

Pettistree People

Issue 15

May 2001

A NewsSheet for Pettistree and Loudham Residents



Parish Council Changes

At the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 10 May 2001 the Council gave a unanimous vote of thanks to Joan Peck for all her enthusiasm and hard work with parish issues in the post of Chairman over the last 6 years. Taking over the role as Chairman is Jeff Hallett who held the post of Vice Chairman. Maureen Stollery was successfully elected as Vice Chairman and also forms part of the planning group with Kath Hilton and Mike Manning. The new Village Hall representative is Kath Hilton.

The Parish Council held a successful meeting with Suffolk County Council regarding the various areas in the parish, which suffered from flooding in the recent rains. Some of the problem areas have been tackled and improvements made, especially with ditch clearance, which appears to be the main cause of the flooding. Plans are also in place to replace two under-road pipes, which should help the situation.

Following a recent incident of bogus callers in the area we would remind people to take all precautions when strangers call. If in any doubt please contact the police who will be only too happy to help and advise.

The provisional date for the next Parish Council meeting is Tuesday 2 October 2001, 7.30pm at the Village Hall. Members of the public are welcome to attend and raise local issues.

Heather Heelis

Parish Clerk

Tel: 01394 461191

e-mail: heather.heelis@virgin.net

Neighbourhood Watch

Be Vigilant

In the part of March this year there was a burglary at Hungarian Hall when property of a high value was stolen. I am pleased to be able to report that the offenders have been caught and charged and most of the property was recovered.

We have had more problems at Notcutts Nursery. This is an ongoing problem and obviously seen as an easy target. Out of the 8 reported crimes in the Year 2000, 6 were at Notcutts and so far this year 2 out of the 3 reported crimes have been at the same location. I do urge people to be vigilant at all times and report any unusual people or vehicles, a vehicle index number is often the key to solving the crime.

Can I remind people that I can be contacted on 01473 383470 or mobile 07747 104 297. If I do not answer the phone a message can be left on either of these numbers. Your Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator Dave Caudwell and Mike Sayer are also well informed on what is happening in the area and is a useful contact should you need help.

An interesting note :- Your local historian pointed out to me that in 1836 there was a burglary at Hungarian Hall. When a stone bottle, a basin and some food stuffs were stolen. Two men were found guilty and were transported to Australia for 14 years.

Robbie Abrahams

Your Neighbourhood Watch coordinators are Dave Caudwell on 747170 and Mike Sayer on 01394 46063 9—Suffolk Police are on 01473 613500.

Pettistree on the Net

For those readers who are on the Internet have a look at

<http://www.pettistree.suffolk.gov.uk/>

For a broader view of Suffolk see <http://www.suffolk.org.uk/>

The Three Tuns can be found at <http://threetuns-coachinginn.co.uk/> - a well designed web site.

Anyone who like to receive their copy of Pettistree People by Email please contact Joan Peck on joan.peck3@virgin.net

Please let us know if you have your own Web Site

The Great Mount of Pettistree

People have often wondered about the Mount in the meadow between Walnuts Lane and Thong Hall Road. They have wondered about its origins, when it was built and why, for what purpose.

In the summer of 1997, quite by chance, Jean Palmer from British Colombia, researching her family history, met Ned Hogg in the churchyard and was shown into the Church by him. There she found herself 'standing on dear old Randolph in the Chancel.

In the Chancel there is a tomb in the floor to Randolph Wyard and the inscription is in Latin. (My school Latin is a little rusty)

Later that year a request was put on the internet for a translation and Jean replied, not with the translation but with the little story of meeting Ned and also saying that she had a copy of Randolph's Will.

A copy of this Will of 1700 was obtained from the Suffolk Record Office and from this the children of Randolph were all mentioned, the eldest being Hunn, named after his grandmother Elizabeth Hunne of Ilketshall St Mary. There were six children, three boys and three girls.

Randolph inherited 'The Lodge' as we call it from his Uncle Philip who had married Ann Dade of Pettistree in 1670 but they had no issue. Jean also sent an e-mail outlining Hunn's Will of 1745 and there was one important sentence among the bequests—"except for the Great Mount of Pettistree

This needed further investigation and surprisingly attached to the copy of the Will in the Record Office was a Codicil size A3 entirely about the Mount and Hunn's wishes for it.

He left it to his sister Susannah Tovell of Parham who could add to it but if it was ever neglected it was to go to an honest, poor, industrious man of the village chosen by the majority of the Parishioners. (There are serious concerns about the present owner's eligibility).

It seemed fairly obvious from this that it was created in the first half of the eighteenth century and was his pride and joy. More knowledge was therefore needed about mounts and a letter was sent to the Historic Houses association who kindly put me in touch with the Garden History Society, who in turn, put me in touch with Mr Edward Martin, Archaeological Officer for Suffolk and an expert on garden Canals and Mounts.

A canal and a Mount are man made features and usually go hand in hand The Tudor garden originally introduced Mounts. Most likely the Canal was desired for fishing and the spoil from digging this (with shovels etc) created the Mount. This then became a focal point for viewing the countryside and possibly had a small harbour on top where the ladies could sit. There is evidence on the Mount of a spiral path leading to the top and could have been created as a means of depositing the spoil on the top, perhaps by horse and cart Further work would be needed to establish if anything had existed there, although Mrs Whelan ,who came to the Heritage Weekend and who lived in Pettistree Lodge with her parents Col and Mrs Gilligan, recalled seeing some evidence of a structure on the top.

On October 13th Mr Edward Martin met Dick Smith, Cath Caudwell and myself on the Mount and helped fill in a few blanks as well as making some suggestions for its preservation. He thought it was probably created about 1720 and took photographs These were included in a garden exhibition in Bury St Edmunds in the year 2000

Joan Peck & Cath Caudwell.

Nature Notes

Last November, while on our way from Carpet Bowls in the Village Hall, we came upon a small hedgehog foraging for food on a cold night , when most of his friends were fast asleep hibernating .A common problem with late broods of hedgehogs is they are born so late in the year that there is not enough time for them to eat sufficient to put on layers of fat to see them through the winter. A friend gave us details of lady in Ipswich, who takes in injured or orphaned hedgehogs , so we delivered this little chap the next day and left him with , plus for his board and lodging , Three weeks later we received a call to say our hedgehog was now up to 700g and ready for release into the wild again. Rather than leave him to face the elements alone, we made a nest of straw in a hollow log , which was placed in a sheltered spot against the house. Whenever the night temperature allowed he would emerge , consume a meal of puppy food and dry mix and return to his slumbers. He was released into our garden in March and will hopefully repay us by eating the many slugs and snails which do so much damage to the garden plants.

When will this appalling wet weather end ? It has been suggested that the death of several young otters on roads in the region is due to them being forced from their holt by rising river levels .It is all very well being able to swim , but a safe dry cosy place to sleep is essential to all wild animals. Let us hope that the success story of the re-introduction of otters throughout East Anglia is not dealt too heavy a set back.

Nearer to home , we have a large flock of Jacobs sheep in the village and they have been producing black lambs since the middle of March. Due to the restrictions on moving livestock , they may be with us for some time yet. They are just the sight we need to lift the spirits and make us think of warmer days to come !

How nice it has been to see primroses and cowslips on bank sides and field margins. It appears that the sprays used in agriculture are now more selective and these delightful flowers have provided much needed colour to cheer the wet and cold spring. We wait with interest to see if the Bee Orchid , which usually appears in our back garden , has survived the boggy Autumn and Winter.

I hope you will have heard the cuckoo by the time you read these notes , a sign of warmer weather to come Many birds which nest early in the year are hard at work feeding the brood of youngsters. There is still time however , for those of us who wish to encourage birds into our gardens to erect nest boxes for summer visitors.

Swallows and House Martins are not as plentiful as in years past so a helping hand would be appreciated. A small shelf six inches square positioned as high as possible on a north or east facing wall of the house may encourage House Martins to build their domed nest of mud beneath it. Swallows build an open cup shaped nest of mud and straw, which needs protection from above and each side. A six inch square box with the lid removed , placed on its side against a north or east facing aspect may encourage these delightful birds to share your home this summer.

It is important to ensure that cats cannot get close to the site chosen for your nest box , avoid walls with creepers or trellis against them and do not use a wall which a cat can walk along the top of and reach down to the nest from above .If you are worried about the mess caused by Swallows or House Martins dropping against your wall and windows , place a tray several feet below the nest and this will catch most of the unwelcome deposits.

Why have our song birds declined so disastrously in recent years ? My own view is Mr Maggie is largely to blame ! The number of animals ,particularly rabbits killed on our roads has increased as the volume of traffic has gone up. Nearly always when we disturb a bird feeding on a dead rabbit or hedgehog it is a magpie which flies away. This supply of an easy meal must have contributed to the explosion in numbers of magpies in recent years , and what do they feed on at other times ? Answer , birds eggs and young still in the nest. I believe magpies numbers should be reduced by man , to help give our songbirds a better chance to be successful in raising a family. To those who say we should interfere with the balance of nature , I would say that is exactly what we have done in providing the magpie with so many meals and reducing magpie numbers in whatever way would correct man made imbalance.

Mike Sayer

Play in the Barn

The barn at Church Farm has seen many different farming activities over its long life. It has been a store house for hay and straw; a shelter for tumbrels, wagons, carts and a home for owls, bats, pigeons and chickens.

It has also seen many people come and go. On the end wall amongst the various graffiti, are scratched two sailing ships. It was a rare thing for a farm hand to have seen a ship 150 years ago, so was this done by a passing sailor who sheltered there?

Hilda Tuck, who used to come and visit her Aunt. –Mrs. Last – here before the war, tells of her fear at having to squeeze past the soft breathing cart horses in the barn, to collect the eggs from the hay racks.

But in May this year, it will be home to something completely different. It will become a theatre, as the children whom I teach at Yoxford Primary School are using it for their production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's play "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat". It makes an ideal venue for the bible story, and words such as Joseph's interpretation of Pharaoh's dream will have an imaginative setting.

Seven years of bumper crops are on their way,
Years of plenty, endless wheat and tons of hay,
Your farms will boom, there wont be room
To store the surplus food you grow.

The children (aged from 5 to 9) will be having a dress rehearsal on Tuesday 22 May, which will be followed by 2 performances, The first, on Wednesday 23 ,is for their own parents and friends; and the next , on Thursday 24 @ 6.30pm thy have kindly offered to present for Pettistree residents and friends, when the profits will go towards the repairs to the church roof.

Peter Holloway will be making a guest appearance. Those people who think that Elvis (in the guise of Pharaoh) is dead, will be in for a great surprise!

Rita Smith.



Voyage to America

'Shop till you drop!!' That was the parting message from work colleagues as I prepared for the Caudwell expedition to New York in December 2000.

Brother-in-law Chris had been trying to entice us over to the 'Big Apple' for years but 'I'm just a country boy' Dave had resisted, despite the efforts of his determined family. However, he finally succumbed and we made our preparations for our first holiday abroad as a family. Passports, tickets and US dollars came in quick succession and we were on our way.

JFK was our destination – rather grim and certainly very wet – and our first view of Manhattan itself in the very late hours was, well, ordinary. We couldn't see a thing because of the low cloud.

We checked in to the Hudson Hotel on 58th Street, which was very trendy, new and night-clubby. The views from the rooms were fantastic, though hardly peaceful. It took a while to get used to the constant noise of moving traffic, honking and beeping its way through the night, interspersed with sirens and shouting.

However, it doesn't take long to get used to breakfast in coffee bars and diners. We English could really learn a thing or two from the Americans about service: instant water; refills of coffee; nothing too much trouble; a choice of whatever you want however you want; and best of all, the opportunity to take home what you can't manage, and no questions asked.

We did a lot of walking those first few days; it's the easiest way to get around, and the street system is so easy to follow. The traffic was no problem. 'Walk / Don't Walk' really works. Mind you, comfortable shoes are a must. So are Metro cards. Used on buses and subways these wonderful swipe cards can be used by all the family, one after the other, for any distance for \$1.50 each.

We certainly lived up to the 'Shop till you drop' advice, or at least the daughters did. Hennes, Saks, Macey's, Daffy's and Bloomingdales. All were visited, but some received only a cursory look as the girls found them too expensive to even contemplate. Back to Daffy's.

Manhattan has a wealth of cultural attractions for the visitor. The Haydn Planetarium, attached to the Natural History Museum, was an interesting experience, whilst the Metropolitan Museum of Art needs several days to do it justice. The boat trip to Liberty Island is essential of course, but be advised to avoid the two hour queues to climb the statue and head instead for Ellis Island, the former immigration centre. This is now a wonderful museum reliving the human story of the peopling of America.

A week long stay at the eastern end of Long Island followed. Pretty clapboard houses and quaint street scenes typified the Hamptons and Sag Harbour which, with a delightful sprinkling of snow, was a far cry from the bustle of Manhattan. But oh was it cold! It didn't reach above freezing for the whole fortnight we were in America. For the first time ever I didn't lift a finger towards preparing Christmas dinner. Now that is being spoilt.

On our return to Manhattan we checked into the top floor of the Hudson. Brilliant views this time, particularly at night. It's amazing how quickly you recognise the different buildings and come to regard Manhattan as your own. More walking, more subways, more diners and meals out, and yet more shopping. Plus the constant weather reports threatening snowstorms over the New Year. Do we go early, or do we stay? We stayed, and experienced a foot of snow overnight, and cancelled flights. Worth it though, to walk through Central Park clothed in white, with a smattering of skiers taking advantage of the conditions.

The afternoon blizzard, complete with thunder and lightning, was rather spectacular, not to mention virtually impossible to walk in. However, Mayor Juliano soon got the city under control; we'd have been snowed in for a week here in England!

The journey home was a bit of a non-event really. British New Year was spent in JFK departure lounge at 7pm. A delayed flight meant a further two hour wait, then the clocks were immediately put forward to the destination time zone, so American New Year had already been and gone!

All in all, our holiday was a wonderful experience, and guess what? The 'country boy' wants to go again!

Cath Caudwell

Pettistree Cricket Club

Anybody interested in joining Pettistree Cricket Club please contact Captain, Ian Gotts, Hurley Cottage, Bredfield. Telephone 01394 382680.

Bowls Club

If you would like to join the Club and enjoy an evening bowls please give Mike Manning a call on 747321.

Pettistree People by Email

If you would like to receive your copy of Pettistree People by Email then please Email the Editor, **Tony Franklin** on tony.franklin@btinternet.com

Numbers Mix-up

For those of you who have a sharp eye for detail and accuracy, you will have noticed that the last Pettistree People published in January was numbered Issue 12 which is rather strange since Issue 13 was published in May 1999 !!

What does this mean? Well the January Issue 12 should have been Issue 14 which means that this issue is Issue 15 – have you got that? Yes. Good, now we are back on the straight and narrow.

Forthcoming Events

Village Hall - Treasure Hunt

Sunday 1st July starting from the Village Green at 11am. This is an event for all the family and it will take place on foot in and around the Village.

The Treasure Hunt will finish on the Village Green where there will be a Bar-B-Q, stalls and games.

Proceeds from this event are to be donated to the Church Roof Fund

Play in the Barn @ Church Farm

Rita Smith has written about this event on page 3

Children (aged from 5 to 9) will be having a dress rehearsal on Tuesday 22 May.

The first performance, which will take place on Wednesday 23, is for the childrens own parents and friends.

On Thursday 24 @ 6.30pm Pettistree residents and friends are invited, profits will go towards the repairs to the Church Roof Fund.

A Little Village History

May I take this opportunity to remind everyone that Pettistree hold quite a lot of records of the story of the village through the ages .

If you are altering anything inside or outside your house please take a photo – a before and after--- and let me have one or else allow me to copy ,so that future generations can see what the village was like

Another link with the past will soon be forgotten .The pair of cottages in Stump Street known as No1 and No2 Potash Cottages have both been renamed . No2 became “ Presmere Day Nursery a few years ago and No 1 is now to be called “Pear Tree Cottage .

At one time this area had a potash manufactory and Amos Holmes , then aged 80 years , is listed as an Ash Burner in the census of 1841 .

Joan Peck .

Flooding

This winter has been the wettest since records began, and it has given us great problems, with flooding to our village. Some of the problem areas are :-

- Small culvert near Hungarian Close
- The road from Hungarian Close to Low Farm
- From Low Farm to Byng Brook
- Drain under the road, blocked near Presmere Pond
- The Street between Holmleigh and Penmaen
- Opposite Church Cottage
- Approach to Village Hall
- West end of Rogues Lane
- East end of Rogues Lane
- Loudham near Notcutts
- Loudham Lane

The Parish Council has been contacted by residents of Pettistree , who are concerned about the dangers and deterioration to our country roads.

On the positive side , a site meeting was arranged with Stev Aldous from SCC Highways Dept at Saxmudham and members of the Parish Council ,who inspected all areas mentioned above. Steve has agreed to arrange the pumping out of some soak a ways , and to dig out some of the grips and gullies , and some ditches.

Maureen Stollery

Parish Council Membership

Jeff Hallett (Chairman)	746210	The Laurels
Maureen Stollery (Vice Chairman)	746653	1 Presmere Rd
Tony Franklin	746585	Scott's Hall
Kath Hilton	746492	The Bungalow
Nigel Holland	746344	Gelham Hall, Wickham Market
Mike Manning	747321	Jasmin House
Joan Peck		The Den
Heather Heelis (Clerk)	01394 461191	

County & District Councillors

Mr Peter Monk, County Councillor	01394 411373	or Mobile 0850 843055
Mr George Franks, District Councillor	01394 411206	

Neighbourhood Watch

Dave Caudwell	747170	Rogues Cottage
Mike Sayer	01394 460639	4 Hungarian Close

For Crimeline Information, 01473 613617. Current crime update available after 5pm on Tuesdays. Call this number to find out what is happening in your area. The Parish Police Officer can be contacted at Woodbridge Police Station on 01473 613500.

Useful People to Contact

Bellringers	Mary Garner	746097
Church Wardens	Mike Perkins	01394 460284
	Jeff Hallett	746210
Village Hall Booking Sec	Jacki Franklin	746585
Local History Recorder	Joan Peck	
The Greyhound Inn	Gina Pritchett	746451
The Three Tuns	John & Brenda Pallett	746244
Wickham Market	Health Centre	747101
Post Office	Wickham Market	746201