

Athelington, Horham & Redlingfield *NEWS*



**AUTUMN 2023
Issue No. 62**

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Crime has hit our villages since our last village magazine with attempted break-ins to outbuildings, domestic burglaries in broad daylight, in both Horham and Redlingfield, and, most recently, a break-in at the newly-opened Be Well Barn and its Suffolk Jungle Room cafe. See page 41 for more about the most recent burglary. So, please keep 'em peeled, as they used to say, but do remember we actually live in one of the safest parts of the UK.

Particular thanks to our contributors who seem to have gone above and beyond this issue with some great pictures brightening up the magazine. Many thanks to you all and keep up the great work.

This issue is, as always, packed with wildlife features and news but I couldn't resist sharing with you some of sights we have seen in our garden this summer. The most exciting for me was seeing four turtle doves feeding together on our lawn – I hope that means our pair successfully fledged two young this year. One of the most unexpected sights was of a young goldcrest just an arms-length away bouncing around on one of red cherry trees while a parent watched on. We had the usual hordes of blue and great tits and hosts of finches – gold, chaff and green. We've also been fortunate enough to have a pair of nesting bullfinches who turned up on our feeders with their young. There have also been young wagtails, lots of wrens – surprisingly visible – obviously blackbirds and starlings but also young greater spotted woodpeckers and a young green woodpecker being fed ants by a parent.

Particular thanks to all the deliverers & Midge Gibbons for proofreading the magazine. Any errors are mine. Mike Ager

■ PRODUCE SHOW: Redlingfield Produce Show is on Sunday 10th September on the Doorstep Green. Exhibits to arrive 10-11am, judging 11am-noon, prize-giving 12.30pm followed by a harvest festival service. Entry to classes is £1 each on the day. Proceeds to St Andrew's Church. Further information 07817 207462. There will be refreshments available, BBQ & licensed bar (bar proceeds to Doorstep Green).

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

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

Deadlines for adverts & editorial:

Spring issue (covering Mar, April & May) **Final deadline February 14**

Summer issue (covering June, July & Aug) **Final deadline May 14**

Autumn issue (covering Sept, Oct & Nov) **Final deadline August 14**

Winter issue (covering Dec, Jan & Feb) **Final deadline November 14**

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

Finches are under threat but not from bird flu

Trevor Edwards' latest slice of Wash Farm Wildlife

AT LAST, THE WEATHER warmed up in May and birdsong was everywhere. The early bird catches the worm and it was a pleasure to enjoy the first cup of tea at 6.30am and birdwatch from the bedroom window.

The delightful turtle dove was purring away well-hidden across the pond whilst another member of the dove family, the less than delightful woodpigeon, was busy nest-building

in a large cotoneaster bush. He was carrying a constant stream of twigs to his fussy mate, some of which were rejected; when this happened, you could almost see his Tony Hancock-like look of disappointment.

Whilst my view of the woodpigeon needs censorship, many people admire its delicate pink-blush plumage and when not consuming farmers' crops it waddles fat and contented around the garden.



ON HIS POND AT Rookery Farm, Drew found an interesting cross-species friendship going on between a mallard family and a mandarin drake.

A family of a female mallard and nine ducklings was being guarded by the very colourful mandarin and, when they visited our pond a few days later, the protective guardian was at his most hostile best in seeing off other ducks and a moorhen which strayed too close to his adopted family.

Our farmyard pond is

**The mandarin guardian ...
not just a pretty face and a
newly-hatched dragonfly
drying its wings.**



THE WHITSUN Bank Holiday, May 29th, dawned cool and misty but with the sun forecast to break through it was a good day for a walk on the Suffolk coast.

A well-trodden path from Eastbridge to the Minsmere Sluice is

maintaining good water quality thanks to Oli Knowland's advice on aeration and he identified a handsome Broad-bodied Chaser which, on hatching, was drying its wings before being able to fly.

We are still very short of frogs and toads despite a friend donating a batch of tadpoles. We thought this might be the start of a better frog number but no such luck and it remains a mystery.

quiet and provides excellent habitat for warblers.

A reed warbler was about, hidden away churring somewhere, and a reclusive sedge warbler, repeating its louder more musical phrases, perched atop the reeds and showed itself briefly.

Whenever I looked up, swifts were everywhere which was heartening as they hadn't arrived further inland near home in Eye at the time.

Continued on page 4.



An oystercatcher feeding in Diss.

Continued from page 3.

A short-stay migrant, only arriving when summer truly arrives and leaving as soon as the calendar clicks over to August, the swift is many a birders favourite for its ability to master our inclement weather. Flying 500 miles or more a day to collect

food or further if necessary, the eggs can resist chilling and the chicks can go without food for days if the parents are delayed. This is a very well adapted bird.

With a rewarding pint at The Eel's Foot Inn to finish, it turned out to be a very good day.

TWO VISITS TO Screwfix in Diss in May took on a greater interest than usual because a pair of breeding oystercatchers were feeding on a small grassy area in the carpark.

I was amazed to see both adults return to the flat roof of the business



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units nearby where two hungry chicks ran up and down the profile sheeting. I needn't have been surprised however, as checking up in my *Handbook of British Birds*, it said that rooftops are exactly where they may choose to nest.

However, it struck me as incongruous to choose the roof of the local ToolStation branch in an acre of carparking.

Apparently, Diss people there are well used to it as it is the fourth successful year of downtown breeding for this pair of adventurous waders.

ONE DAMP HARVEST morning, of which there have been many ... the more things change, the more they stay the same, at least with our weather.

Trevor Edwards



■ BEAUTIFUL BENCHES:

Now in its fifth year, the art sculpture trail in Eye features 24 beautifully decorated benches, five Suffolk-shaped mini tables and eight charming cushions. Visitors can walk with purpose to see them placed on a route around the town.

One of the benches can be seen at Frogs Farm and another is in Harleston so do take a trip there too. They will be in place until Saturday 9th September and then they will be sold in auction, by Clarke & Simpson, at The Oaksmere, Eye from 6.30pm on Wednesday 20th September. Online bidding will also be available.

See

www.eyesculpturetrail.co.uk



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From top: Henry and a young Barn Owl; Mick Wright (BTO Suffolk), Edward, Domino, Vesper and Henry with young Barn Owl; Henry and his school community award.



WILDLIFE

Great fledgling

HELLO EVERYONE!
We hope you have had a lovely summer. It's nice that everything has managed to stay green this year!

We've had some fantastic nesting successes. Our Spotted Flycatchers arrived safely and have had at least two broods in their favourite locations.

The first brood were in the Nissen hut in an old

LAST YEAR, I put a Bee Hotel up on the wall of my playhouse. I was a bit disappointed that it wasn't used and asked a friend for some advice on where I could move it to.

I relocated it to a sunny spot and soon the holes started to fill up! I was so excited and watched all of the different bees and wasps hard at work. Many of the chambers were used by Red Mason Bees. The female lays an egg at the back of the chamber, collects and deposits nectar and pollen to provide enough food for the larvae, and then seals up the cell with a mixture of saliva

Blackbird nest and then the adults moved to the soffit of the house again. The football goals and badminton net have been well used as perching sites for the fledgelings!

We've also had a family of five Bullfinches feeding on the little plants that grow on the driveway. It shows the importance of leaving some 'weeds' for wildlife.

and mud/soil. They continue to repeat this process until the chamber is full. I also have some chambers which have been used by Leaf-Cutter Bees. They carry out a similar process, but block each cell with pieces of leaf, which they have cut with their mouths.

I was so pleased with the success of my bee hotel that I asked Mum to post it on social media so that others could see. I couldn't believe how successful the post was! Over just a few days, I reached over 63,000 people across the world! Many people were relocating their hotels to sunnier spots and/or

success for the Colnets

We also had another family of Bullfinches fledge at the beginning of August which also shows that nesting season for some birds really does continue way into the summer and that hedges and overgrown areas really do need to be left without cutting for as long as possible.

You may remember us reporting that we had a Barn Owl roosting in our

making their own and taking photographs of what they'd made. I was thrilled to have reached and influenced so many people worldwide and feel I've done something really important to help the bees.

I have really enjoyed my time on the Suffolk Wildlife Trust Youth Board so far. In July, I was invited to represent the Trust at the Nextdoor Nature event in Ipswich. Nextdoor Nature is supporting communities to help nature flourish where they work and live. It was a very enjoyable afternoon and I met lots of new people. I performed my poem

box last year. We are delighted that this year, we have had a breeding pair for the first time! Mick Wright (British Trust for Ornithology Suffolk) came to inspect the box for us and found one very healthy young female, very close to fledging.

She was ringed for BTO Nest Record Scheme and we, along with our friends were



'Just a Tree' and a new poem which I had written at school; 'Water's Journey'. I was delighted to meet Mayor of Ipswich Cllr Lynne Mortimer and was very proud to recite my poems to her personally. I hope you enjoy reading 'Water's Journey' too.

able to see her up close and appreciate just how amazing Barn Owls are. By leaving our meadows to become tussocky grassland, we have provided our Barn Owls with enough hunting habitat to allow them to successfully breed and we are really proud to have been able to help them.

From Henry and Arthur Colnet

Last but not least, I am very proud to have been given a special award by my school, in the end of year assembly. My school recognised the work I do in conservation at home, at school and in the wider community. It was a new award which they introduced, called the 'Community Award'. I have had a wonderful time helping my primary school during this last year and am looking forward to hopefully being a part in the conservation efforts at my new high school, when I begin in September.

From Henry



The Colnet boys at Redgrave and Lopham Fen and Henry reading the below poem to the Mayor of Ipswich.

Water's Journey

This poem starts at the river,
The water is trickling by,
The butterflies are dancing.

This water flows to the sea,
Where the coral life is thriving.
Colourful fish swim by,
The coral waves and flaps with the
movement of the water.

Back near the river,
A crisp packet is thrown out of a fast
car.
This plastic lasts for years,
It is blown into the river.

This crisp packet flows down the river.
The water is getting browner,
Pollution is destroying life in the river.

This crisp packet floats down the river
into the sea,
Where it meets lots of other plastic
species.

This plastic floats wherever it wants to
go,
Gulls get stuck in the wiring,
Turtles die from eating it.

The water is getting hotter,
The coral is bleaching,
The coral is dead.
This is now a graveyard of dead sea
life.

This plastic floats to China,
Where it meets a boat.
This boat has a huge net behind it.
It acts as a void,
Damaging the marine wildlife,
Capturing life.
This is overfishing.

The plastic floats a bit further to meet
another ship.
This ship has another net.
This ship is capturing sharks.

The harmless sharks are scooped up.
Fins cut off.
Chucked back into the ocean,
Where they die of hunger.

This plastic is still there,
A decade later.
Still bobbing along,
Killing everything in its path.

Due to climate change,
It follows a flood.
This flood drowns people and destroys
their homes.

This crisp packet floats into a flooded
garage.
It rests on a windscreen of a
broken-down fast car.

Henry Colnet

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A quiet walk at

THE MEADOW at Pound Lane Wood has been constantly changing over the last few weeks. The yellow rattle is becoming well established and is suppressing the grasses. The flowers are mostly over and it is setting seed to help it spread.

The bee orchids have gone over but two pyramid orchids are still in flower. The meadow has both the purple-pink and a white flowering varieties. Orchid seeds are so small they cannot germinate on their own but rely on fungi in the soil to provide food for them to grow.

Whilst I wandered the paths trying to take a

photo of one of the many meadow brown butterflies, a buzzard circled overhead. Alerted by the mewing call I looked up and got a picture.

The common knapweed added a splash of colour and the butterflies were feeding together with hover flies. Red headed cardinal beetles were happy on the cow parsley.

Purple vetch was growing through the brambles and in the hedges' dog roses and honeysuckle were in full bloom. The rides are looking lush and green, benefiting from the recent rain. In the woodland areas, nests show that birds are



Pound Lane

using the cover provided.

It was good to see the pond full of water and life again. An Emperor dragonfly flew by the pond and a darter hawked up and down the rides.

I had a peaceful walk enjoying the woods and wildlife. I had my camera on the wrong settings when I arrived and so missed a photo of a Fritillary butterfly on my arrival, which is an exciting find.

This is likely to have been the Silver Washed Fritillary, which has been recorded in nearby woodland over the past three years. A large, fast flying, brightly marmalade-coloured butterfly, this is one of

the most beautiful sights to be found in woodland during high summer. It has silver streaks on the wing undersides, which can often be seen as it stops to feed on flowers such as Bramble.

Although the butterfly is seen mostly in sunny glades and rides, it actually breeds in the shadier parts of adjacent woodland. The Silver-washed Fritillary declined during the twentieth century, especially in England and Wales, but has spread noticeably during recent decades.

After a good walk, and despite the camera



setting issues, I still came away calm and refreshed. An update

on our plans to honour the memory of our past chairman and founding member, David Flowerdew, will be covered in a future article.

If you are interested in joining us and getting hands on experience of helping improve our local environment and enjoying outdoor activities, please contact our secretary Peny Conway on 07495875299.

Peny Conway





This page: A bee orchid. Facing page: flowers at the coffee mornings.

Blooming great at

WELL, LIKE EVERYONE IN OUR villages, we have weathered the weather that this disappointing summer has thrown at us!

The rain has meant that we have not used the garden at The Old School as much as we planned, but Bernard’s decision to set aside part of the grass for wildflowers has allowed Bee Orchids to bloom for the first time.

Both the bar and the coffee morning continue to do well, and Mary has been cheering us up each week with lovely flowers from her gardens on each table,

As the fields are being combined, we are looking forward to the Harvest Festival in St Mary’s church on October 15th after which The Old School will host a ‘bring and share’ Harvest Lunch. Do put this date in your diary, it was such a lovely occasion last year.



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The Old School

The bar is open on Sundays from noon. The coffee morning runs from 10.30am to noon on Wednesdays. The Old School is available to hire. Please contact Pip on 07305 108698.

Horham and Athelington Village Hall Committee.

■ **HORHAM and ATHELINGTON VILLAGE HALL AND SOCIAL CLUB (THE OLD SCHOOL) (next to church):**

The bar is open noon-5pm on Sundays. The Cyber Cafe & Coffee morning Wed is 10.30am till 12ish. Cafetière coffee, homemade cake & computer help/advice & tuition is available during these sessions. All ages welcome. Chairman – Christine Cooper, 384168. Secretary – Jill Peters, 384988. Hall Bookings Pip Florance, 384370.



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Two, three and four wheel fun at community centre

THE WHEELS ON WEDNESDAYS event at Horham & Athelington Community Centre provided some thrills and no spills, except perhaps the beer later. Not a huge number of vehicles but quality rather than quantity. Motorised bicycles and motorbikes and a special appearance of a Sinclair C5. The small one-person battery- electric recumbent-tricycle, technically an “electrically assisted pedal cycle” – owner David Whatling. In complete contrast was a Ferrari – owner Andy Black.

Unfortunately, rain stopped outside

play at the Family Fun Saturday Evening on 22nd July but everyone had a good time. Thank you to the organisers.

Rod Tyrrell is stepping down in October as Horham & Athelington Community Centre’s Designated Premises Supervisor after many years. Mid Suffolk District Council has disappplied the conditions relating to a DPS, and all members of the Horham Community Centre Trust (HVHT and H&ACC) are now responsible for the sale and supply of alcohol.

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■ Horham Village Hall Trust Management & Horham & Athelington Community Council (community centre opposite the church):

Membership £10 for a family living at one address, (2 adults & children up to 16 years), £5 for a single adult, £3 for a junior 16-18 years (age must be proven). Membership runs Jan 1-Dec 31.

Membership forms available from the bar staff, or Angela Wilkins, 384625.

Community Centre club nights & opening hours: Wed, Fri, & Sat, 8pm-11pm

(admission may be restricted when a private function is being held). Hall bookings via Karen Alderton, 384754 or 07775 672220. Chairman Tim Debenham, Horham Village Hall Trust, Secretary, Margaret Streeter, 384869. Contact Neil Cartwright 07814875745.



is due to be undertaken soon.

Looking forward to the Harvest Supper on Saturday, 30th. September, further details in the Centre.

The Parish Council are supporting the Community Centre with the idea of a new up-to-the-minute play area, for children and adults, with all the health and safety issues addressed. To obtain the readily available grant from Mid Suffolk District Council the Parish Council will require the wholehearted support from the community. Messages of support please to Councillors Paul Hambling and Tom Wright, Treen, The Street, Horham, 01379 384501, to support the Parish's grant application,

A respectful reminder to "Pooper scoop" after your dogs - a new extra "dog poo bin" has just been installed by the Parish Council.

It's been pointed out to me that in the Horham Directory, I'm still included as Secretary of The Old School (Village Hall). Mike Ager (Editor) is aware of the oversight and apologises.

The AGM of Horham Village Hall Trust and Horham and Athelington Community Council is to be held on Tuesday, 12th. September at 7.30 pm. in the Community Centre. All Welcome.

Margaret Streeter, Sec. HVHT



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Memorable

A telephone call from Midge Gibbons early on the morning of Tuesday June 13th carried a surprising message. She asked me to go round straight away as she had a German balloonist in her garden who wanted to find the local farmer who owned the field next to her house.

And thus I met the charming, sprightly 73 year-old Willie Eimes, who, along with his two young Polish trainees, had taken off from Dusseldorf on a night-time competition at 10.30pm the previous evening.

He was full of smiles as he had found the right wind at the right altitude and had won the competition by a (foreign)



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day for Redlingfield ...

country mile; his competitors had only travelled as far as France and the Netherlands.

As he had landed on the edge of a rape field where the crop had failed and had done no damage, I had no reason not to smile either.

As we discussed how to use our farm teleporter to recover the balloon back to the farmyard, I thought breakfast would be a good idea.

Midge had alerted the police because, although Willie had alerted Air Traffic Control, he had not spoken to Border Control and, now outside the EU, they were illegal immigrants. And so they were treated to breakfast at the

new Be Well Barn café where we learnt about the difference between hot-air ballooning and gas ballooning, the latter flying with a sealed hydrogen-filled balloon which gives huge range increases, in this case about 600km.

The police had arrived and told everybody to move nothing whilst our surprise visitors' identities and paperwork were checked out.

This took an eternity on the phone to a Home Office department but there was no hurry as the balloons' recovery truck and trailer was still just clearing Dover.

continued on page 18



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continued from page 17

The clearance came through, the mood relaxed, and the police smiled and began to enjoy the unusual experience as much as anyone.

With everything stowed in the basket and waiting back in the yard, we learnt that Willie was training for a ballooning challenge in Switzerland, an alpine challenge taking off from St Gallen. He was competing for a famous trophy named after a balloonist

and adventurer back in 1907 - the Gordon Bennett Cup. So that's where our expression comes from!

While still waiting for the recovery truck at midday, Anita and I were treated to lunch with one remaining policeman waiting in the car park. His brief was to see the balloon loaded and on its way home as we waved a friendly goodbye to Willie from Dusseldorf.

Trevor Edwards

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From the balloonists' own Facebook post:

“ Pilots Przemyslaw Moscicki and Piotr Lubaczewski, launched from Ballon Startplatz Gladbeck under the guidance of Wilhelm Eimers – a living legend of gas ballooning*.

... landing at Redlingfield 25km north of Ipswich. Distance 405km.

The decision to fly to England was very spontaneous and planned about five hours before takeoff. There were several twists and turns in the story, but the determination of the crew proved that where there's a will there's a way. We could not waste such an opportunity and weather conditions. Such a situation might not happen again. Not even the lack of passports stopped us. We will worry about that later – we decided. Unfortunately, one of our ground crew members Tomasz Hawajski, due to lack of passport, had to stay in Calais, France and wait there for us for more than 12 [hours]. Thanks for that Tom!

The part of the flight within the European Union took place at night ... The flight over the water was calm and steady ... The view of the sunrise on the sea is something amazing and will stay in the memory for a long time.

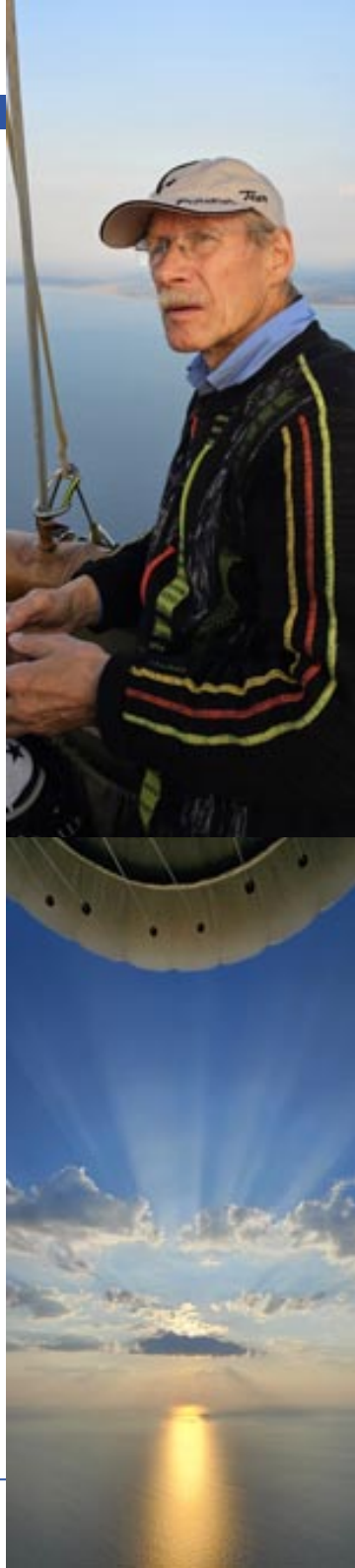
After crossing the shoreline, we found that the weather conditions will allow for about 1.5 hours of inland excursion. This was an excellent decision, as it allowed us to land at an estate of the most friendly people in England.

Trevor Edwards – it was he and his family who help us after landing. Before we start organising the balloon they invited us to the Be Well Barn for a delicious coffee and breakfast. A wonderful place opened just two weeks ago by Trevor's son. In addition to food, you can enjoy a spa and personal training there. Unfortunately, there was no time for that ...

When we returned to pick up the balloon by transporter, Trevor also helped us with an explanation of the unusual situation to the local police, who were waiting for us next to the basket. Lack of passports, did not help us at all. In the end everything ended happily

...

*Wilhelm “Willi” Eimers is a member of the FAI Ballooning Commission (CIA) Hall of Fame.



Autumn flowers in your

AS SUMMER COMES TO A close and we drift into Autumn, you will still see plenty of colourful plants for pots and borders.

My personal favourites are Dahlias, which have had a resurgence in popularity over the last couple of years. If like me you can remember being a kid in your grandad's garden and thinking to yourself: "Why are their pots with straw, placed on canes between plants?" Only to be told they are "To catch them pesky earwigs and stop them from eating the flowers and leaves of my Dahlias!" We don't seem to be as bothered by earwigs now as our parents and grandparents were in the 70s.

Anyway, although Dahlias are not fragrant, they produce an abundance of flowers in many forms and colours, with regular dead heading. This can be from late July right through to the first frosts. They are a swollen tuber or storage organs, that need to over-

Winter in a cool, dry environment. You should remove any damaged, rotten tubers and store the tubers in trays of old compost.

The school of thought now is, not to dry them upside down, but to place them so the tubers are covered and remain swollen and don't shrivel. Sometimes they can remain in situ without rotting if the soil doesn't become too wet or frost damaged. Once the stems have died and blackened, place straw or horticultural fleece scrunched up over them, then put a large pot upside down over them to give them Winter protection. But the best course of action is to dig up the tubers and to place in cool, dry trays of old compost in a shed, if space is available.

Before potting on, cuttings can be taken from new shoots or you can divide tubers with a growing eye to provide more plants. As soon as you see shoots appear on the tubers in

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gardens

Spring pot them up in not oversized pots in an equal mixture of potting compost and garden soil with horticulture grit or pea shingle mixed in for drainage.

Finally, you can plant them out in beds, borders or pots at the end of May, after the last frosts. Some taller varieties will need additional staking as they may become top heavy. Like all plants, with fresh compost, feed should be available for the first 8 to 12 weeks, then additional feed in any form to suit your budget, will be beneficial to help boost growth and fight pests and disease.

Our Roses should be in their second flush of flowers as well, which takes place after the correct dead heading. After a Rose has finished flowering, follow down the stem with secateurs and cut directly above a leaf four to five leaves down, this will produce a new shoot, which will become a second flush of flowers right up until late November.

Once Roses have finished flowering completely, remove old spent flowers and all old leaves from around the soil that could harbour pests & fungal disease. Pruning is all part of the same process, at the same time of year for patio, hybrid tea, floribundas and climbing roses. Only Rambling Roses are pruned different as they flower on previous seasons shoots & are best pruned after flowering in late Summer and on this year's seasons shoots.

*Happy gardening everyone,
Andrew Peters*



Above is the beautiful Ingrid Bergman deep red, velvet leaved rose. It's a moderately fragrant Rose, introduced in 1984 by Poulson Roses of Denmark. We have had this Rose in this pot for eight years and it is still flourishing with a little bit of TLC! Water, feed and remove the top two to three inches of soil each Spring & replace with topsoil/garden soil.

Below, one of my bi-colour Dahlias (called Seattle White) in a medium-sized pot with hoops for support.





Back in the skies over

NINETY-NINE-year-old American WW2 veteran Ray Hobbs was back flying from Horham Airfield this year after nearly 80 years.

Thanks to a chance encounter the former B-17 pilot from Ogden in Utah took to the skies over East Anglia bringing tears to those watching on.

Ray was in the UK with around 50 other US visitors – the families of men who served in the 95th Bomb Group during WW2 – as part of the 80th anniversary reunion tour organised by the 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association in Horham.

Local pilot Rod Wheeler, who flies his light aircraft from Horham airfield, was coming into land when he had to abort

as a convoy of WW2 vehicles transporting the American visitors on a tour of local sights drove on to the airstrip.

When the vehicles cleared a path, he landed and learned Ray had piloted B-17s from that airfield. He then took him for spin over Horham.

Rod let Ray take control of the aircraft for a short period. Rod said: “At 1,000 feet Ray took control of the plane and he flew it perfectly.”

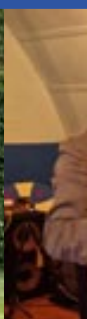
Rod added: “It was ... a great honour, especially to have Ray fly after what he had done all of those years ago.” He said that it was great to hear Ray Hobbs laughing and enjoying his flight.

Ray’s exploits were featured on local TV

(Anglia), in regional morning newspapers in Suffolk (East Anglian Daily Times) and Norfolk (Eastern Daily Press) as well as the local weekly (Diss Express) and nationals (Daily Mirror).

Modest Ray plays down any talk of danger during the seven missions he flew during the closing stages of the war in May 1945 – six of them dropping essential supplies to the Dutch population who were starving.

However, one of the aircraft he had flown on a Chowhound mission to Holland became the last B-17 shot down over Europe when, despite a ceasefire agreement, it came under anti-aircraft fire and went down in the North Sea on 7th May





Top row: Ray Hobbs, his family, pilot Rod Wheeler and Ray with Paul Woodward. Bottom row: The jeep run and wreath-laying at Horham during the reunion and Americana day and dance.



Horham at 99

1945 with the loss of ten lives.

Ray said: "It took a while to realize it but now I know for sure that we saved lives instead of taking them, and that is a good feeling for a lifetime," he said proudly. "I am here to represent those that gave their all, they did so much for us, there is no way we can pay them back"

Two great ideas also came to fruition at the reunion.

A POW Memorial Wall inside the entrance to the Red Feather Club was unveiled. This was the brainchild of Gerald Grove of the 95th BGMF. Ray

Howlett and Sophie Green checked all the data of the 95th BGHA men held POW and interned during WWII. Mathew Miles created the design, artist Jane Tebbutt did the painting with Scott and Reg Bradley constructing it (Scott soon straightened up the jaunty angled 95th badge after the unveiling).



The Memorial Blast Shelter was the idea of Paul Woodward who led the team, which included Sophie Green, Thomas Williamson, Reg and Scott, to restore the bunker. New concrete paths were laid by Scott, Reg, Paul Woodward and Edward Howe.

By Mike Ager, Andy Garner & Scott Bradley

■ **MORE AT THE RFC:** As well as the reunion, the 95th have been busy welcoming visitors and holding events including fund-raising dances. Some of the best acts in the UK make the trek to the Red Feather Club. The Ding Dong Daddios packed out the venue on the night before Americana Day, the annual celebration of all things American, which saw another great turn-out.

- **EVENTS:**
- SATURDAY SEPT 23: Dance** - The Hot House Combo.
- SUNDAY SEPT 24: Public Open Day.**
- SUNDAY OCT 29: Public Open Day** - followed by 95th BGHA AGM.

■ **DANCE LESSONS:** Learn to dance to music from the 1940s & 50s. 7-9.30pm, Mondays, £2,50 per person at the RFC. Details from Duncan 07771 675351 or Natalie 07949 541079. Beginners welcome.



Wednesday 9 August-Saturday 23 September

Figure ... Exploration of Human Form &

Presence: Art exhibition, The Bank, Eye.

Saturday 2 September

Redlingfield Pub on the Green: 6-11pm.

BBQ & bar, Doorstep Green.

Jive Dance Festival: Stonham Barns, 10am-10.30pm.

Life Fest 2023: 2pm, free music & arts festival hosted Diss Baptist.

Steve Knightley 'Unlock Me & Other

Lockdown Laments': 7.30pm, Debenham Leisure Centre, £20.

Saturday 2 September/Sunday 3 September

Steam Railway Day & Old Ram Vintage

Tractor Club visit: Mid-Suffolk Light Railway.

Wednesday 6 September

Redlingfield & Occold WI - Dionne & Rachel

Define Radiance: 7.30pm Occold Village Hall.

Coffee Caravan: 10am-noon, Redlingfield.

Thursday 7 September

Made2Measure Theatre Co presents

Murder in Piccadilly: 7.30pm, Wingfield Barns, £12.

Friday 8-Sunday 17 September

Eye Heritage Open Days 2023:

www.eyesuffolk.org

Saturday 9 September

BSL Signing Day for the Deaf and Hard of

Hearing: 10am-5pm, Suffolk Owl Sanctuary.

Bedfield Quiz Night: 7pm, St Nicholas Church, teams of 4 or 5 a pew. £24 a pew - inc a Deli snack bag. Drinks will be available to purchase.

Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 September

Wedding Dress Festival: Sat 10.30am-4pm, Sun 10am-3.30pm, St Mary's Church, Worlingworth. Dresses from 1930s to present day. Refreshments, light lunches noon-2pm. In aid of St Mary's funds.

Sunday 10 September

Redlingfield Produce Show: 10am, Redlingfield Doorstep Green to raise funds in aid of St Andrews Church improvements.

Suffolk Dog Day: 10am-5pm, Helmingham Hall. In aid of St Elizabeth Hospice.

A Tribute to Queen Elizabeth II: 7pm, Eye, collect an invitation from The Handyman, Eye.

Tuesday 12 September

Horham Village Hall Trust/Horham and Athelington Community Council AGM:

7.30pm, Community Centre. All Welcome.

Wednesday 13 September

Free drama class taster session: By Greasepaint, Minis - 4 (from reception class) to 6 years - 4-5pm; Dazzles - 7-10 years - 5-6pm; Spotlights - 11-15 years - 6-7pm, Eye Town Hall.

Saturday 16 September

WI Eye Heritage Open Days Creativity:

10.30am-12.30pm, Eye Women's Institute branch, Eye Town Hall.

Bring and Buy: 2pm, St John's Churchyard, Denham.

Divas of Les Folies Bergere: 7pm, The Bank, Eye, advance £15, door £17.

Ellie Gowers: 7.30pm, Wingfield Barns, £12.

Redlingfield & Occold WI: afternoon tea, Occold Village Hall.

Sunday 17 September

Autumn Plant Fair with Artisan Market:

Helmingham Hall, advance £8, on day £10, 15 & unders free.

Artist Talks - Figure Exhibition: 11am-2pm, The Bank, Eye, sign up online.

Saturday 23 September

Eye Scouts Annual Duck Race

The Annual Macmillan Coffee Morning Dance with The Hot House Combo: Red Feather Club.

Jacob & Drinkwater: 7.30pm, Wingfield Barns, £12.

Sunday 24 September

Diss' Heritage Transport Fayre: 10am-4pm, Diss Town Centre - Heritage Triangle, Market Place, Mere's Mouth & Mere Street.

Red Feather Club Open Day: 10am-4pm.

Tuesday 26 Sept-Saturday 28 Oct**The Bank's Young Artist Award 23:**

Annual student awards & exhibition, The Bank, Eye.

Saturday 30 September

The Bank's Comedy Club Night: 7pm, The Bank, Eye, advance £14, door £16.

Bedfield Choir at St Nicholas Church.

Harvest Supper: Horham Community Centre. Details in the Centre.

Janice Burns & Jon Doran: 7.30pm, Wingfield Barns, £12.

Saturday 30 September & Sunday 1 October**Gothic Falconry at Framlingham Castle:**

11am-4pm, www.english-heritage.org.uk

Wednesday 4 October

Redlingfield & Occold WI - Denise

Goldsmith - Climate Change

Ambassador: 7.30pm, Occold Village Hall.

Wednesday 4 October

Coffee Caravan: 10am-noon, Redlingfield.

Saturday 7 October

Redlingfield Pub on the Green: 6-11pm, BBQ & bar, Doorstep Green.

Sunday 29 October

Red Feather Club Open Day: 10am-4pm, followed by agm.

Friday 13 October

Leveret: 7.30pm, Wingfield Barns, £16.

Sunday 15 October

'Bring and Share' Harvest Lunch: Horham Old School.

Common Ground Theatre Company

presents The Hellgate Club: 7.30pm, Wingfield Barns, £12, £8 (under 21s).

Saturday 21-Sunday 29 October

Framlingham Castle & Halloween Half Term: 10am-5pm.

Friday 3 November

Tony Winn with support from The Larks: 7.30pm, Wingfield Barns, £12.

Wednesday 8 November

Redlingfield & Occold WI - AGM - 3 Girls 1 Climb - Kilimanjaro: 7.30pm, Occold Village Hall.

Ghost Stories by Candlelight: 7.30pm, Wingfield Barns, £15, concessions £13.

Friday 10 November

Granny's Attic: 7.30pm, Wingfield Barns, £15.

Sunday 12 November

490th BG Sunset Parade Sunday: wreath laid at USA Engineers Memorial 3.45pm then slow walk to main memorial on Progress Way 4pm to lay wreaths & crosses for American families.

Thursday 16 November-Sunday 17 December

Illuminated Garden Trail: Helmingham Hall, from £10.

Friday 17 November

Mark Harrison Band: 7.30pm, Wingfield Barns, £14.

The Gray Project: 7.30pm, Debenham Leisure Centre, £10.

Monday 20 November

St Edmund's Day

Sunday 26 November

Vintage & Bygones Fair & Exhibition: Mid-Suffolk Light Railway.

Friday 1 December

Christmas Lights and Late-Night Shopping in Eyam

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



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Fun Dog Show delight

FIRSTLY, THANK you everyone who stepped in and helped make the Redlingfield Dog Show and Village Fayre a really lovely day and also everyone who came along – together we have raised around £1,100 for village facilities!

It looked like people were enjoying themselves and it was great seeing all the wonderful dogs. A very big thank you to all the volunteers who helped out and made this one of the smoothest running events for ages. From mowing grass, to working the BBQ, stalls and raffles etc. Thanks as well to everyone who donated prizes and to the Be Well Barn for sponsoring the dog show rosettes and Paws of Parham for their help and providing the agility course.

We were also fortunate in the weather – not too hot and not too cold and only a smidgen of rain right at the start to freshen things up. As a joint event we were raising funds for St Andrews Church (dog show, main BBQ & refreshments), the Doorstep Green (bar takings) and the village's general funds (everything else).

The Dog Show, main BBQ & refreshments raised around £500 for St Andrews Church, the PCC are delighted and have asked me to thank



Harry Scotting with Indie, best in show, judges Nicky Stafford and Mike Putt, and Sarah Ward with Louie, reserve best in show.

all the volunteers for their help and everyone who came along.

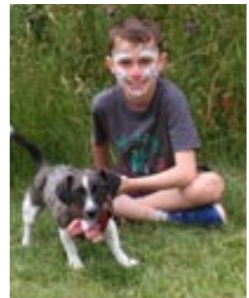
In total we have raised around £1,000 – with £200 for the Doorstep Green and around £400 for the village.

You all know but it is worth repeating – Redlingfield is one of the very few Parishes in Suffolk that does not raise a local council tax – instead we run events throughout the year such as the Summer Fayre, Pubs on the Green and Cheese & Wine evening to raise to £2,000-£3,000 a year that we spend as a village. It is a lot more fun and it means that people get to choose how much they contribute.

Alison Smith & Janet Norman-Philips
Pictures pages 28 & 29 & on village website.



■ **FULL DOG SHOW RESULTS:** **Best rescue** - Indie, Harry Scotting; **Best puppy** - Aero, Tim; **Young handler** - Otto, Alexa Spivey; **Veteran** - Mini Moo, Margaret Eastmead; **Scruffiest** - Buzz, Chrissy Motteram; **Waggiest tail** - Charlie, Ella Day; **Best female** - Crumble, Nicky Stafford; **Best male** - Dino, Paul Eaton. **Best trick** - Finn, Phoebe Smith; **Dog the judge would like to take home** - Louie, Sarah Ward; **Best in show** - Indie, Harry Scotting (spaniel); & **Reserve best in show** - Louie, Sarah Ward (sheltie).



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■ CITIZENS ADVICE IN EYE:

Citizens Advice are at Eye Library on Cross Street on Fridays from 9.15am to 12.30pm. Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk offers face-to-face advice sessions every Friday morning – no appointment needed. If you or anyone you know needs advice on benefits, debt, energy, housing, family or employment issues or needs a food bank referral, drop in. At other times, people can call Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk or contact them via their website. This service is free, confidential and impartial. You can get information online at www.midsuffolkcab.org.uk/eye/ or telephone 01449 676060 during business hours.

■ REDLINGFIELD & OCCOLD WI:

Our June meeting is always our annual outing. This year we visited Peter Beales Rose Gardens at Attleborough. Fifteen of our group were able to attend and we enjoyed afternoon tea together before exploring the gardens. June was certainly the best time to visit with most of the roses in full bloom. It was a beautiful day and we all enjoyed the gardens, nursery and shop. The car boots were full of our purchase for the return journey! In July we had

a very interesting talk from Nicky Hoewener about the history of the Suffolk Lacemakers. This subject has been a passion for her for many years and her talk was both informative and absorbing. Of particular interest was the importance of Lacemaking as an industry for women in past times in this area, centring in and around Eye with artefacts being found in numerous local villages, including Occold. In August we had a craft evening focussing on making pages for our WI Scrap



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Enjoying afternoon tea at Peter Beales.

Book, led by one of our members who is an avid Scrapbooker. It was a sociable and fun evening. On September 16th we will be celebrating the National WI Day by hosting an afternoon tea in Occold Village hall for our members and other local groups from 2 to 4 pm

(£2.50 pp). This is an opportunity for WI members to come together, to share what they do and meet each other. It is

also an opportunity for ladies who are not members to come along, meet local people and find out what it is all about. It's much more than Jam and Jerusalem! If you or anyone you know in the surrounding villages would like to come along please contact Carol by 14th

theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

September (so we have enough cakes!) on 01379 678597. We usually meet every month on the first Wednesday of the month in Occold Village Hall at 7.30pm. If you would like more information about our activities please contact our President, Carol Peters on 01379678597, or just come along to a meeting. We look forward to welcoming you.

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The mixed fortunes of

FOLLOWING THE TRAGIC story of the death of poor little Roland Roe in the last magazine I am adding some more details of that tragic family.

The Roes were a well-established family in Horham, Roland's grandfather Stanley was recorded as being the miller in Horham in 1841 and was succeeded as miller by his son Robert, then later by Robert's son Frederick, and finally Frederick's son Clifford who died at Yew Tree Villa in 1964

Samuel had three other sons. William, who farmed at Horham Hall, Edgar who farmed at Framsdon and Benjamin who had a large grocery and drapery store on the Market Hill in Halesworth. However, a bit of searching in the local newspaper archives showed that it was a family beset with tragedy.

William Roe was farming Horham

Hall when he drowned himself on 1st November 1879. According to the report in the *Framlingham Weekly News* he had tried to hang himself in the stable on 15th October but had been prevented by his wife, who at his request promised to say nothing about the matter.

A few days later he was found dead in the pond in the stack yard. His hat and stick were lying on the ground near the pond.

The aforementioned tragic shooting of Roland happened 20 years later in 1899. Then in 1904 Button Frederick Roe (the twin brother of Roland's father Frederick Button Roe) hanged himself from a beam in the tower mill in Beccles. An account of the inquest in the *Norfolk Chronicle* described how he had been very upset because his employer Mr N W Pells had given him notice to leave. He had actually managed to find another job, but his wife described how it had broken his heart having to leave the mill and he had been very quiet and depressed.

The jury gave a verdict of "Suicide during temporary insanity".

Only six years later Ernest Edgar Roe, a nephew of the twins Button and Frederick took his own life on 3rd October 1910 in the orchard of Mr Ernest Steggle at Larling in Norfolk by blowing the top part of his head off with a breach loading gun. An article in the *Norfolk News* said that he left a note in his pocket for his fiancée Edith, asking for forgiveness and "hoping that he will meet her on the golden shore".

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Roe family of Horham

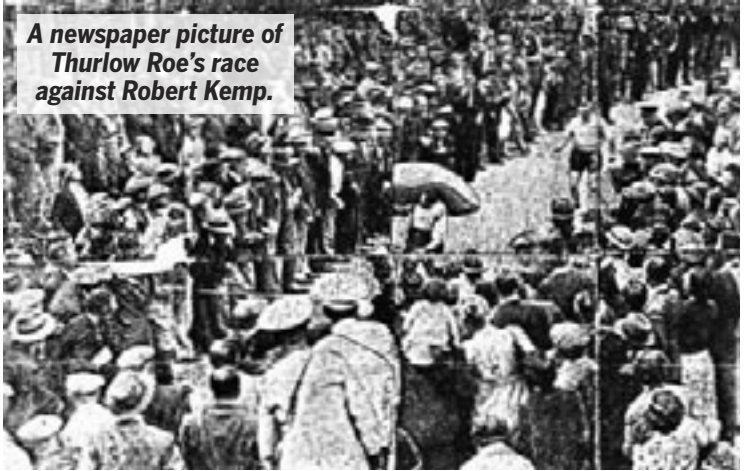
Stanley, the lad that accidentally shot his brother Roland, became a master miller like his father and in 1929 he was working the mill at Tivetshall in Norfolk but on 29th February 1929 he took his life by drowning

himself in the pond at his parents-in-law's home at Bush Farm in Denham, near Eye. Three years later in 1932 his father Frederick Button Roe died at St Audrey's Mental Hospital at the age of 70.

However, we cannot leave the Roe family without recounting the escapades of another of Frederick's sons, Thurlow Edward Roe, who was the miller at the tower mill in Kelsale. Several newspapers including the *Daily Mirror*, the *Daily Herald*, the *EDP* and the *East Anglian* reported that in July 1939, 42-year-old Thurlow won a wager of £5 by running with an 18-stone sack of wheat on his shoulder against 35-year-old Heveningham farmer, Robert Kemp who carried no burden over a 100-yard course in Fairfield Road, Saxmundham.

The race drew a large crowd of people six deep in places. Kemp turned up in his running shorts, but Roe

A newspaper picture of Thurlow Roe's race against Robert Kemp.



simply took off his coat. Thurlow Roe had a 60-yard start on the farmer but to the huge amusement of the crowd won by just two feet.

When he finished, he told a reporter "17 years ago when I was a young man I won a similar race in Ipswich docks. Then I was given only a 50-yard start, but I had plenty to spare at the finish".

In later years Thurlow retired to Southwold where he made a living by renting out two beach huts, knitting socks and other clothing items on a big knitting machine and making plaster of Paris figures of Winston Churchill, which he sold to the tourists.

I have found no evidence to suggest that Thurlow died other than by natural causes in 1970 at the age of 70 years.

My interest in the family is that Stanley, Roland and Thurlow were second cousins of my grandfather's first wife.

Stephen Ling

The Summer of sport and

AS I'VE SAID OR WRITTEN numerous times I struggle to believe people who say they don't like sport. I think we all like some sport, even if it is just one or two things. For me, if sport was all about cars and horses I would be equating it to reality TV shows, something I have no interest in. Fortunately it isn't, it's a curate's egg, some good some bad.

British Summer Time is seen as the halcyon part of the year for sport in England. Okay for me it is not so great if the number is odd, as 2023 is, there is no men's football World Cup or European Championships, the Cricket World Cup is in India later in the year and there are no Summer Olympic Games scheduled. 2021 was an exception I know due to Covid wiping out a lot of things the year before.

Nevertheless there is still plenty going on. Sports like swimming (or aquatics as I now hear it referred to), athletics and cycling have their World Championships on TV.

The Women's Football World Cup is in Australia and New Zealand. I was watching England's Lionesses at the 2015 tournament in Canada, before I was told by society that I had to support the Lionesses and see them as better in every way to the men.

It was the same with women's cricket, back in the early 2010s, when I would go to the double headers they had at Chelmsford of women's international and

Essex Twenty20 match. I was singing the praises of the women's game for its skill level a decade ago. Having said that the way the Lionesses and particularly the sent-off Lauren James, were slaughtered by ex-players, the pundits and the national written media, instead of being supported, after a disappointing game against Nigeria was shameful. It was hard to remember they won on penalties in the outpouring that followed. Welcome to unfulfilled expectation in a high profile sport in England ladies.

In women's sport there was also a netball World Cup where I thought England had won the tournament by beating Australia by one point.

Unfortunately, I had misinterpreted the euphoria that followed as it was a dead rubber that took both sides into the semi-finals. In the final Australia's Diamonds beat England's Roses by 16.

In cricket, we've had the women's and the men's Ashes. Both were superb series that ended as a draw with The Australians as holders keeping the Urn. Those were exciting series and the only thing that stopped them being classified as being 'great' in my 'winning-is-important' world was the overall result.

Darts had its World Cup, won by the Welsh duo of Gerwyn Price and Johnny Clayton.

My example of perfect



hoping for the underdog

sport this summer though was the World Matchplay, the second biggest PDC tournament in the calendar. In the first round Michael Van Gerwen was surprisingly beaten by Northern Irishman Brendon Dolan, the next round saw Price, Wright and World Champion Michael Smith depart. The quarter finals were refreshing as all the big names were gone. Even if the final was a one-sided 18-6 win for Nathan Aspinall over Johnny Clayton, these are the tournaments I want to see.

At Wimbledon 23 Grand Slam winner and Serbian darling of the emboldened number of anti-vaxxers in our society, Novak Djokovic, was beaten in five sets by 20-year-old Spaniard Carlos Alvarez. Tunisian Ons Jabeur, despite having the support of a surprisingly partisan crowd for the second final running, couldn't get the ladies final won. The unseeded Czech Marketa Vondrousova took the title.

A good quiz question would be which Briton helped Wesley Koolhof win the men's doubles title. The answer would be Neal Skupski.

The Rugby League Challenge Cup final fits my underdog criteria perfectly this year. Hull Kingston Rovers lost to newly-branded Leigh Leopards by a single point in the final. These two beat two of the three glamour clubs, Wigan Warriors and St Helens, in the semi-finals and it made the final worth viewing for me.

The Open Championship held in Liverpool was won comfortably by 36-year-old American Brian Harmer. The last time it was held at Hoylake

Northern Irishman Rory McIlroy won and like Tiger Woods he seems to be the obsession of British golf focus. What is it about the Manchester United fan who declared for Ireland at the 2016 Olympics, he didn't go to Rio because of a legitimate fear of Zika virus, that causes such devotion from the British media?

Except when Ipswich Town play lower division sides I'm happy to see the journeymen such as Harmer or the underdog Leigh Panthers succeed.

Lewis Hamilton has seven Formula One World titles and won eight British Grand Prix's at Silverstone. I'm told by many that this is Britain's greatest sporting occasion. Spectator numbers are impressive but the fact Hamilton only finished third and some guy called Max Verstappen won means little to me.

There are still a lot of angry fans out there though spitting blood about the last race of the 2021 season when the Dutchman took the title. People who follow a sport, a sportsperson or a team are passionate about it.

It's why I wear my heart on my sleeve about Ipswich Town, I say a lot of things that annoy people about football and the problems I see in it. I have a strong sense of fair play and if things go wrong through what I perceive as errors by officials. I get verbally angry.

I'm not the only person who reacts like this and although being a fan of sport can be frustrating, it is the best thing apart from health, family and friendship.

Ian Crane



■ **GETTING CREATIVE AT ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL:** Nine youngsters from the church's Club Create visited St Edmundsbury Cathedral on 7th August and did what they do best – got creative! First, they toured the various memorials to St Edmund at the Cathedral – stained glass window, tapestry, painting, statue – and noted the visual references to the Saint in the font and the Bishop's cathedra (throne). Next, they made a contribution to the Lego cathedral, collectively putting together a new lamppost and installing it in pride of place at the front of the model. Then they finished off with a craft session making prints in the Cathedral's learning. After the visit we all met up with parents and siblings for a grand picnic in the Abbey gardens. Club Create organises an event each holiday and half term for young people aged 7-12. If you would like to join in, contact Revd Eleanor Goodison on 07876 143579 or at eleanor.goodison@gmail.com.

Revd Eleanor Goodison



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■ PLANNING:

GRANTED: Application to erect single storey rear extension at **Honeysuckle Cottage, Athelington Road, Horham, IP21 5EH** (DC/22/06225).

LAWFUL: Application for a lawful development certificate for re-roofing of existing bungalow, replacing existing rotten cedar wooden shingles with man-made blue/black slates, **The Cedars, The Street, Horham, IP21 5DX** (DC/23/02309).

REFUSED: Application for permission in principle to erection one dwelling at **Ivy House, Southolt Road, Athelington, IP21 5EL** (DC/23/03182).

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

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- 1/4 page £17.50** (90mm deep, 60mm across)
- 1/3 page £23.50** (60mm deep, 125mm across)
- 1/2 page £35** (90mm deep, 125mm across)



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Rev Canon Eleanor Goodison,
Priest in Charge, Hoxne
Benefice 07876 143579
eleanor.goodison@gmail.com.

GROWING AND HARVESTING

The warm weather in June, followed by a lot of rain and changeable weather more recently, has encouraged rapid growth in our fields and gardens, although the conditions have also made for a difficult harvest this year. What might encourage our own growth as human beings? We know that love is essential for us, as well as the opportunity to learn, to do something worthwhile for others and sometimes just to stop and stare.

In the spring issue of the magazine, I wrote about some of the priorities we were looking at for our churches as we planned for renewal and growth. The Plan for Growth we drew up on that basis set out that we would:

- Recruit a part-time Youth and Children's Worker to help us grow and develop our work with children and young people and strengthen our links with St Edmund's School in Hoxne.
- Pursue projects to adapt some of our church buildings (in particular Hoxne and

Redlingfield churches) for additional community use.

- Encourage new vocations to lay and ordained ministry in our churches.

Good progress is now being made with the Plan:

- We have appointed a Youth Worker and aim to start a youth group for 12- to 18-year-olds in September. – look out for more news of this! And if you are 12-18 and you have any suggestions for what you would like from the youth group, do please get in contact.

- We have installed a new toilet block at Hoxne church and we have initiated the process of getting permission for work on the bells and tower, which could ultimately provide a warm meeting space at the base of the tower.

- We also have new people coming forward to take up voluntary positions in our churches, though we still need more. Could God be calling you to play a more active part? It could be anything from contributing to a harvest supper to exploring a licensed ministry. If you would like to talk about how you can help, I am always ready to chat.

God bless.
Eleanor

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

■ **RIDE AND STRIDE:** Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride event is on Saturday 9th September and if you are interested in taking part and raising money for your parish church there's still time. Visit <https://shct.org.uk> for more details or contact your local representative. Half the sponsorship money we raise goes to our local church and half to the SHCT, which makes grants towards church building projects.

Local representatives: **Athelington:** Colin Palmer 01728 628747, colin.palmer@bt.com; **Horham:** Daphne Harvey, 01379 384216; **Redlingfield:** Pauline Abbott, 01379 678253.

Rev Canon Eleanor Goodison

■ **Planned church services September to November.**

Saturdays & Sundays: CW Morning Prayer at 8am on [facebook.com/WingfieldChurch](https://www.facebook.com/WingfieldChurch);

Fridays: Compline at 6pm on Zoom.

Sunday 3rd September

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Athelington;
11am CW Holy Communion, Wingfield;
4pm Messy Church, Syleham church.

Sunday 10th September

Fourteenth Sunday of Trinity

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Redlingfield;
9.30 for 10am Café Church, Hoxne; around
12.30pm Harvest Festival, Redlingfield
Doorstep Green (following Produce Show).

Sunday 17th September

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am CW Harvest Festival, Hoxne;
11.15am BCP Holy Communion, Horham;
6pm BCP Evensong, Wingfield.

Sunday 24th September

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am BCP Holy Communion, Syleham;
11am CW Holy Communion, Hoxne;
4pm All Age service Hoxne.

Sunday 1st October

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am Harvest Festival, Athelington;
11am CW Holy Communion for Harvest,
Wingfield; 4pm Messy Church, Syleham &
Wingfield Village Hall.

Sunday 8th October

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Redlingfield;
9.30 for 10am Café Church, Hoxne;
4pm Harvest Festival, Syleham.

Sunday 15th October

Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Hoxne;
11.15am Harvest Festival, Horham;
6pm Evensong, Wingfield.

Sunday 22nd October

Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

9.30am BCP Holy Communion,
Syleham; 11am CW Holy Communion,
Hoxne.

Sunday 29th October

**Last Sunday after Trinity
(Bible Sunday)**

11am Benefice Holy Service, Denham;
4pm All Age service, Hoxne.

Saturday 4th November

4pm Service of Memorial and
Thanksgiving, Hoxne.

Sunday 5th November

All Saints' Sunday

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

Sunday 12th November

Remembrance Sunday

9am BCP Holy Communion and Act of
Remembrance, Wingfield;
10.45am CW Holy Communion and Act
of Remembrance, Redlingfield;
3pm Remembrance Service, Horham.

Sunday 19th November

Second Sunday before Advent

9.30am CW Holy Communion, Hoxne;
11.15am BCP Holy Communion,
Horham; 6pm BCP Evensong, Wingfield.

Sunday 26th November

Christ the King

9.30am BCP Holy Communion,
Syleham; 11am CW Holy Communion,
Hoxne; 4pm All Age service Hoxne.

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



Lucy Elkin

(covers Eye, Occold and Redlingfield) 07928 512 590
lucy.elkin@midsuffolk.gov.uk

It's been a busy few months since the elections! I've really enjoyed meeting lots of you since then. I've been working to help people with a range of issues – from housing to fly tipping, parking to community safety – and lots more.

The new Mid Suffolk District Council has also been working hard on a range of different areas.

Supporting residents through the cost of living crisis remains a key priority. If you are struggling with the cost of living, this link has more information about the help available: www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/benefits/cost-of-living-support/i-need-help/

A new Pride in Your Place grant has been launched to fund small projects to improve the appearance of our communities. If you'd like to organise things like a community litter pick, sign cleaning, or work on public open spaces, you can apply for grants of between £250-£400 (depending on community size). The deadline to apply is October 31.

For details see: www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/communities/grants-and-funding/babergh-and-mid-suffolk-district-council-funding/

We also want to tackle the biodiversity crisis by improving habitats for wildlife. As a starting point, the Council is leaving areas of longer grass and wildflowers in some public spaces. Longer grass means more insects, which in turn supports many birds and mammal species. Of course, play areas will still be mowed (and

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some roadside verges need to be kept clear - for safety reasons - by Suffolk County Council).

Got a question, problem or concern? Please do get in touch!

● Email

lucy.elkin@midsuffolk.gov.uk or phone 07928 512590

● Visit me on Facebook -

www.facebook.com/CllrLucy/ I'll share what I'm working on, details of 'drop in' dates, plus information from Mid Suffolk District Council.

Meet face-to-face at a drop-in session. I'll be at:

● Redlingfield Rural Coffee Caravan - Wednesday Sept 6th 10am - 12pm

● Redlingfield Rural Coffee Caravan - Wednesday Oct 4th 10am - 12pm

Hope to see you soon! Best wishes, Lucy

■ **REDLINGFIELD - APPEAL FOLLOWING BURGLARY:**

Police are appealing for information and/or witnesses following a burglary at Be Well Barn in Church Road, Redlingfield. At some point between 9.30pm on Sunday 13th August and 6am Monday 14th August, unknown intruders broke in and stole cash and fitness equipment. If you have any information or witnessed any suspicious activity during this time frame, please contact Suffolk police quoting crime reference 37/47286/23 via www.suffolk.police.uk/ and complete an existing report update form, email ccc@suffolk.pnn.police.uk or phone 101.

Alternatively contact the independent charity

Crimestoppers 100% anonymously on 0800 555 111, or via their online form.

Dumbbells featuring the distinctive Be Well Barn logo were stolen.



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COUNTY COUNCIL



Matthew Hicks

Leader of Suffolk CC,
01728 628176, 07824 474741
matthew.hicks@suffolk.gov.uk

■ **Fire sparks fresh warning over safe battery disposal:** People are being reminded of the importance of disposing of batteries properly following a fire. Operations were briefly disrupted at Haverhill waste transfer station after fire broke out amongst 50 tonnes of rubbish. Waste batteries should never be thrown away with household rubbish. The precise cause of the fire has not been determined but FCC Environment, which manages the 11 recycling centres and four transfer stations around the county on behalf of SCC said that when a fire starts in piles of waste it is usually caused by a battery that has managed to spark. This can happen if there is friction, such as when a waste pile is moved or crushed. All batteries should be disposed of either at recycling centres or in collection points at stores where they are sold.

■ **Councils given funding to help nature's recovery:** Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils have been appointed by the Government as responsible authorities for preparing a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for their respective counties. This means they will be working together to help improve wildlife habitats and reverse the decline of biodiversity across the region, working with local communities to develop a tailored nature recovery strategy for their areas. They will work with other local planning authorities, the Broads Authority, Natural England and farming and landowner groups. This is all part of Government's ambition to drive nature recovery, with 48 local

authorities across the country receiving allocations from a £14 million funding pot. Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils will receive £333,000 and £282,000 respectively over two years to fund this. With the best ways to support nature recovery depending on local character and geography, Local Nature Recovery Strategies will help communities map out the action needed in their area to restore nature. Protecting and enhancing the environment is one of our core priorities and we know how important it is to our residents.

Nature is critical to everything we do and value – the air we breathe, the water we drink, the soils we grow food in. It is essential to many of our businesses, attracts people and investment to the county and is vital to people’s health and wellbeing. SCC has made ambitious commitments to restore nature across our estate and through services such as highways, and I welcome this opportunity for us to work with everyone else who cares about and can help nature recovery in Suffolk to develop an ambitious but achievable strategy to achieve that.

● Our Suffolk County Councillor is **Peter Gould** - Area: Hoxne & Eye. Currently **Andrew Reid** is standing in for him to represent Redlingfield, andrew.reid@suffolk.gov.uk, 07545 423 799. Whilst **Matthew Hicks** is standing in for him to cover Athelington & Horham, matthew.hicks@suffolk.gov.uk. 07824 474 741, 01728 628 176. Matthew Hicks is also Mid Suffolk District Councillor for Hoxne & Worlingworth Ward covering Athelington & Horham, matthew.hicks@midsuffolk.gov.uk.





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We have just celebrated 75 years of the NHS and a recent report by the Health Foundation projects that by 2040, nearly one in five will be living with health conditions such as dementia and cancer. This means there could be 9.1 million people living with a major health condition by 2040, a 37% rise from 2019. This will have a significant impact on our NHS.

As a practising NHS hospital doctor, I am proud to work in a health service that delivers patient care which is free at the point of need, but as the NHS looks towards the future, it simply must transform. With an ageing population and more people living with major health conditions, the time has come for a more ambitious debate on what the health and social care system needs in order to continue to thrive and survive for the next 75 years, and beyond.

I think most of us would agree that if we were designing a health service from scratch today, it would need to look very different from the current model. The Health Foundation report says that a radical shift is required, with more focus on care in the community, rather than in hospitals. Caring for people with chronic illnesses requires more effective community-based care and that means better integration of health and social care services.

Community care is all about supporting people to live the best lives possible – living independently for as long as possible in their own homes. This means bringing together healthcare providers

from across the NHS, community services, social prescribing and voluntary sector organisations. Delivering health and social care in this way supports people to stay well and independent and enables health care teams to act more quickly to help those with preventable conditions. It supports those living with long-term conditions or multiple needs, by pooling resources to deliver care as quickly and effectively as possible. This approach is something which I wholeheartedly support. That's why I was especially delighted to have been asked to open the newly-refurbished Michael Burke



Centre on the Hartismere Hospital site on Friday 21st July.

I truly believe that as patients, we would all prefer to be treated in the comfort and dignity of our own homes or accessing local community health and social care services. With the Michael Burke Community Wellbeing Centre, we now have a tremendous asset and one which has a strong future in delivering truly integrated healthcare in Central Suffolk and across North Suffolk. As someone who believes in public service as I do, it is a great pleasure to see good things happening in Hartismere and I am pleased to have played even a small part in making that happen and will continue to work for these outcomes across Central Suffolk and North Ipswich.

The NHS has served this country well for 75 years. As it looks towards the future, it must transform. A focus on prevention and reform of commissioning is vital if the NHS is to continue to meet the needs of patients in the years ahead.

Dr Dan Poulter, MP, Central Suffolk and North Ipswich
Tel: 020 7219 7038 Email: daniel.poulter.mp@parliament.uk



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