entry at 3pm.

To find the museum use the postcode PE14 7DA and follow the signs from the A47 and it is on the left behind Windows 2000 or if



coming through Wisbech, on the right between KNOWLES haulage and WORZALS Bar and Grill. More information can be found on the website: <https://www.fenlandaviationmuseum.org.uk/>

Hunstanton Soap Box Derby 2020 cancelled

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and attempts to reduce the spread of the virus it has been decided to cancel the Searles Soap Box Derby in Hunstanton this year.

50 home-made karts were scheduled to be racing down the streets of Hunstanton on 20 September 2020. The decision to cancel the event is due to government guidelines on social distancing and rules on large gatherings.

A statement from the Borough Council said: "Many borough council organised events have already been cancelled or postponed and it is hugely disappointing to be cancelling the soap box derby this year but the health and safety of the public is our priority."

Paul Searle from Searles Leisure Resorts added: "I am very disappointed that this year's event has been cancelled, an event we have been main sponsors of since its reintroduction. It has proved a great success, given a lot of joy to the soap box racers and the spectators who enjoy the friendly competition. "The soap box has also given both the competitors and local fundraisers an opportunity to raise money for local good causes as the spectators are always generous in their support of our town. When it returns in 2021 we hope to see an even bigger event, building on the successes of the last few years."



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Round the bend with Dean Baker

There are few certainties at this the most uncertain of times
If its September then this must be Doug or its September already!

September heralds a week that is celebrated annually and, unlike so many of our cherished traditions, can continue unabated in this strange year.

The 14th – 20th September 2020 is – lights down – drum roll – Gas Safety Week!

This week is dedicated to encouraging people to have their gas appliances checked by qualified gas engineers.

Here are the top tips from this exciting week of 'all things gas':

1. Get your gas appliances checked annually
2. Check your engineer is Gas Safe registered
3. Check that your engineer is qualified for the type of gas work you need doing.



Regular readers, will be familiar with Doug, he's a plumber too and the gas safety week mascot.

You can find a registered gas safe engineer in your area at GasSafeRegister.co.uk. Only plumbers on this register are qualified to touch your appliances! (there's a joke in there somewhere!)

This week is also to remind tenants to ask for a copy of the Landlord's Gas Safety Record. Holiday let landlords and letting agents are obliged to provide a Gas Safety Record on demand.

Its estimated that up to 1 in 6 homes has an unsafe gas appliance. At this point in the article, it's worth listing domestic

gas appliances - under floor heating, central heating, a gas heat pump, a gas air conditioner, gas fireplace and of course a gas fire.

If you haven't had your boiler or any other gas appliance serviced this year, now, is the time. The weather is still mild you can nip outside while the plumber checks your boiler. Then set a reminder for next year – its important.

The final recommendation from Gas Safety Week is that you install an audible carbon monoxide alarm and test it regularly. I would further add that it's very important to buy from a reputable retailer and look to pay at least £15.

Well, that's it from Doug for another year and Dean for another month.

Carry on staying safe
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Debbie celebrates her 60th with a gift to the Stroke Association

Debbie Peel, a volunteer at the Hunstanton Stroke Group, set up a fundraiser for her 60th Birthday in aid of the National Stroke Association and our local Coastal Stroke Support group. Debbie asked for donations instead of gifts from family and friends. Debbie was delighted to be able to present the Stroke Association with a cheque for £425.00! (A donation was also made to the Stroke Association in Canada, home to her sister, whose husband suffered a Stroke last Christmas).

In "normal" times the Hunstanton Group meets every Tuesday at 10.30am at Hunstanton Methodist Church. Stroke survivors and volunteers are welcomed with coffee and biscuits and enjoy to sit and chat, also take part in the activities on offer! The weekly programme offers an opportunity to join a variety of different groups, from Art and Crafts to keeping fit to music and a calmer space for relaxation. During the year outings and other events are offered. The monies raised by Debbie will contribute towards these activities.

If you think that you would be interested and enjoy joining our Hunstanton Group either as a Stroke Survivor or a Volunteer, contact Gemma Smith Tel: 01366 377803 Mobile: 07515 596953

Stroke Helpline: Tel: 0300 3033 100

Website: Stroke.org.uk

(The Hunstanton Group is hopeful of re-opening during October, check local press for updates!).



Debbie Peel, (right) & Hilary Jennings
Hunstanton Stroke Group Volunteers

V J Day commemorated in Hunstanton

The laying of wreaths by Hunstanton's Mayor Cllr Tony Bishopp and Royal British Legion Branch Chairman Simon Matthews and a two minute silence at 11am at Hunstanton's War Memorial in the Esplanade Gardens on 15th August commemorated those servicemen who lost their lives outside Europe during the Second World War.

Anthony Jewell read the names of those lost from Hunstanton: Private Sydney Reginald Crown, Private Peter William Framingham, Private Robert Thomas Thorne, Gunner Robert Thomas Crown, Sergeant Colin Lahiff and from Old Hunstanton: Lance Corporal Frank Wilfred Sandford Beaton, Wing Commander John Hardwicke Cuthbert Hunter.

The Royal British Legion Standard was lowered and a two minute silence was observed by locals and holidaymakers in the gardens.



Ted and June Barrett

Amongst the gathering were former service people including Ted Barrett who with wife June has created a VJ Day display on the fence at their home in Butterfield Rise. This tells the stories of local men who served outside Europe during World War Two. T & A reported their work on the VE Day display in May and they were keen to complete the project with the stories from the Far East.

One of the men commemorated here is



Socially distanced gathering at the War Memorial



Anthony Jewell

Leslie Gould (better known as Les) who survived the war having served in South Africa, India and Burma. He was attached to the 14th Army that helped recapture Rangoon on May 2nd 1945. After the war he married and had six daughters, the youngest, Ruby, is a neighbour of Ted and June's on the Butterfield Meadows Estate and she helped write his history for the project. Les died in 1999.

Neighbouring villages lost men too; from

Ringstead there was Private Sidney Henry Large, and from Heacham: Private George R Howe, Private Leslie Frederick Howard, Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Calthrop Thorne, Flight Lieutenant John Stenton, Corporal Owen Robert Vincent Green, Gunner George Edward Anderson, 2nd Class Aircraftman Donald Arthur Barrett, First Radio Officer Sydney Cubitt Matthew Patrick, Driver Frank William Martin.

The Barking Bugle signs up a new recruit



Thursday, July 16th, will forever remain a special day in the Barking Bugle household. It was on this day that we travelled to the suburbs of Cardiff in order to re-home an ex puppy farm doggy. We had been alerted by 'Many Tears Animal Rescue', based in South Wales, that there was a possibility of adopting a 6 year old ruby Cavalier King Charles Spaniel. We had a rigorous home check by the rescue organisation beforehand to see if we would make suitable pawrents. We were very impressed by their professionalism, as this is such an important decision to make. We were then referred to the little doggy's foster mother who lives just outside Cardiff.

We were so excited travelling up to South Wales and loved the cute pictures we had seen of our prospective new family member. As soon as we arrived we instantly fell in love with her. At the time she only weighed 4.3 kilos which is minuscule - this must surely have made her one of the lightest adult Cavaliers in the UK! Sadly she had to have most of her teeth extracted the week before but she looked a happy and confident dog with a very waggy tail. She endeared herself to us immediately and what she lacks in size she certainly makes up for with oodles of character! The foster family had to check that we were suitable people to adopt as well and we were delighted when we were told we had passed the test.

On the long journey home in our camper van she never once fell asleep, enthralled by all the new smells and noises around her! Once at home she took no time to sniff every nook and cranny of our house and garden. This was to be her brand new home! The next day we took her to the vets for a health check. Overbreeding, poor nutrition and a lack of the most basic veterinary care had all contributed to the poor condition of her teeth. Her ears were red and inflamed and she had mites.

What is a Puppy Farmer?

A puppy farmer is someone who breeds puppies with absolutely little or no regard for the health and welfare of the puppies or their parents. The main intent is to make as much money as possible. There are many welfare

problems associated with these puppy farms, including long-term health and/or behavioural issues, as a result of the squalid conditions they are bred in and a lack of socialisation. It is a cruel and evil practice!

Lucy's Law, named after a Cavalier Kings Charles Spaniel who herself was puppy farmed, has banned the sale of kittens and puppies from third parties in England from Spring 2020, making buyers deal with breeders directly. Sadly many barbaric puppy farms continue to

operate throughout the UK.

We have decided to call our latest family member Miss Zsa Zsa Gapaw, who is currently being trained up to be the next Barking Bugle repawter! She has settled in so well and I have been getting on with her brilliantly. She is an absolute delight and we are thrilled to have her in our family.

We really hope that more and more dogs can be adopted from rescue homes - it is such a rewarding experience and the sheer joy of giving a dog a happy home is incredibly satisfying. Our dream would be for many, many furry friends, not just dogs, to be adopted and given the chance to lead a happy and stimulating life like Miss Zsa Zsa is now experiencing. We continue to hope that puppy farms around the world cease trading - please, please, please do not buy an animal from such an evil place. By doing so you are merely propagating this evil practice!

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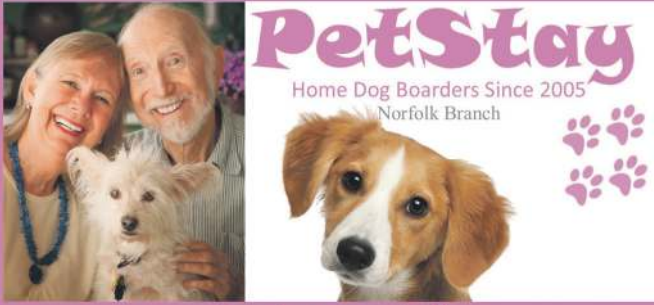


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Hi T&A readers from Glenn Perkins at Norfolk Decor

Us again from NDL - Norfolk Decor Ltd in our third year of trading..

Just a quick update from 18 months ago when we last had a write up. Wanted let you all know that have we have survived the pandemic safely and are still trading thanks to the government for the financial help that was given to us, and generally we seem as busy as before lockdown which is great news.

As you can see from the picture below we have just completed decorating two detached 4 bedroom houses inside and out on Kenwood Road, Heacham. Built by a local builder J D Construction and recently just sold. Pictures to follow on our Facebook page soon.

We now looking at taking Sean on in full time employment with the company, from being a sub-contractor with us for some time.

We recently teamed up with Rapid Quote and using their great software to price jobs from technical drawings/building plans and to keep our prices consistent and competitive with the big and also smaller jobs. So if we have a project coming up that needs pricing up off plans, feel free to contact us.

We also going to put a demo out online to show Builders, Architects and Quantity Surveyors as we've been taking on bigger domestic and commercial jobs in around North and West Norfolk which has been taking us to the next step.

We've also been hanging a fair bit of wallpaper lately on a number of jobs; Sean who works for us has a keen eye for it and makes a lovely job of it. Not all firms want to take it on but it is still very popular and can look great when

done well.

We are also looking a taking on an apprentice at some point if the right candidate comes along through CITB, so if anyone has a youngster who is leaving school soon and wants the further education and a NVQ2-3 in Painting & Decorating, and who would like to complete an 2 or 3 year course at college, please get in touch. It would involve going to college 1 day a week plus 4 days a work on site with us.. We have plenty of experience going to college to help you through the course as I, (Glenn), Grant and Sean have all completed apprenticeship schemes in 2005 and 2010.

As some of you might have seen on our Facebook posts we have been spraying built in units and kitchens which can give a great finish and be cost effective.

We have years of decorating experience; Sean and I have 10 years each, and my two brothers 10-15 years working in the

building trade. We can also help you with our knowledge of materials that you may want to use on your project. If you see us working please come say hello.

Also want to say thanks to all our regular customers and customers who have used us in the past three years and given us such great reviews on Yellow Pages, Facebook and Checkatrade.

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Thaxters plant of the month - Daffodils

by Wendy Warner

It's Autumn and it's time to look forward to Spring! One of the first signs that Spring is upon us is the sight of daffodils breaking into colour. So now is the time to start planting the bulbs which will produce these flowers. It's hard to imagine that within six months, beautiful flowers will emerge from the dry, brown, dormant bulbs that are now available in the garden centre.

There are a huge variety of daffodils (botanical name *Narcissi*), from miniatures through to traditional large ones. Dwarf varieties are ideal for pots and containers, window boxes, rockeries or the fronts of borders. Large types look stunning en masse in borders or can be naturalised in grass. As well as height, there are many different colours and styles of flower. Still most popular are classic yellow daffodils with a long trumpet such as King Alfred, then there are large cupped varieties where the cup is shorter than a trumpet and these are available in a huge array of colours including yellow with an orange cup such as Pipe Major or the white with pink cup of Pink Pride. Then there are the eotic looking doubles, Delnashaugh has creamy white petals with peach coloured segments. Species types are smaller both in height and flower size although there are some

multi-headed varieties such as the pure white Thalia and the very popular and versatile yellow Tete-a-tete. It is possible to have 5 to 6 months of daffodil flowers by carefully selecting your varieties. The earliest flowering varieties are January, Spring Dawn and February Gold covering January and February, the majority of varieties will flower in March and early April but there are a few such as Pheasant's Eye and Sun Disc which will be as late as May and into early June.

Daffodils need a good start in their life cycle by ensuring the ground is well worked and moist but free-draining, if necessary add some well-rotted manure or compost. They will also need a sunny or semi-shaded spot where they will get at least 3 hours of sun daily as they won't flower at all in full shade. Earlier flowering varieties can be planted under deciduous trees as they'll usually have bloomed before the leaves appear on the trees. Generally, the bulbs should be planted two bulb-widths apart and at two to three times their depth, so if your bulb is 2 inches plant it 4-6 inches deep. Deep planning is important as otherwise bulbs can divide and produce lots of small bulbs which won't flower. If space allows, why not plant an assortment of daffodils in a remote area of the garden purely to use as cut flowers for the house.

Any daffodils can be grown in containers. If you are just intending them to be in the container for one year, use a multi-purpose compost, but if you are planning a long-term display use John Innes No. 2 or 3 soil-based

compost. When growing in pots, the bulbs can be planted closer than normal to give a fuller display.

Lastly, try forcing the highly-scented Paperwhite daffodils for indoor flowering. In mid-October they will need to be planted in a pot indoors using bulb fibre and planted with the tip of the bulb just below the surface; water well and place on a warm sunny windowsill and with any luck they will be in flower for Christmas.



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Buckwheat is an interesting cereal crop...

By Robin Limb, agricultural consultant

Buckwheat has many nutritional benefits not offered by some other cereals, and is freely available in health food shops, if not in your local supermarket. It is normally grown according to organic standards.

The name 'buckwheat', or 'beech wheat', comes from its triangular seeds, which resemble the much larger seeds of the beech nut from the tree of the same name, and the fact that it is used just like other forms of wheat, as in bread-making.

Its name may be a translation of Middle Dutch, or just simply a native form of the Dutch word. The wild ancestor of buckwheat is interfertile, and these species have a common genetic distribution, which has hindered plant breeding yield improvement over time.

Common buckwheat was domesticated and first cultivated in South-East Asia, possibly around 6,000 BC, and from there spread to Central Asia and Tibet, the Middle East, and finally to Europe. The crop's domestication most likely took place in the western Yunnan region of China.

The oldest remains found in China so far date to around 2,600 BC, while buckwheat pollen found in Japan dates from as early as 4,000 BC. It is the world's highest-elevation domesticated cereal crop.

Buckwheat was one of the earliest crops introduced by Europeans to North America. Dispersal around the globe was complete by 2006, when a variety developed in Canada was widely planted in China. In India, buckwheat flour is known as 'Kuttu', and is culturally associated with the Navaratri festival. On the day of this festival, food items made only from buckwheat are consumed.

Buckwheat, is a short-season crop, and grows well on low-fertility and acidic soils, but the soil must be well drained. Too much fertiliser - especially nitrogen - reduces yields. In hot climates it can be grown only by sowing late in the season, so that it blooms in cooler weather. The presence of pollinators greatly increases the yield. The nectar from buckwheat flower makes a dark-coloured honey. Buckwheat is sometimes used as a green manure, and as a plant for soil erosion control, or for wildlife cover and feed.

The plant has a branching root system with a primary tap-root that reaches deeply into moist soil. It has triangular seeds and produces a flower that is usually white, although can also be pink or yellow. It

branches freely, as opposed to 'tillering' or producing suckers, causing a more complete adaptation to its environment than other cereal crops are capable of. The seed hull density is less than that of water, making it easier to remove.

Buckwheat is raised for grain where only a short growing season is available, either because it is used as a second crop, or because the climate is limiting. Buckwheat can be a reliable cover crop. It has a far longer flowering period than mainstream cereal crops, supporting pollinating insects.

The crop establishes quickly, which suppresses weeds, and reduces the need for pesticides. Buckwheat has a growing period of only 10–12 weeks and it can be

grown in very high latitudes (such as the Sierra Nevada) or other arid areas. It grows up to 75 or 125 centimetres tall. How it survives a torrential downpour is another matter - it could all end up on the deck and unrecoverable in the worst-case scenario.

Buckwheat is a pseudo-cereal, and is used as a wheat-free grain alternative. On its own it can be eaten like rice or added to stews and salads to pad them out. It can be toasted to make 'kasha' to give a nutty flavour and crunchy texture to meals.

Buckwheat can be ground down and used as a conventional wheat flour substitute, because it is gluten-free, but the dough from it does not rise as freely as other forms of wheat in the oven.

I am a bit of a health-food cynic, but I do believe this cereal crop has a lot to offer in a healthy and varied diet. Sometimes there is an inverse relationship between crop yield and nutritional value – I think buckwheat is a good example of this. If you don't like it, you can blame me for it...



“I am a bit of a health-food cynic, but I do believe this cereal crop has a lot to offer in a healthy and varied diet.”



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Mudpies & Butterflies

with Louise Barby, Balanis Garden Design

The days are getting a little shorter, but there's still lots of sunshine to enjoy and seeds to collect. Get planning for next year's blooms and enjoy the continued good weather - fingers crossed! Let's hope that 2021 is a little less full of drama and a little more full of flowers.



In the flower garden

- Continue to feed and dead-head your container plants.
- Sow for bigger plants next year.
- Divide perennials now for free plants next summer.
- Fill gaps in borders with autumn flowering plants such as , grasses and to extend the season.
- Plant spring-flowering bulbs now.
- Plant new as the soil is still warm.
- Now is the ideal time to order and . They will grow vigorously next spring if planted this autumn.
- Prune and shape any late-summer flowering shrubs.
- Prune climbing roses and rambling roses as long as they are not repeat flowering.

In the vegetable garden

- Pinch out your cordon tomato plants. This will concentrate the plant's energy into producing fruit.
- Ripen pumpkins in time for Halloween by removing any leaves shadowing the fruits.
- Pot up mint and for the kitchen windowsill, to use through the winter.
- Cover your brassicas with to prevent birds eating them.
- Plant for cropping next year.

In the fruit garden

- Order your strawberries, raspberries etc. for cropping next year.
- Pot up strawberry runners to make extra plants for next year.
- To test when are ripe gently give them a pull - they should come away easily.
- Pick . If you have more than you need, freeze them by washing, halving and stoning them.
- If you haven't already, cut back the fruited canes of your , leaving the new green canes for next year's crop.

Looking after your lawn

- Create a new lawn from turf or seed - autumn is a perfect time.
- Raise mower blades as grass growth slows down.
- You can feed and aerate your lawn now, ensure the feed is rich in potassium and low in nitrogen.

Enjoy, what we hope is a beautiful September, after a super changeable but rather lovely July and August. Happy gardening.

"You can't be too careful" says Pat Richardson



Across: 1. Odd socks, 6. Rich, 8. Cause, 9. Classroom, 11. Relatives, 12. Decibel, 13. Ultrasound, 15. Brae, 17. Aura, 19. About-turns, 22. Suftolk, 24. Elation, 25. Wait for IT, 26. Drone, 27. Whir, 28. Maddened

Down: 2. Doublet, 3. Spectral, 4. Cockscorn, 5. Staid, 6. Insect, 7. Clobber, 8. Circular saw, 10. Malfasance, 14. Nauscated, 16. Straddle, 18. Raffish, 20. Rhizome, 21. Loafer, 23. Karim

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Nature Notes with Roger

On the move

By September bird migration is well under way. Millions of our 'summer visitors' will be moving from their breeding areas in this country to warmer more southerly regions. Swallows and House Martins gather on our telegraph wires before setting off, and other smaller birds such as warblers and chats are also preparing for the long journey south. These birds often migrate between 2,500 and 7,000 miles (4,000 to over 11,000 kilometres) which is an incredible feat in itself, but how they do it is still the subject of much ongoing research. It is known they can navigate using the sun, and at night the stars, and they will follow well used and recognised land features. Some species travel in family groups, but for others the juveniles are making the journey for the first time and completely on their own.

As these summer visitors move south hundreds of thousands of waders, geese and swans will pour in from further north around and beyond the Arctic Circle. In a few weeks time we will be witnessing the 'return' of the pinkies – Pink footed Geese which breed in Iceland. I always seem to see my first ones during the third week of September, and when we moved to our current house on the 23rd of the month several years back, we were greeted to a wonderful fly-past the very next morning. It is a truly memorable sight as they move across the wide Norfolk skies writing their journeys in long scribbled lines, accompanied always by their characteristic "honk, honk, wink, wink" calls. These birds stay here all winter and will start their return to Iceland by the end of February.

Some birds, however, are just passing through on much longer journeys and for them migration began quite a while ago. Many wader species which breed way up beyond the Arctic Circle started their long flight south at the end of June or beginning of July and may now be seen on their autumn passage in this country. Spotted Redshanks, Curlew Sandpipers and Little Stints may all be encountered stopping off at any inland flash of water or larger area of tidal mudflat, using them much as we would a motorway service station, to rest and refuel before moving on. At these latter sites they may be joined by huge numbers of Knot, another wader breeding well up beyond the Arctic Circle. These are the birds we can see wheeling and turning in vast numbers over areas such as The Wash, moving like one very mobile cloud, flashing light and dark as they twist and turn over the mudflats. Areas such as this are vital for these and many other species of birds as they hold vast quantities of foodstuff, and need to be preserved from any form of development or interference. To us they may seem like huge empty waste spaces ripe for some alternative use, but to millions of wild creatures they are home, a vital food source, and in themselves intrinsically wild and beautiful places, which we have all learnt in this period of lockdown are also so vital to our own well-being.

Of our own more familiar summer visitors, I am particularly fond of Swallows and House Martins. The other day I was watching a number of them as they wheeled about over a large village pond,



House Martins - credit Roger Fickling

occasionally swooping down to take a drink, flying in with their wings held up over their backs to enable them to take a few drops of the precious liquid while maintaining their speed. Similar observations, made during the 16th century by various scientists, led to the belief that Swallows hibernated during the winter months by burying themselves in the mud at the bottom of ponds. This theory persisted for several centuries until more enlightened science and more detailed observation concluded that they did in fact migrate to warmer parts of the world. Swallows will head to South Africa, but there remains the question of where House Martins actually go when they leave these shores for the winter. Despite all the advances in radio tagging and satellite tracking it is something about which we are not very much the wiser. It is thought they may congregate in large numbers above the equatorial forests of central Africa, but over recent years it has been noted that numbers returning for the summer have declined, in some cases quite drastically.

A local farmer has told me that he has had far fewer Swallows returning to his barns this year, and I have not seen as many House Martins around the village either. The fortunes of these birds depend on many factors: climate and local weather, food supply, development both in their wintering areas and at traditional breeding sites, as well as persecution along their familiar routes, and serves to highlight the fact that migration is an international affair requiring conservation co-operation from many different countries.



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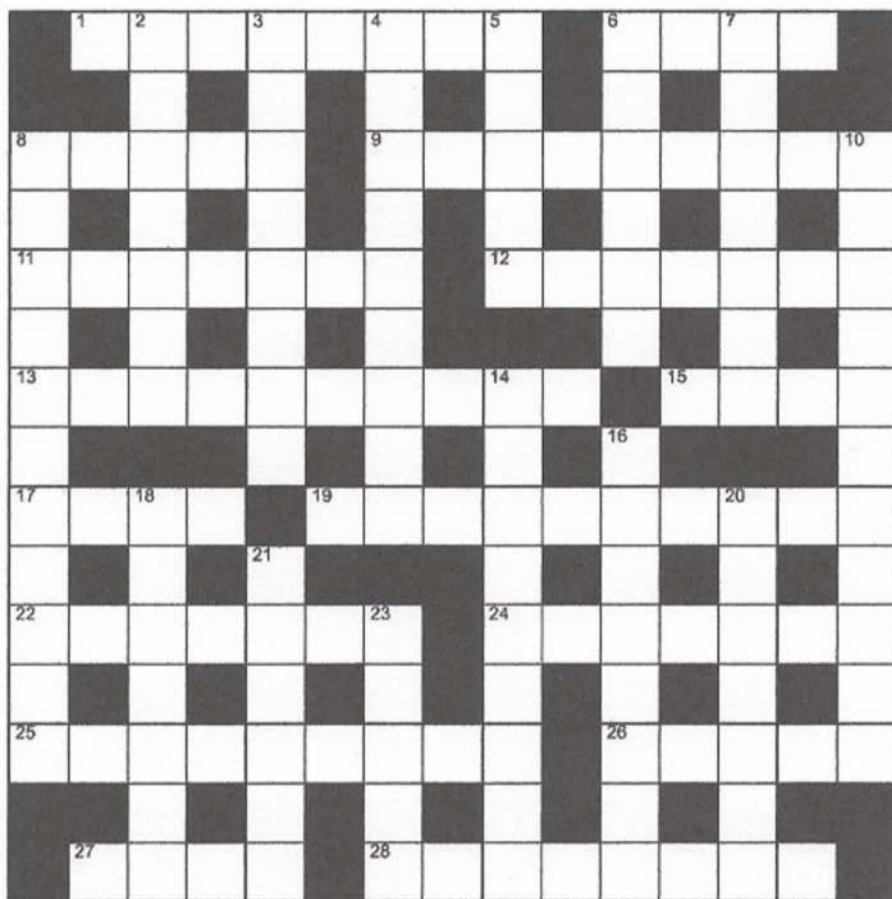
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David Elsey's Cryptic Crossword



Crossword solution on page 32

Crossword Clues Across

1. Occasional hits are lacking harmony (3,5)
6. An eagerness to admit charmer to house (4)
8. Suit uniform when joining force (5)
9. Where one might find a form with space to type (9)
11. Tells regular employees to start shifts (7)
12. American killed recurrent alarm to reduce sound level (7)
13. Noise of high waves comes from extremely narrow passage of water (10)
15. Support early opening of Scottish bank (4)
17. European republic loses its mystique (4)
19. Acts around in front of swings (5-5)
22. As punches go, this is very powerful (7)
24. Top story is all about excitement (7)
25. What to do when PC runs slowly? (4,3,2)
26. Go on and on about lazy colonial (5)
27. Like 26, stop short of a quick turn on the dance floor (4)
28. Irrked when bananas ended squashed (8)

Crossword Clues Down

2. Fitter takes jacket to heart (7)
3. Begin search of chest, removing ring that's spooky (8)
4. Arrogant boss getting caught between unruly mobs at plant ... (9)
5. ... uttered, 'About time to get serious' (5)
6. Check out probability of six-footer appearing (6)
7. Dress code tip given to tennis player? (7)
8. It's round with points (describing a tool) (8,3)
10. Flustered, as female can be after wrongdoing (11)
14. Disgusted at nude sculpture situated in concourse (9)
16. Sit right back in seat with legs akimbo (8)
18. Flyers look dashing (7)
20. Underground worker at plant is an outspoken radical (7)
21. Good-for-nothing baker? (6)
23. Real footballer has spirit and edge to secure first title (5)

Ray Butchers Su Doku

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

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

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If you can do both, and have your data backed up in more than one place, even better.

Mobile devices often have built in backup features within the settings, so it is important to ensure that it is switched on and working.

If you choose to implement an online 'cloud' backup service, it is important to make sure it is from a reputable company, and that your password is strong, secret, and that multi factor authentication is active.

Examples of such services are:

Google drive / backup and sync Microsoft OneDrive

Dropbox

All three offer free trials/small storage capacity for free, with larger amounts of capacity available with subscription. It is possible to 'synchronize' your desktop, documents and pictures folders so that they always stay up to date with what you have added/changed.

They are fast and relatively straight forward to set up, so please do make sure you have at least one form of backup in place, all hard disc drives fail eventually, so without a backup, it really is only a matter of time. The recovery of lost data is often very expensive and sometimes impossible.

We hope that this short article will encourage readers to consider and check their backup systems to ensure that any future data loss is avoided.

If you would like any more information or help with backing up your data, please contact Dan & Carrie at DNS Computer Services on 07554 018307 or email dan@dnscomputerservices.co.uk

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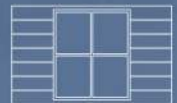
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Lockdown success story for local business Fade to Grey amongst all the doom and gloom

Alex Dixon

As people were compelled to spend more time at home during lockdown, everyone's thoughts inevitably turned to all the jobs around the house and garden that they had previously put off.

Little did we know at the beginning of all this, that we would be responsible for aiding and abetting the transformation of so many kitchens, pieces of furniture and UPVC front doors!

Instead of struggling once our doors closed in March (as we first thought we would), we experienced a sudden explosion in demand for paint and saw sales of Frenchic furniture paint soar through the roof! This demand was also intensified by so many of the larger diy stores either closing or quoting a five or six week delivery date.

Being based in a cafe area, it seemed like we were doomed to remain closed for several months, so we started looking at other ways we could continue trading. We began offering a contactless local delivery service, established a collection point outside our house and also started providing a postal service to people further afield. Enquiries quickly began to flood in and before long we were working 14 - 16 hour days trying to keep up with demand! It wasn't unusual for customers to start messaging at six in the morning and continue well in to the small hours, sometimes 200 messages a day to respond to, all desperate to get their hands on some paint to start their projects.

Our Facebook page was awash with customers pictures of kitchen cupboard doors revamped with a tin of paint for £18 and UPVC front doors brightened up with a small pot from our al fresco range. We found it amusing to drive round and spot a the different colours that had been used on all our customer's upvc doors as we delivered more paint to them.

There have been several positive things to come out of lockdown and one of them has been the desire to buy from small businesses and to 'support local', we will certainly be eternally grateful for this.

As restrictions have begun to ease and we've been able to re-open, it seems people are happy to continue doing so which can only be a good thing for our towns and villages. We are told on-line shopping threatens the High Street, but we are hoping that we can turn this to our advantage and buck the trend by continuing to offer free local delivery and a postal service.

We have a workshop in the carpark of the Granary in Snettisham so, if you haven't used our paint before, you are welcome to come and visit us to see the colours available and get some tips and advice. The workshop is open to the public 11am - 4pm Thu - Sat and the paint will continue to be available for sale in the Granary itself everyday 10am - 4pm.

Thank you everyone for your continued support.



Same UPVC door before in white and after painted in Frenchic Al Fresco Range 'After Midnight'



Kitchen revamped using Frenchic Al Fresco Range 'Smudge'

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Linking up - Active Transport

Andrew Jamieson, Norfolk County Councillor, North Coast & Cabinet Member for Finance

Active Transport, or walking and cycling to you and me, is the new buzz word in Government.

As Norfolk's Walking and Cycling champion, I have been quick to pursue the additional funding pots that come with Central Government initiatives like this one. Grant Shapps, Transport Secretary, announced £2 billion funding to help develop Active Transport and, despite having been given just two weeks to put in our proposed schemes, we were ready to bid in time. Unfortunately, however, the Department for Transport were EXTREMELY prescriptive in detailing what was to be prioritised: basically, getting children to school and people to work on foot and bike rather than car. Laudable, but metropolitan in design and therefore by definition discriminatory to Shires like ours.

The good news is that firstly, this was the first of a number of rounds in support of Active transport and second, that our hard-working MP, James Wild, has been quick in support of our view that a less metropolitan flavour be given in the next round. As a result, I remain confident that the initiatives that I described last month, the Greenways Project, for example, and the Coastal Cycle path, will be coming forward before I am much older.

Staying with active, or rather inactive travel by moving to the hot topic of this summer's rising staycation numbers and attendant



difficulties in parking, speeding and generally driving about. My sympathies are with all coastal villages in the Division, but none more so than Brancaster and Burnham Overy Staithe, who have endured some of the worst excesses of obstructive parking: sometimes without the wholehearted support from the local police, despite frequent, trenchant requests from your Councillor!

This is, of course, an extraordinary year. However, I do not think we should be lulled into thinking that these problems were a 2020 one-off. Neither do I think there is a short-term quick fix. My approach is holistic: too often initiatives are thwarted by siloed thinking. In order to address these problems, I have formed a task force, not just from NCC Highways, but teams from Public Health, Active Norfolk, Pushing Ahead, NCP, the

Economy and the Environment too: indeed, centred around the Environment team.

This group are drawing up schemes that will be ready for the next round of funding. This 'working together' philosophy will be vitally important. A traditional approach to economic recovery will not deliver a new future for Norfolk. We have the opportunity to initiate change, embedding zero carbon, nature-based solutions to economic and infrastructure decisions.

So, I am now starting my campaign to reduce speeds on A149, initially between Hunstanton and Wells to 40 MPH. To reduce speeds in our village back streets to 20 MPH. To control on-street parking that so obstructs our streets and pavements and finally, to abolish the scourge of unauthorised overnight parking by mobile homes. These measures, taken together with a separated coastal cycle route, a completed coastal path, funding for more community bus schemes and the resurrection of the 'quiet lanes' programme will, taken together, help our economy recover and grow to a stronger and more value-added place than it was before the pandemic.

Please email me at andrew.jamieson.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk or contact James Wild, in support of this campaign. We need to strike while the iron is hot!

Borough Council News - Heacham, Sedgeford and Fring

Terry Parish, Leader of the Group of Independent Councillors (15)

Not a lot has happened in the last month and meetings continue vis Zoom and Teams. I hope my first face to face Council conversation since February will take place before the end of August. Most of the effort in the regeneration field has still been chasing Government grants for improvements to King's Lynn town centre which still look as they might be successful. The reason why Lynn is, hopefully, going to benefit is because it was one of the towns chosen by HMG to have a bid opportunity.

There is still no Councillor with a specific responsibility for the environment. The Leader of the Council has added the job to his portfolio until someone is appointed – someone from his group as opposition members are not considered for Cabinet roles. A pity as there are at least two independents who would do a very good job.

Locally it seems businesses have picked up and many are doing well with the huge influx of visitors keeping the tourist trade busy and pubs and food outlets occupied. I have previously given credit to businesses in Heacham which have met the Covid challenge. I can now add The King William IV in Sedgeford; well organised and very good food too.

However, near local seafronts there is sometimes a concern about too many people and cars and their impact on locals. In addition, the camp site at South Beach generates a lot of comment. I can confirm that it does not have planning permission; its Camping and Caravanning club status does permit a very small number of tents and camper vans but the numbers actually on site are far in excess of these limits. The matter is in hand but it will take time.

Heacham Neighbourhood Plan is getting closer to being examined – a review it has to pass before it goes to public consultation. Such

plans are very important and will remain a buttress against unwelcome development which will be fostered by the high demand for homes on the coast and in the countryside 'post' Covid. Neighbourhood Plans may also prove a bastion against the latest government nonsense 'relaxing' planning rules. The proposals are out for consultation and I suggest you look at them and voice an opinion.

Another local matter: heavy and large vehicle movements along Fenway, Heacham, are causing distress again. It would be nice to think that such activity could be moderated and respect residents.



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where local news is published regularly

Wild in Westminster & West Norfolk

On Norfolk Day, Stephen Fry summed up the dilemma many feel about our county. We want people to understand how wonderful this county is, while on the other hand not wanting everybody finding out about it.

In my view, now is the time to encourage people to visit. Local businesses need support after the challenges of Covid-19. Having secured the Prime Minister's endorsement for people to staycation in Hunstanton, I could not think of anywhere better to take my summer holiday than in a VW campervan in North West Norfolk spending time at the coast, wandering round historic Lynn, enjoying favourite pubs and exploring new ones, and even venturing over the border to South West Norfolk to visit the new Watatunga nature reserve.

Giles Coren's recent stay in the area meant that Eric's Fish and Chips, The Duck Inn, Socius, and other local pubs and restaurants received well deserved plaudits in the national press. It is heartening to see them bustling – socially distanced of course – again thanks in part to the Eat Out to Help Out scheme.

The popularity of our coastline, however, does bring problems including the parking situation in Brancaster, Burnham Overy, and other villages. This isn't a new issue but it was exacerbated by the Saharan weather spell. The Police took action to prevent inconsiderate parking but when buses and emergency vehicles are obstructed then longer-term solutions are needed. Talking to local residents that should include providing signage for when the car park is full as well as additional capacity.

With two Dark Skies Discovery sites on our coast, I was pleased to become Vice Chair of the new All party parliamentary group for Dark Skies. We are now consulting to identify the main threats and challenges that dark sky preservation faces, and the most effective ways MPs and policy makers can address them. Please contribute your thoughts at <https://appgdarksdies.co.uk/dark-skies-consultation>

As well as the natural beauty, now is also the time to support the culture, heritage, and arts offerings of North West Norfolk.

I recently enjoyed the Anish Kapoor sculpture exhibition at Houghton Hall. The Sky Mirror is striking in turning the world upside down although it was a cloudy day when I was there. The Mirror works in the house itself were full of vibrant colours and fantastic reflections. The Rectangle Within a Rectangle had a pleasing symmetry to it. That a number of pieces were untitled seemed a missed opportunity and makes describing them to others hard!

During the summer recess, as well as continuing to help constituents with issues, I've been visiting businesses, attractions, and

– yes - pubs to hear how things are going, where I can help, and also to do what I can to promote West Norfolk.

One of those was Lynn Shellfish where I discussed issues ranging from cockles to what is shaping up to be strong shrimp season, as well as proposals regarding permitting and byelaws and the impact on local firms. When Parliament returns at the start of September we will debate the Fisheries Bill and I hope to have the opportunity to speak up for the important fishing sector along the coast and its potential as we leave the Common Fisheries Policy.

While it is encouraging to see businesses beginning to bounce back there is much to do to help our local economy recover. So let's continue to help local firms by supporting them throughout the coming months.



James Wild MP

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

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Environmental Crime on the Green

John Maiden

On August 7th this advert caught my eye: "Environmental Crime Officer based at King's Court Council Offices, King's Lynn". There followed a description of the area in these glowing terms: "Rich heritage, open spaces, beautiful coastlines and woodland are a few of the reasons why people are attracted to this area and the friendly, welcoming communities are one of the reasons people stay. If you have a passion for tackling issues affecting our community and would like to help preserve the charm of West Norfolk we have the opportunity for you."

At this point I was beginning to regret the fact that my age would preclude me from applying for the post, despite the fact that the salary was short of what might be expected for such an important job. Further on, it became apparent that the successful candidate would be dealing with such "key issues" as litter, dog fouling, fly tipping and antisocial behaviour. Important as these threats are to the environment, I had been imagining someone with the authority to warn the Borough Council (BCKLWN) against granting permission for developments that would threaten woodlands; open spaces; or the rich heritage of West Norfolk's built environment.

Take for example the recent planning application 20/01091/LDP for a Lawful Development certificate for the proposed introduction of family amusements throughout the promenade level of the CHS pier family entertainment centre on The Green at Hunstanton.

The whole of The Green is supposed to be protected from commercial development of any kind by a legally binding covenant, which was imposed by the le Strange Estate for the benefit of the local community in 1955 when The Green was sold to the local authority.

In September 2002 the covenant was deliberately breached by BCKLWN when planning permission was granted for the 'pier' entertainment centre. A thoroughly bad situation was made even worse in March 2003 when an area of public open space, forming an integral part of The Green, was leased to CHS Amusements Ltd for the next 850 years!

Needless to say, BCKLWN planning officers failed in their statutory duty to consult English Heritage before these decisions took place. This fact was confirmed in September 2009 when Hunstanton Civic Society invited David Gretch from English Heritage to come and see just how badly the entertainment centre was affecting The Green. Following his visit, David wrote as follows to the Head of Development Control at BCKLWN: "I am aware that due to an oversight within your authority, English Heritage was not consulted when the planning application for this

Hunstanton's non-pier



replacement building was considered in 2002, though one must still question how the current building was considered to meet the PPG 15 requirement for new developments to 'preserve or enhance the character and appearance of a conservation area'."

Criticism of the BCKLWN planning department also extended to the proliferation of children's rides outside the building, which David described as "adding to the visual clutter and further degrading views of the conservation area in general and The Green in particular." He suggested that BCKLWN could take enforcement action to require their relocation within the building, because "this would help to reduce the negative impact that this structure has on the Hunstanton Conservation Area."

Unfortunately, no action has been taken by BCKLWN over the past decade to reduce the negative impact of the 'hangar' by getting rid of the rides. Instead, the rides have increased in number and size, so that some of them take up the entire width of the adjacent public footpath.

The response by BCKLWN has been to pave over what is supposed to be kept as an ornamental grass green, in order to accommodate the children's rides; but planning application 20/01091/LDP provides an opportunity for BCKLWN to open up a new chapter in the story of why a 'hangar' should not be permitted to occupy a site set aside for an entrance to Hunstanton Pier and nothing else whatsoever...

"I'm not sure Henry le Strange would have been enthusiastic about that...."



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ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM THE HERITAGE CENTRE

Contents inherited from NatWest Bank found whilst refurbishing the Bank and turning it into a Heritage Centre

This month there are three objects we have that were already in the Bank when it was bought, 2 were hidden away in the cellar (which was not shown on the drawings we inherited) and was only found when the floor covering was replaced. The 3rd Object was found in a box of rubbish, and only found when the box tipped over. I had caused the box to tip and what I saw made my heart race, as I'm sure it would if it were you.

Forty-five used £20 pound notes in a bundle with a Bank tape around it. I thought Xmas had come round a second time in 1919, until having shown my find to co-workers in another room, we had a closer look.

The notes seemed perfect and very real, but the centre part of the notes had been cut away in order to inlay a Tracking Device and we think a coloured smoke or dust producer for locating the cash and giving the thief a different skin colour.

This item has been 'sandwiched' between clear Polycarbonate sheets and displayed securely in a display of Banking Items in the Centre.



The Cellar mentioned above had been sealed off many years ago, it was only noticed when the flooring material was lifted and a woodblock floor was exposed. Where the stairs to the Cellar had been, was now found to be Joist and Floor boarded. In this area was a square of approx 2ft x 2ft easily seen as a square saw cut access trap.

Once we managed to open the trap, two of us Volunteers, the shortest ones which is handy sometimes, armed with torches shot down into the cellar like ferrets. I think we thought the notes had been found above ground, perhaps the gold was underground, but alas not so.

However, what we did find was 2 rooms, one was completely shelved out floor to ceiling, the shelves were wide enough and spaced for housing box files.

After all this part of the Building was from the 1920's, and no fancy computers then so all accounts were done either in longhand or typewriter and filed away.

The other room was a boiler-room, the boiler had been removed probably in the early 1980's when an extra floor was built on the Bank. The boiler had been a coke burning type, but in the 1980's gas was the means of heating and for hot water.

Also within the cellar amongst general rubbish we found an unusual 'Bank Interest' display board, unusual in the fact that at the time this was last used, the bank paid high interest if you save with them, unlike today, and the figures were all in fractions so before decimalisation which was February 14th 1971.

Another item we found was, again unusual, a trolley used to transport cash from A to B. It was very well made and included

horizontal wheels on each corner, these were there to prevent the trolley gouging a wall if it got too close, instead the unit would roll along the wall.

Remember, these items are from pre decimalisation, when coins were heavier than now, for instance £5 worth of old pennies would weigh approximately 2.5 kilos.

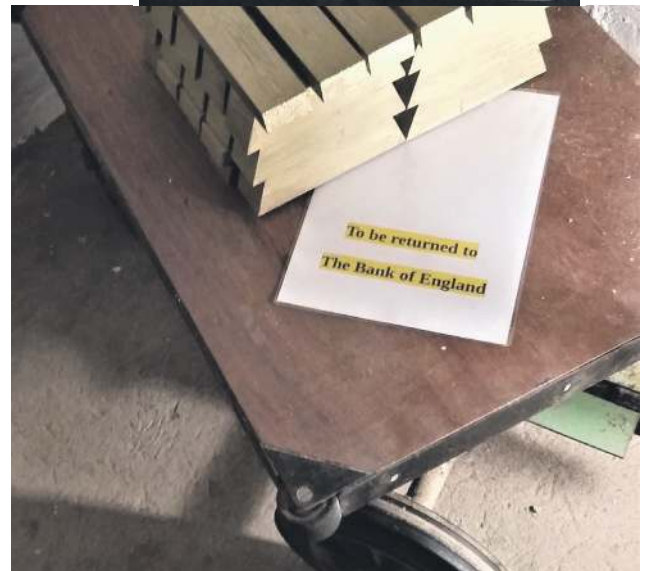
The trolley itself weighs about 1 Cwt.

All these items will be on show in the Heritage Centre for our visitors to view.

Written up by Tony Armstrong, Heritage Volunteer.

If anyone reading this, that perhaps worked in the NatWest Bank we would love to hear any stories you may have which occurred over its 99 years of serving the Hunstanton residents. Particularly during WW2. I can be contacted by email which is armstrong@hunstantoncivicsociety.org.uk or other Committee members whose contact details are on our Website www.hunstantoncivicsociety.org.uk

'TILL NEXT MONTH



Civic Society news

CORONAVIRUS

With our Government gradually releasing us from our Lockdown, we have decided that it is reasonable to reopen the Heritage Centre. So in order to allow this to happen, we have restructured the furniture in the Centre to provide a bit of a one-way system around the Centre. We are also displaying all sorts of signs to tell our volunteers and visitors what they have to do to keep any risks of transmission of the Covid-19 virus to a minimum. We are also providing a screen in front of the re-sited Reception Desks and also hand sanitiser for use by everyone entering the Centre. We shall also insist that face coverings are worn as with other similar venues. Finally, we are having to take a record of all who enter the Centre (group leaders and numbers, contact numbers and times in and out) for Track and Trace.

We are reopening on Saturdays and Sundays from 1.00pm to 5.00pm and only then if we can attract enough volunteers to 'man' the Centre. This might mean that it will not be open even though it is meant to be. For this we apologise. We are currently short of volunteers so if anyone out there can spare a couple of hours on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon, please contact Terry Ashworth on ashworth@hunstantoncivicsociety.org.uk – Thank you.

RESTRUCTURING OF HUNSTANTON & DISTRICT CIVIC SOCIETY

In mid-July we succeeded in getting the new Company registered as a Charity and hence we are formally transferring all our assets to the new Company. The final set of Accounts for the old Charity have been produced and our examiner, David Boxell, has very kindly and speedily gone through the audit process. At our Committee meeting held 11th August 2020, these accounts have been approved by the Committee and will be submitted to the Membership at our next AGM which will be the final AGM in December for the old Charity and the first AGM for the new Company. Accounts for the two months ending 30th September 2020 will also be produced and audited and submitted to the AGM.

TALKS AND OUTINGS

Talks continue to be in abeyance for the time being. We have, however, made arrangements and tentatively booked the Town Hall for the 2020/2021 season of Talks. We just hope we are going to be able to utilise them. The same sadly applies to our Outings which we have 'up our sleeves' ready to go whenever we can. The following may provide a possible solution!

HELP!

We want your stories.

Whilst our lives have been affected by this Pandemic and there are restrictions on what we can do as regards our Talks, the Committee have been discussing the possibilities of asking our members whether they have interesting stories to tell that can be recorded in a whole manner of different ways, some more direct than others. If you have done something interesting in your life, travelled widely, had an interesting job and have an interest that others might like to hear about, we would be delighted to hear from you. One of our Committee Members is a frustrated Interviewer and would love to talk to you to arrange to meet (socially distanced, of course) to discuss what and how we could put together a recording of an interview, perhaps enhanced with some slides or even video/film. Contact blunden@hunstantoncivicsociety.org.uk

CLOSURE OF HUNSTANTON TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE (TIC)

Members have been kept abreast of what has been transpiring with regards to the work your Committee has been busy with concerning the closure of the TIC and subsequent opening of the TIP (Tourist Information Point in case you did not know!). We have carried out a Survey of Businesses and our Members. We have not been surprised at the level of support we have received from just about everyone in our endeavours to find an acceptable solution to the problem. We continue to work on it.

Hunstanton Community Centre gets a makeover

Jan Roomes, Town Clerk: e mail: clerk@hunstantontowncouncil.gov.uk Tel:01485 532402

Whilst the coronavirus pandemic put a temporary halt to so many activities, the staff at Hunstanton Town Council were able to carry out some extensive refurbishments of the Community Centre in Avenue Road to give the building and the facilities a complete makeover and are pleased to announce the works are now complete.

The main hall has been painted in lighter tones, the beautiful parquet floor sanded and polished, the kitchen units tidied and re-painted and new carpet tiles have been laid in the entrance hall making the Centre

feel fresh and welcoming.

Outside, a coat of fresh green paint has been applied to the wall, CCTV cameras fitted and the Town Council has bought and installed a defibrillator for use in case of emergency.

Mayor Tony Bishopp said, "We wanted to give the Community Centre a makeover for some while and as we had to close the doors to groups during the coronavirus pandemic, it seemed the ideal time to get the work done.

"I would like to thank the staff, in particular our hardworking caretaker for all their hard work and look forward to welcoming our regular and hopefully some new groups to the Centre, just as soon as government regulations allow."



Letters to the Editor

Council planning

The WNDC have applied for planning application for the developments on the South Beach Road/Seagate car parks despite an overwhelming rejection from the local community back in March when there was an open forum in Hunstanton Town Hall to see if the proposals would be popular with the local community.

I was at that meeting/forum and I was hard pressed to find anyone (apart from the council members) who would support such developments knowing that Hunstanton would lose a lot of its parking spaces for a one-off payment to the King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council who own the car parks but do not seem to care too much for the people who live in Hunstanton who constantly have to suffer holiday makers trawling around looking for somewhere to park.

If BCKLWN actually had any resemblance of forward planning for the future of Hunstanton they would be looking at how to get the cars/buses away from the town by putting in place a park and ride system so that all people coming to the town do not have to block up the towns roads looking for places to park. The Planning office has allowed three large estates to pass planning on green field developments so why not have a field on the main road set-aside for a large open car park then invest in a tram system to deliver people around the town and to the beach area doing a complete tour of the Hunstanton area every 30 minutes or so. You could then make the whole of Hunstanton resident parking only there by keeping the vast majority of the locals on side.

At the same meeting in March the Hunstanton town library was discussed and again the BCKLWN's proposals were not well thought of. Yes, the current location for the library is a good one but if we look at Valentine Road just 300m away there is an empty school looking for employment and an empty council office building with a sizable carpark looking for employment so why not sell the current library location and the use that money to developed the 2 sites in Valentine Road?

But I have no doubt that dispute the numerous objections to the proposed developments they will still get passed so that the one off payment can then go on to help finance an obscure project that the BCKLWN seems to think is in fashion.

Yours frustratingly
Alfie Rake
 Seagate Rd
 Hunstanton

Hunstanton's pseudonyms

I saw in the EDP recently the Hunstanton Town Mayor Mr Tony Bishopp tells us that Hunstanton is known as Leicester-on-Sea. When the Americans were here in the nineteen fifties Hunstanton was nicknamed little Brooklyn, then when the citizen radio started up in the nineteen sixties Hunstanton was called Sunny Hunny and has been called that ever since.

I have lived here for about sixty years and this is the first time I have ever heard Hunstanton called Leicester-on-Sea.

A lot of people come to Hunstanton from Leicester, as they do from Nottingham, Coventry, Northampton, Cambridge and Peterborough, to call Hunstanton Leicester-on-Sea is just ridiculous, the nickname for Hunstanton or Hunst'on is Sunny Hunny and always will be.

Dick Melton, Sunny Hunny

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More letters...

Proposed railway link

I read the August 2020 edition with interest particularly the articles regarding a proposed railway link from Hunstanton to Kings Lynn.

I confess to being a sceptic regarding this white elephant of an idea.

The cost of rebuilding the line would be astronomical and would involve compulsory purchase of many properties and land.

To be eco-friendly this new train would need to be electric either with overhead wires or be an autonomous electric vehicle, which is also costly, and in the instance of overhead wires extremely ugly. I would hope we all accept that diesel is not acceptable for a new build in 2020.

I also suggest that our present bus service is reliable, regular and at many times of the day underused.

Many of us older Hunstanton residents get free bus passes which is one of the privileges this government has not yet proposed to remove. We do not get free rail travel instead we have to buy a pass to get a discount.

I also contest that any traffic would be alleviated on the A149 during the summer months. There are very few day trippers or holiday makers that don't come laden with accoutrements such that they have to travel from home to their destination in their own vehicle. Goods vehicles will remain on the road and so will locals intent on visiting Lidl or Tesco.

Many local commuters to Kings Lynn will continue to use their vehicles as a result of the convenience issue and parking charges at the station.

No I'm sorry, I'd rather any money spent be channelled into improvements at Q.E hospital and or road improvements/flyover at Hardwick roundabout.

In summary I won't be signing the petition and am dismayed that our local MP is seemingly supporting this idiocy.

Neil Tidbury

Commander Royal Navy Rtd.

Smokers Ballot Box covered up in black plastic...

Following my article in the July issue of Town and Around entitled 'Does the Town Council offer value for money?', this photograph is courtesy of David Jones, who does not miss much when walking around town.

He wonders if this could be the end of any form of public consultation in Hunstanton?

It looks like another 'cover-up' to me...

Keep smiling

John Maiden

Photo below left - the voting bin in use and right covered in black plastic



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Hunstanton and District Inner Wheel

Sue Trewin

Despite frequent showers and exceptionally high winds, a small group from our committee met to focus our minds on new ideas for our group that could benefit the community and ourselves. We are planning a number of garden get togethers for members to reconnect with others, in groups of up to 6 people suitably spaced apart. Hopefully the art of serving tea and cake without touching anything will be mastered!

President Hilary writes: "One of the objectives of Inner Wheel is to encourage the ideals of personal service."

"Over the Lockdown many members of Inner Wheel have been giving service by producing PPE for hospitals, undertaking shopping and tasks for people in self-isolation and manning telephone support networks."

"Members are aiming to undertake service in their community

by helping to keep this corner of Norfolk tidy!

"We are going to perform litter picks in our villages and surrounding areas."

We are hoping that this will lead to pledges of our time during the Great British September Clean, organised by Keep Britain Tidy - do you know of a public place in our locality that could benefit from a tidy up? Please contact me on 01485 534671."

On a completely different subject, it is amazing what you can make with odd bits and pieces. Our President made a bug hotel, which I have named Bug-Ingham Palace. I think it's a work of art. Below is a picture of it along with Muriel Motley, one of our members attending the recent committee meeting. We will not be put off by the weather!

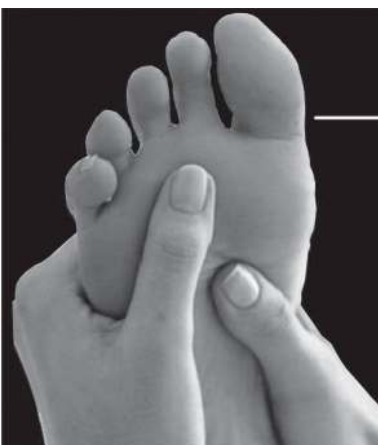


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Terry Parish

Autumn begins on the 22nd when it is the Autumnal Equinox. Night and day become equal at 2.30pm. Conkers, falling leaves, and time to fatten up any hedgehogs that visit.



I saw comet Neowise last month - just through binoculars looking over the village from the back garden. It was a nice sight with its tail streaming above it. I got a picture, taken about 10pm, but I am not sure how it will print. Two hours earlier a visitor to South Beach saw and captured the comet in all its glory. I had visited the beaches earlier in the week and saw nothing and I dithered when I should have gone again. Never dither, sometimes you only have one chance.



Comet Neowise over Heacham village. Parish

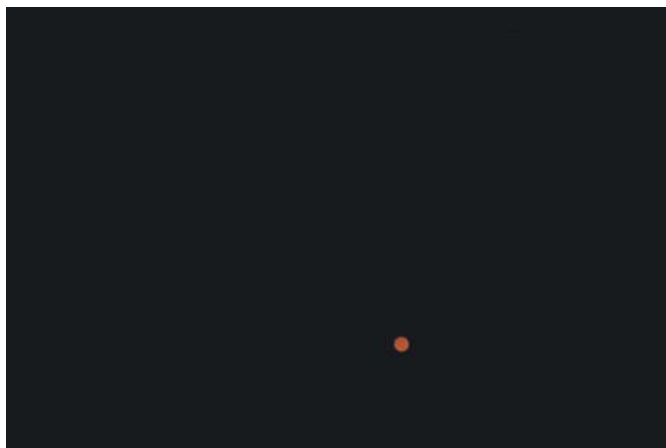
Except for one feeble streak of light I didn't see the Perseids meteor shower peak. I was out in the garden until past midnight but the clouds, though thin and patchy, were pretty extensive and conditions seemed to be deteriorating. However, I did see Mars rise in the SE, above the roof, whilst Saturn and Jupiter were still visible in the SW. The Galilean Moons of Jupiter and the Rings of Saturn are still a treat. I think I glimpsed the spark of Titan, Saturn's largest moon too.

This month see Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn easily with your naked eye; Uranus with binoculars, Neptune through a small telescope.

I will give the apparent magnitudes, observed brightness, of planets and other objects next to their names. Perversely, the lower the number the brighter they appear, so negative numbers indicate much brighter objects than positive ones. Magnitudes of planets are not constant as they move either closer to us or further away (relatively speaking along their orbits of the Sun). Consequently, Jupiter and Saturn will fade a little as the month progresses whilst Mars will get brighter.

All month, from 8pm look broadly south and you will see bright Jupiter (magnitude -2.5) and a large handspan or so to its left, dimmer (mag. 0.4), Saturn. Remember, Saturn has a yellowish cast to it. On the 24th and 25th, around 8pm, the Moon is close to both Jupiter and Saturn. The other prominent spot of light, a tad lower in the sky than either planet, is the star Nunki.

From mid-month, from 10pm, look east to south-east for Mars (mag. -1.8 to -2.5 at the end). It will be the brightest object in that direction and has a reddish hue. Like all planets, it doesn't twinkle either. Mars will rise somewhat higher in the sky than Jupiter or Saturn which adds to its increasing prominence. Remember all those spacecrafts heading towards it that I discussed last month.



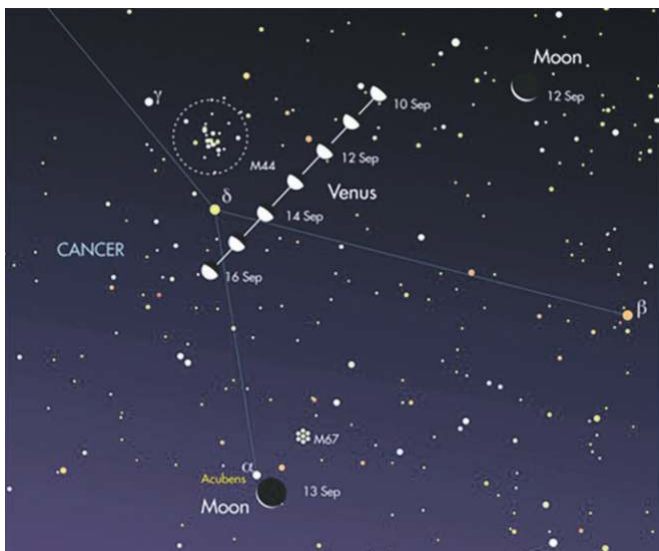
Mars in 2018 when it was closer than in 2020. Parish

On the 5th and 6th, around 11pm, Mars is close to the Moon. It gets closer towards sunrise and, at 7am, binoculars should pick out a dot, Mars, close to the 2 o'clock position on the Moon's edge.

Uranus is in the sky from mid-month at around 10pm too. It is in the same general direction as you will find Mars but a fist or two to its left. With a magnitude of 5.7 it should be visible, in a dark sky, to those of you with good eyes. However, for the rest of us, very good binoculars will be necessary and a small telescope is best. Google its position and look for a bluey green dot. As it is so visible, it is surprising that, in the ancient days of very dark skies, it was not included with the 'wandering stars' - planets.

Look S to SE all month, with a telescope and a guide, to find distant Neptune (mag. 7.8). It is closest to the Earth (in opposition) on the 11th. Closest means 4,327 million kilometres away. I will try and photograph it again this year and, maybe, pick up its largest satellite, Triton, too.

Venus is a morning object which rises in the NE around 2am but best to wait until around 5.00am when it will be high enough in the sky to see more easily. Though visible all month, the best time is in the first half as it gets lower in the sky as the month progresses. The 14th has Venus very close to the crescent Moon. In between them is M44 the Beehive or Praesepe Cluster of stars. Fuzzy to the naked eye, (mag. 3.7), good binoculars will reveal tens of the 1000 stars which are gravitationally bound to each other. The cluster is 610 light years away and has been known since ancient times.



Internet



Internet. Beehive Cluster.

The two bright stars above Venus and the Moon on the 14th are Castor - topmost (mag. 0.93) and Pollux (mag. 1.14). Castor is a multiple star system of 6 stars. Pollux is a giant orange star.

Nights are getting darker so you can think of looking at stars and some of those fuzzy objects that, Messier, and others since him, have catalogued. Messier did it to eliminate them from his search for comets.

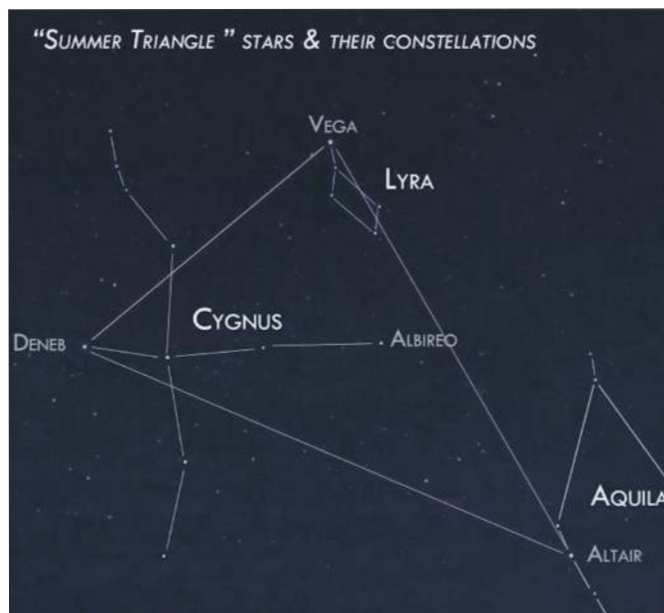
Whilst we still have summer, find the Summer Triangle, with the three bright stars, Vega (mag. 0.03), Deneb (mag. 1.25) and Altair (mag. 0.76) at its corners. Look due south around 11pm and Deneb and Vega will be above your head with Vega a tad more to the west. Altair will be about a third of the way down the sky, below Vega.

Deneb is the head of Cygnus, the Swan. Follow the body of the bird down to a point about midway between Vega and Altair. At this tail end, good binoculars should reveal Albireo (mag 5.11), a magnificent double star, one of its components golden yellow, the other an electric blue.

On your binocular journey to this gem you should have seen many stars revealed because your path was down one of the 'limbs' of the Milky Way. The other 'limb' is just below it and, in between, there is a darker streak of sky called the Great Rift. This consists of clouds of dust and gas which obscure light from the stars behind it.

Go up from Albireo to bright Vega. Then go directly below Vega

and look, with large binoculars, for a fuzzy blob. A small telescope may reveal a ring shape - the Ring Nebulae, M57, magnitude 8.8.



Internet. The triangle will be seen rotated clockwise so that Altair is almost below Vega.



Internet. Ring Nebulae.

M57 is described as a planetary nebula for historical reasons (it looked like a fading planet to Antoine Darquier de Pellepoix in 1779). It is actually an expanding ball of gas produced when a large star blew off its outer layers as a shell, leaving behind a white dwarf star at its centre.

Dark nights are coming, lets hope they are clear. And don't stop looking up or you will miss the alien craft your next door neighbours will be raving about.

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Hunstanton Eyecare blog

Hello everyone. It's great to be back in business following Lockdown, but how things have changed! So much so that one of my lovely ladies this morning said "but I usually see Annette". Yes it's me, but gone is the smart workwear in favour of scrubs and a mask, and I will admit to a new hair colour and cut after three months. For the first time am I wearing multifocal contact lenses so that I can dispense with my specs that were continually steaming up. The practice looks a little bare, as we have had to remove things to make the sanitising routine easier. I don't like housework at the best of times and all this cleaning is a real faff, but we must follow the rules

in order to operate and keep ourselves and you safe and well. We can only allow a certain number of patients in the practice at one time, to ensure we keep to social distancing, so please bear with us.

We are glad the practice is up and running again, albeit still on limited staffing, but we are open and eager to attend to all your ocular and spectacle needs. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Annette



The Norfolk Hospice hits £40k target for bed appeal

The Norfolk Hospice is thrilled to announce that they have now surpassed the £40,000 milestone of their additional bed appeal to support patients during the Covid-19 crisis.

The appeal was initially launched with a target of £11,760 to support the costs for one additional bed during the month of April but this was soon extended to support the running of five additional beds.

One bed at the Hillington-based hospice costs £420 a day to run and the cost of the additional five beds throughout April, May and June amounts to £186,900.

Lyndsay Carter, Chief Executive at The Norfolk Hospice, said:

"I am extremely proud of all of the team at The Norfolk Hospice who have worked with remarkable resilience in the face of unprecedented demand on all of the nation's healthcare providers.

"The Norfolk Hospice is continuing to offer patients with life-shortening illnesses the specialist palliative care they need and this would not be possible without the generosity of our supporters and donors, so thank you."

A notable contribution to the appeal includes a £12,600 donation from The Heacham Group Practice Amenity Fund. Dr Andrew Lake, Chair of the Trustees of the Fund, said:

"The Heacham Amenity Fund was originally set up by the Patient Participation Group of the practice. It has been added to over the years by other funds which have been amalgamated to enable them to provide equipment, care and services to benefit patients of the practice.



These are all things that would not normally be provided by the NHS."

The Norfolk Hospice is celebrating their 35th year of providing care, comfort and compassion to residents in North and West Norfolk nearing the end of their lives and offering support for their families and friends.

You can continue to donate to the appeal via the JustGiving page at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tnhospice>.



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Brancaster Primary School news

Sadly, we have now said our final goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 group before they move on to their new schools. We are very proud of them, their attitude, and the way they have continued to work during lockdown. We enjoyed a lovely (socially distanced) picnic on the field incorporating many of our usual traditions including prizes and gifts, many provided by the PFA – a huge thank you to them – and the ice cream van, also provided by the PFA. The Y6 girls then performed a dance for us.

We used the occasion to also say goodbye to Mr Lacey Hastings who so kindly stepped in to teach the Y6 class this year – although we are now delighted to learn that he will be back on a regular basis, to provide some “catch up tuition” after lockdown – some paid for by the new government initiative, some paid from the school budget.

Mr Johnson from Sedgeford will be joining us as the new teacher in KS2. Mrs Willis will continue to teach Y3/4 separately for Literacy and maths in the morning and will then support Mr Johnson with the whole class in the afternoons. With all of this support, our children have never had it so good!

Mrs Bocking and Mrs Tidd will continue to job share in Thrift Class.

We are now preparing the school ready for a whole school return in September, although wary of doing too much in case regulations change! Teachers return for two training/preparation days on 3rd and 4th September and children return on 7th.

The Diocese have initiated a playgroup to be run at the school, starting in September if Covid-19 regulations allow, every Wednesday afternoon during term time 1.30 – 3pm £1 per family. If you are interested, please phone the school (01485 210246, from 7th September) to find out details.



At our socially distanced picnic



Awards time



We said goodbyes to Mr Lacey Hastings



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Newly-discovered photos shine light on school history

The enforced closure of the novel coronavirus means Smithdon High School in Hunstanton may not have seen much of its current students this year. But it has seen plenty of students from years gone by after a treasure trove of lost school history turned up during refurbishment.



Documents and photographs dating back to the 1950s came to light as major work was carried out during lockdown.

"This has been like striking gold during the Klondike gold rush," said John Hirst, head of the school, which is part of the West Norfolk Academies Trust. "We've had a chance to go through rooms and cupboards that haven't been opened in years, and in one we found this amazing haul of pictures, showing Smithdon's rich history and its connection with the community since the first foundation stone was laid, back in 1954."



Smithdon is famous as being a leading example of post-World War II brutalist architecture, with its glass and steel structure making it radically different to the usual bricks and mortar school of that era, and an instantly recognisable local landmark.

Recent refurbishments, the school's biggest in years, have included major overhauls for buildings housing food technology, the ICT suite and meeting rooms, a new roof and floor for the sports hall, and a complete renovation of C Block which houses the art studio, altogether costing over £1million in SCA funding.

Mr Hirst, who became Smithdon's head last September, said it was about making it a 21st century learning environment for a 21st century education.

"Schools are about education and the creation of better life chances and futures for students," he said. "In normal times they're also places where children can develop friendships, build relationships, get new experiences and create those all-important memories, and we've found some of those memories from decades ago in this cupboard."

The pictures showing life at Smithdon in years gone by has also given him some ideas for the future.



"One of my favourite photos is of the children and staff taking 'afternoon tea' in one of the 'quads', which would be great to replicate when we return to normalcy," he said. "Two other aspects of school life which cannot be overlooked are sport and haircuts! There's a fabulous picture of the football team from the 1959/60 season."



"The date is written on the football, but you can also tell from the Elvis Presley-inspired haircuts, and there's another one from the 1980s of pupils on an 'Olympic Stroll' – with this year's Tokyo Games pushed back a year, maybe that's something we can resurrect next summer."

"These snapshots of school life past have created such a sense of nostalgia, I hope the activities and opportunities we give students at the school today will do the same in the future."



"If anyone recognises anybody in the pictures, or has their own memories of life at the school they'd like to share, please get in touch, we'd love to hear about them."

Potential pupils and their families will have a chance to view the new-look Smithdon High when it holds open days in October.

If you have any stories, or recognise anyone, associated with these pictures, or any other stories from Smithdon's past and you would like to share with the school please email home@smithdonhigh.org



VILLAGE MARKS VJ DAY

Simon Bower, Parish Clerk

A ceremony was held on Saturday, the 75th Anniversary of VJ Day, to mark the installation of a new plaque on the Village Pavilion. The Pavilion was erected by public subscription and the labour of residents, as a memorial to those who lost their lives in WWII.

Chairman of the Snettisham Branch of the Royal British Legion, Phil Smith, and Parish Council Chairman, Major (Rtd) Alf Todd M.B.E. laid Burma Star wreaths. They were joined by Borough Councillor Ian Devereux. It had been intended that a wreath would be laid by Walter Grief, the Village's last survivor of the Far East campaign, but he sadly passed away shortly before the event.

Cllr Todd referred to the fact that a much larger event had been planned, but was unable to go ahead due to continued coronavirus restrictions. A barbecue and stalls, with information on the new Village help group (Snett2gether) and rewilding at the Ken Hill Estate, were part of this – Council had agreed to fund free food as a small thank you to the forty or more residents who had volunteered during the pandemic to help those who were isolating.

A small group of socially distanced Villagers attended the ceremony, which included a two-minute silence, and a round of applause – no singing being allowed. Mr Smith thanked those who attended.

Even with this small group, it was notable how many had stories to share of relatives who had served in the Far East. Cllr Devereux referred to reading recently for the first time correspondence relating to the death there of a family member – it had brought home the "privations of those who had given their todays for our tomorrows" and how important it was to "keep alive the memories of what happened".

The plaque, at a cost of £1,100, was funded by the Parish Council, with support from the Borough's VE Day grant.

The new stone is in granite, and will have a much longer life than the original – it is actually possible to see a reflection of the Village's iconic Church in the shine of the new surface. The original stone is being looked at with a view to possible display elsewhere.



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This is the day that the Lord has made,

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day

That the Lord has made.

When you think of God's creation, I wonder what springs to mind? Maybe you think of the myriad species of animals, insects and birds that inhabit our planet or the majestic mountains, vast oceans and dense rainforests that create such breathtaking scenery. Of course, you may look further afield to the many stars and planets that are visible to us here on earth and imagine those that are too far away for us to see. You may even consider human beings as a marvel of God's creation (well, some of them anyway!). However you picture God's creation not many of us will think of each day as being created by God and yet the day and night, light and darkness were the very first things God spoke into existence. The sun and moon weren't created until day four but there was light and day and night from the very beginning of creation. Time is a gift from God, each day is given to us as a gift to use as we see fit.

How do we greet each day? Do we greet each new day with joy and thankfulness or do we begin each day grudgingly? If we grudgingly begin each day what is stopping your enjoyment of the twenty-four hours that lay ahead? How can you begin to view each day as a gift that God has given to you? How can you be a good steward of this part of God's creation? How can you use your time wisely? We waste hours and days on things of little importance and so have no time left for those things that are of eternal importance.

During lockdown we may have felt that we have had too much time on our hands but each day has still had twenty-four hours in it. We may have had to find different ways to use our time but there has been no more time in each day than there was before lockdown! It has been a challenge for us to use our time wisely when many of the activities that we usually fill our days with have been stopped but each day remains the same and we have still had a choice whether to be good stewards of our time in lockdown or to waste our days wishing things were different.

The rhythm of day and night has been the same since the creation of the world. In Genesis 8:22 God promises that the natural rhythms of time and seasons will continue for as long as the earth does. Isn't it wonderful that we don't have to go to bed each night wondering whether there will be another twenty-four hours? God promises that there will be when he says, 'As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease.'

Are you a good steward of your time? What do you feel is a day well spent? Ecclesiastes 3:1 says,

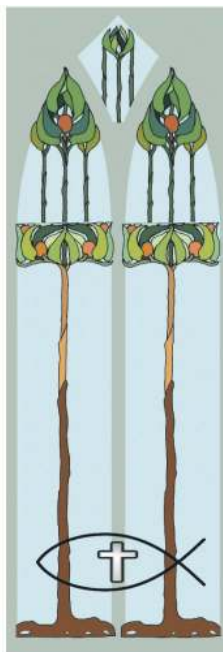
'There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven.'

Do you enjoy a good work/life balance? What would be a perfect day for you? What are the time priorities in your life? How can you begin to enjoy each minute of each hour of each day to the full realising that each day is a gift to you from God? A good starting point is dedicating each day to God and thanking him for the gift of another day.

Alison Kirby,
Snettisham Salvation Army
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Mobile 07436425118



UNION CHURCH WATCHING SEAGULLS



UNION CHURCH
Sandringham Rd
Hunstanton

Janet Brown
Secretary
Tel. 01485 532309
Email: ubjaney@hotmail.co.uk

Over the last month, early morning until late at night, you can't have failed to notice and hear the seagulls around the town. Part of the business of raising their young seems to be who can squawk the loudest and once the dowdy brown offspring get the elbow out of the nest, they have appeared all over the place, plaintively crying to be fed by their parents. Watching their transition from awkward adolescents making test flights and bumpy landings to competent flyers with pure white and black plumage is one of nature's wonders that we can marvel at.

As we make tentative steps out of the Covid-19 Pandemic, we may well feel just as awkward, as we try to do some more normal activities but with safety still on our minds.

At Union we are thinking and planning how we will try to hold meetings when it is safe to do so and when our repairs get finished. There probably will be some test flights and bumpy landings as we take our first steps, but we know that God will direct our steps along the way and we will emerge from these days transformed and grown in our faith and trust in Him.

**With Every Blessing,
Janet Brown**



As from Sunday July 9th, both of our churches will be open and celebrating public Mass on Sundays and weekdays Monday to Friday. Masks must be worn as per the government and Bishops guidelines regarding the Covid 19 virus. You can read the guidelines and any updated information about easing of restrictions etc on our parish website.

The Sunday obligation remains suspended for the foreseeable future and people are advised not to go to Mass if they have any symptoms, however mild, or anyone who is shielding or vulnerable.

The Sunday Masses are at 9am at Mountbatten Road, Dersingham and 11am at Sandringham Road, Hunstanton and there is a limit on the amount of people allowed in.

Daily Masses are at 10am at Hunstanton Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and 10.15am at Dersingham Wednesday. There are quite a few changes to the way Mass will be celebrated and people should be guided by the stewards.

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Email: parish@hunstantoncatholicparish.org
The Parish telephone number is 01485 534675.
If you require a Priest urgently please telephone:
V. Rev Canon Peter Rollings on 01553 772220.
or email; www.hunstantoncatholicparish.org

Being Real

By Gordon Tanner, a member of The Way C F Leadership team

I spent several years at university – more than most people do. I progressed in my career switching jobs regularly to gain experience and/or promotion in status until I was appointed a company director. At one stage I could have written my name preceded by my title Dr with MSc PhD C.Eng FICHEM MIWES MSGT following it on a business card if I had wanted to. It was all about my status! It was about my intellect. It was all so trivial compared to knowing Jesus.

The point I want to make is that the gospel of Jesus is not received in the head – the intellect, that is the brain, - it is received in the heart – the spirit of the person.

I've heard of Christians holding debates. Why? Debates are intellectual exercises and have little to do with the spirit of the debater. You cannot reason anyone into Christianity, but you can put onlookers off. Christianity is received in the heart. It is a heart change that God is seeking in each one of us.

In no way do I compare myself to Paul the apostle who wrote much of the New Testament in the bible but I do appreciate what he wrote in his book to the Philippian church. I am going to quote him in the Passion translation:

Yet all of the accomplishments that I once took credit for, I've now forsaken them and I regard it as nothing compared to the delight of experiencing Jesus Christ as my Lord! To truly know him meant letting go of everything from my past and throwing all my boasting and all that I thought made me better than others on the garbage heap.
Ch3v7-8

Jesus said 'unless you become like little children you cannot enter the Kingdom of God'.

With a changed heart we have a changed life. We are the same person but behave differently. When I made my commitment to Jesus I was not aware of any change occurring in me. But to my shame I remember that my mother-in-law asked what has happened to Gordon, he's become polite! I'm not putting myself up as a great example, I'm still human with all the frailty that entails. If you want to see a real Christian look for someone like Paul whose life was changed deeply, radically.

I once heard someone quote "The gospel of Jesus Christ is so deep theologians cannot reach the depth of it and so shallow a baby cannot drown in it." Christianity does not need more theologians; it's had plenty of them through the ages. It needs people who believe in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, paying the penalty for our sin. That's the gospel.

If you want to find out about this, I recommend that people that they read the gospel in modern translation to get all the 'thee's and 'thou's out of the way, and see the heart of this man, who was God, live out his life of love for mankind.



Hunstanton & the Saxon Shore

Dear Friends,

I wonder if, like me, you have been indulging in a bit of looking back to the way things used to be? The days when we could shake hands, drop in our friends and family with no notice or get on the coast hopper when you fancied a trip along the coast.

We can all do this looking back at times and perhaps we might have been indulging in this more recently. During the summer my brothers and I moved my mother from her home to a sheltered housing flat. The moving mum in to her new, and rather lovely, flat was not a great problem. The most time consuming element was going through all the bits and pieces you accumulate over a long life. Some of the old photos we found did raise a laugh or two.

Amongst other things I found old boxes and suitcases from an elderly great aunt who died many years ago. Every space was filled with either letters or newspaper clippings and these little scraps of faded and crumbling papers gave me a greater insight into her life. I remember her as elderly, unable to walk far and having a love for nature. In the papers I met a different woman. One who was energetic, full of life and activity, one who wrote to object to building plans that affected local wildlife and one who had an active faith in Jesus and lived this out in many different ways. I met my great aunt as a different one from the one I thought I knew. I and I wish I had known her better.

I have come to realise that my great aunt was a force for good where she lived, a woman who had great faith and who made a conscious effort to make the lives of others better. I can now see, looking back, that she prayed for me and many others. On this occasion the looking back that I did was eye opening and brought me to a place of thankfulness. I am also rather sad that I was never aware of who my great aunt was and couldn't thank her for her faithful witness to God in her life and for the way in which she undoubtedly quietly supported me.

We can so often focus on the past wishing things hadn't changed, but if we spend too much time looking back we cannot see where we are, then we sort of stop going forward. It is not easy to think of the future at the moment but as Christians we can be reminded of who we have with us on our journey in life and these verses from Isaiah 43 have always been a great help to me when facing the future "But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear; for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you."

May you have strength to look back in thankfulness and continue walking forward in faith for the future, especially if this is a daunting thought.

God bless you all,
Rachael
rev.rachael.dines@hotmail.com
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Historic Heacham Manor Hotel Welcomes New Restaurant Team

The 1 AA Rosette Mulberry Restaurant located at the historic Grade II listed Heacham Manor Hotel, welcomes 2 new senior managers to their operations team.

With a combined experience of over 50 years in the industry, they join the team at an exciting and transformative time, ahead of the launch later this year of a brand new Golf Country Club, an extensive weddings, conference and events venue and 7 new bedrooms.

Having already launched new Lunch Menus including the ever-popular Sunday Lunch, the team will soon be introducing new A La Carte and Afternoon Tea Menus, uplifting the current offerings with the county's abundance of fantastic seasonal fresh produce.

First to be welcomed to the team is Senior Food and Beverage Manager Clinton Jolly.

With 19 years General Management experience with Whitbread Hotels and Restaurants under his belt he led the team at a Norfolk

location to deliver some of the highest weekly covers of any of its restaurants nationally.

A family man, Clinton is very passionate about great quality produce coupled with excellent service and keeps that personal touch at the forefront of what he does.

Norfolk born and bred, Clinton is committed to creating lasting fond memories for all who dine with him and the team at the Mulberry Restaurant.

Clinton commented, "The Mulberry Restaurant has an idyllic location in the wonderful airy conservatory overlooking the hotel's manicured gardens and parkland golf course and coupled with a strong kitchen brigade, fabulous unpretentious menus and a friendly and professional service team, we are setting our sights on becoming a consistent favourite to guests and local residents alike".

Heacham Manor are also delighted to welcome Head Chef, Johnnie Kidd.

With a prestigious induction to working in professional kitchens, Johnnie began his career under the tutorage of Michelin Star awarded Chef Desmond Cunningham.

Johnnie went on to refine his craft traveling across Europe and working in kitchens in France, Italy, and Greece. Broadening his repertoire and technique, before earning his first Head Chef position aged only 24.

Excited to bring his wealth of experience ranging from bustling city eateries to quaint country gastropubs to Heacham Manor Johnnie states "We whole heartedly cannot wait to welcome customers here to experience our new menus offering an extensive selection of foods from around the globe."

Andrew Searle, Operations Director for Searles Leisure Group had this to say "We are delighted to welcome both Clinton and Johnnie to our Team at Heacham Manor, their wealth of experience in Food and Beverage will be a great asset to The Hotel. This is great timing too,





as we have some busy weeks ahead in our Mulberry Restaurant, with "The Eat Out to Help Out" scheme as well as the re-launch of our popular Afternoon Teas and Sunday Roast Lunches. We also have our exciting new Clubhouse/Function Centre opening in late Autumn, and we have a lot to prepare for that".

Built in 1580, Heacham Manor is a grade II listed property that celebrated its 10th Anniversary as a hotel in 2019. This beautiful Elizabethan country house hotel has 45 bedrooms ranging from the luxury Manor Suite to the contemporary Cottage Standard Rooms, an 18 hole golf course labelled by Golf World in 2019 as one of the Top 100 Golf Resorts in Britain and Ireland, a small boutique spa called the Mulberry Spa that boasts British skincare brand Temple Spa and the 1 AA Rosette Mulberry Restaurant. In late 2020, Heacham Manor will be launching a brand-new Golf Country Club, an extensive weddings, conference and events venue and 7 new bedrooms, bringing the total to 52 bedrooms.

For more information about Heacham Manor Hotel visit: www.heacham-manor.co.uk

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Sea Baptism

Rev. James Monro, Assistant Priest, Hunstanton and Saxon Shore Benefice

Christian baptism is full of meaning, and I was delighted when James Stokes asked me to baptise him in the sea at Old Hunstanton.

The life and ministry of Jesus are rooted in his death and subsequent resurrection to new life, and our lives should mirror this. As we come to faith in him, we begin a new life empowered by his Spirit. Baptism is a powerful sign of our profession of faith; going under the water signifies death to the old life, and then coming up out of the water, cleansing and new life in the Holy Spirit. Indeed, Jesus told Nicodemus two thousand years ago that everyone must be born again by water and the Spirit to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, and baptism is a sign and seal of this new birth.

*Family and friends gather on the beach*

James' baptism in the sea was a new experience for me, and of course for him. In the bible the sea is seen as a place of chaos, as well as the place for the creation of life. We certainly experienced a little of the chaos, because while the rest of the country was experiencing a heat wave on August 9th, Hunstanton at that time was overcast and windy. Coming back on shore certainly was not easy for us with breaking waves on the backs of legs as we walked in bare feet over large, sharp flints being sucked the other way! Indeed, life itself can be rather like that. Jesus never promised that life with him would be free of problems, but that he is there with us if we obey his command to follow him.

Christian Science Church

Autumn - the nights are drawing in the summer recedes slowly and the glow of autumn unveils itself in the colours of the trees and foliage. The seasons bring a sense of renewal and continuity to a changing world. With lockdown and the changing guidelines for us all, we can be grateful that we are slowly moving to a sense of progress, and have all had to learn lessons of patience, endurance, obedience and compassion for others, and have been inspired by the selfless courage and inspiration of others during this time. The fruits of autumn are the result of the year's growth and the Bible quotes "the fruit of the Spirit is love joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance against such there

is no law." We can be pleased in our moving forward and a greater love for each other.

Further information on the worldwide Christian Science church can be found at www.christianscience.com.

Due to the current situation, Christian Science services are now available online. Please go to www.spirituality4.me to find live-streamed services around the UK, along with other online events, talks and webinars.

An online shop is also available where you will find books, CDs and many other resources. Follow us on Facebook to find out when our regular services in Hunstanton will resume.



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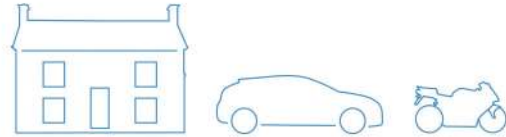
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