

Pettistree People



Issue 16

October 2001

A NewsSheet for Pettistree and Loudham Residents

Parish Council Annual Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting held on 15 May 2001 received reports from the outgoing Chairman - Joan Peck, the County Councillor - Peter Monk, District Councillor - George Franks, PC Abraham - Parish Liaison Officer, Wickham Market Primary School, the Village Hall Management Committee and the Local History Recorder. An attendance of 15 members of the public contributed to a most enjoyable evening which discussed several issues including the provision of a bus shelter opposite the Three Tuns Inn and a proposal to undertake a Pettistree Village Appraisal and Community Action Plan led by Mike Manning.

With the help of Suffolk ACRE it is hoped that a Village Appraisal could be set in motion later this year. This would involve consultation with all residents of the village, possibly through a questionnaire covering a wide range of topics around social, economic and environmental issues. The results of the consultation would be published and distributed before developing an Action Plan based on the findings. The success of both the Village Appraisal and the Action Plan are dependent on the involvement of the whole village through all stages of the process.

If anyone would like to be involved in this exciting village project please get in touch with Mike Manning, the Clerk or any Parish Councillor.

Annual Accounts 2000 - 2001 Summary

A full copy of the accounts is available from the Clerk on request. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 2 October 2001, Pettistree Village Hall, 7.30pm.

Income	£
Precept	1,500.00
Bank Interest	7.76
	1,507.76
Expenditure	£
Clerk's Salary	300.00
Insurance	216.90
SALC Subscription	55.00
Expenses	26.33
Audit Fees	121.26
Grass Cutting	75.00
Lawn Mower Mntnc	107.03
Grants/donations (s137)	210.00
	1,111.52
Balance at 01-04-2000	781.80
Total Receipts	1,507.76
Less Payments	1,111.52
Balance at 31-03-2001	1,178.04

Heather Heelis

Parish Clerk

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e-mail: heather.heelis@virgin.net

Robbie the Bobbie says

The crime in Pettistree has remained low with only one reported crime since the last meeting. This of course involved the famous case of the Pettistree three who caused substantial damage to the village hall. Unfortunately they did not bank on the Miss Marple of Pettistree (alias Joan Peck) who saw the damage being caused or the gazelle like qualities of Dave and Cath Caudwell who sprinted to the scene or the Poirot investigational skills of yours truly to solve this heinous crime within a very short time of its perpetration. In all seriousness, this was the perfect example of cooperation between neighbourhood watch and police allowing the offenders to be arrested and dealt with very quickly. The good thing is that the village hall retrieved all the money for the repairs and we identified three offenders who we know have caused problems in the past but never been caught. Hopefully this will make them think twice before committing such a crime in the future.

I get a lot of complaints in the area about the way people drive around the rural roads. Whilst I am happy to deal with such complaints I need a vehicle registration number of the offending vehicle. If the driving is bad enough to warrant reporting for a motoring offence I need a statement that may result in a court appearance. With the restraints placed on the police now, it is becoming increasingly more difficult to just turn up on a person's doorstep to "tell them off". The reason I mention this matter is because some people seem to think that we will not do anything about this type of complaint when the truth is that we cannot do anything about it.

The Greyhound pub is now in the hands of new owners and managers and I am quietly confident that they will respect the village and the recent problems will subside. Only time will tell.

We are having the usual purge on bikes without lights in the near future and I will be taking a road safety message round the schools very soon. With the dark nights looming I feel this is a very important message that needs to be reinforced each and every year at the risk of being boring.

(01473)613500 or ring my mobile (07747)104297. I will try to get back to you as soon as possible but it may be a couple of days depending on my shifts.

Robbie Abraham

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

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

Village Hall - Chairman's Report

Following my appointment in July of last year I am pleased to report that the committee has managed to maintain the standards set under Joan's chairmanship.

As you will hear we have been able to maintain a healthy financial balance. We have not felt the need to invest in new fixtures or fittings, but this has not been due to a shortage of funds.

Our fund raising events have been four in number and followed tried and tested formats, namely Beetle Drive (plus home cooked bolognese), Quiz Night, Pub Games (including fish and chips,) and most recently the Treasure Hunt and fun on the Green.

Later on the agenda you will see we shall be discussing minor amendments to our constitution. One of our aims is "To provide a facility for use predominantly for Pettistree Residents and surrounding villages for social, educational and community activities". The hall is therefore a very important part of our community and our efforts in providing social events enhances our community and the spirit within it.

I was particularly pleased therefore that we agreed this year to donate the proceedings of our Treasure Hunt and Fun Day to support another very important part of our community. If you are not already aware I am extremely pleased to say we raised £358 towards the Church Roof Appeal.

The use of our hall for activities other than our own social events remains limited with only the Bowls Club and Cricket Club being regular users. We must endeavour in the coming year to promote its use still further.

Finally could I take the opportunity to thank all of you who have given time and effort to maintain the hall and car park. As we now know it isn't moving (we've measured it!) and it should be with us for a long time to come.

Dave Caudwell

Joseph in the Barn

At the beginning of the year word came to the Parochial Church Council that Rita was planning an event in her barn in aid of the roof appeal. "What a nice idea" we thought, but little did we know what efforts were going in to making *Joseph in the Barn* such a memorable evening. By the time we saw the very professional notices and tickets the barn had been cleared and turned into a stage and auditorium, the children of Yoxford school had learned their words and movements, back stage helpers had sewn costumes, organised transport and planned makeup as well as dealing with a hundred or so more tasks both great and small.

And then on the night the audience came; some to support a village event, some to support the roof appeal, some to see their children perform and probably some just to see Dick and Rita's barn.

But whatever the reason the people came, they went home with their souls uplifted by the infectious enthusiasm and sheer talent of the children. They were wonderful – an enormous credit to Rita their producer and a source of great pride to their parents who, I suspect, shed an occasional tear as young voices soared in the evening air.

And then Dick "be sure to fill the wine glasses to the top" and Rita (who just smiled and smiled) could relax and look back on a magical evening knowing that their efforts had given us all such a lot of pleasure.

And if you didn't go I'll let you into a secret - Elvis is alive and well and performing in a barn in Pettistree. Oh yes he is – ask anyone who had a ticket, they all saw him.

And thanks to *Joseph in the Barn* and its supporters a magnificent £355 was raised for the Church roof appeal – thank you all.

Joan Jordan

Treasure Hunt

July 1st saw the Treasure Hunt take place which was organised by the Village Hall Committee and devised by Tony & Jacki Franklin.

Knowing your Neighbourhood was the theme of this years Treasure Hunt – teams had to find the names of "houses" and the people who live in them.

About 50 people took part forming themselves into teams of 3 and 6 with no more than three adults per team.

Each team had the same sets of 24 photographic clues which were used to identify houses or building in the Village. What they needed to do was to match the clue with the name of the house and the occupier. Two points were awarded for the correct house name and one for the householders Christian names and one for the Surname. Each clue identified a feature of a property or installation which could be seen from the road.

All of the houses were situated within the Neighbourhood Watch area boundary signs. For those who were a bit hazy about where these signs were, a map was provided. During the Hunt each of these signs had to be visited. On each was a small sticker with a letter written on it. These letters were needed to make up and solve an anagram you will needed to

Competition was very keen and some sharp practices were observed; one team changed the letter 'Y' to a letter 'X' which made the anagram very hard to solve for the teams that followed. How low can people stoop when there are prizes to be won?

The Treasure Hunt was in two parts, the second, much harder than the first, took place on the Village Green.

The teams were given 24 clues, which took the form of 24 photographs each of a single letter from the house names they had discovered in the first part of the game – all they had to do was write down the correct house name against each letter without leaving the Village Green to match the letter to house names

This severely tested the Teams powers of observation and memory but to make it easier for them they were supplied with a list of the house names which they should have identified in the first part of the game.

The result of the Treasure Hunt was as follows:

Part 1

1. Dick, Rita & Maggie
2. Tuns of Fun
3. Chris Jude & Mary
4. BREMARCH
5. Clare Signy
6. The Bitches
7. Pettistree Flyers
8. Alan & Evelyn
9. Goatees

Part 2

1. Chris Jude & Mary
2. Tuns of Fun
3. Clare Signy
4. Pettistree Flyers
5. Alan & Evelyn

Hopefully, after taking part contestants were a little more aware of who lives in our Village and where. By all accounts this was a most enjoyable event, which challenged the powers of observation of all who took part.

The money raised on the day amounted to £358, all of which went towards the repair of the Church roof.

Tony Franklin

A Visit to Wantisden

Russell Geen, Chairman Suffolk Coastal District Council 2000-2001, invited the chairman and a friend of all Parish Councils in the area to meet him on a Saturday afternoon in May. Instead of a formal get together the chosen meeting place was Wantisden Hall Farms. It was a beautiful, sunny and warm, afternoon and after a welcome by Mr Geen and Mr Kemball three trailer loads of Parish Councillors set off for a tour of the farms

The valley in which the farms are situated is a beautiful part of the Suffolk countryside dominated by the largest medieval pollarded oak wood in Europe –Staverton Park. This is a unique site of special scientific interest. Here we saw the conservation work being carried on in conjunction with English Nature. Most of the oak trees have been measured and tagged and their ages calculated. Acorns from these trees are gathered every year, planted and new trees are grown from these to ensure continuity, thus helping to replace some of the devastation caused by the gales in October 1987. Some areas are left to provide habitats for natural regeneration and others have been cleared. Here were bluebells in profusion. Another area has been fenced off for deer farming.

The Kemball family, now in its third generation at the farm since it became the owner in 1946, have also been responsible for making lakes or reservoirs. These are now looking very natural and provide for wild-life as well as irrigation on the light land. The woodlands and ponds cover 166 hectares out of the 605 hectares of the farms. In fact the first generation, now a nonagenarian, was to be seen digging yet another one.

Wantisden is a member of a charitable organisation called LEAF (linking environment and farming) and as such promotes integrated crop management –common sense farming practices that are both financially viable and environmentally responsible.

The crops grown on the sandy loam and sandy clay loam soil are mainly field vegetables with less demanding cereal crops interspersing the vegetables. The crops are grown for marketing companies, processors and supermarkets. At the present time they are sent to Lincolnshire for washing but this is likely to be done at Wantisden in the near future.

Kemballs have recently bought the runway side of Bentwaters air-base and are developing many ideas for the use of it. We saw the beginning of the removal of part of the runway which is being used for aggregate. At the present rate of progress, the size of the operation and the limited number of lorry movements each day, it will take many years to remove. Some of it is to remain and likely to be used for sporting activities.(We did try trailer racing that afternoon.)

The hangers are to be used for duck production, with four acres of outside grass at every one of the 23 hangers for the maturing ducks to use.

Another area, among the pine trees and the gorse, formerly standing bays, will be given over to log cabins for holiday homes. It is hoped another building will be used for the washing of the vegetables. There are many ideas evolving slowly to bring the site back to usefulness

The afternoon ended with delicious scones and tea in the conference centre, which will be familiar to anyone who has been to the "Power of the Past." Short talks were given by people from different parishes about their Millennium Projects as well as the Hedge-row Survey currently under way in many villages but finally to involve every parish in the District

Joan Peck

Apology

In our last edition of Pettistree People we mistakenly referred to Number 2 Potash Cottages as having changed its name to Presmere Day Nursery. This is incorrect and we offer our apologies.

Nature Notes

What did the butterfly say to the other butterfly?
Answer: Have you been counted yet?

Concern has been expressed recently that butterflies do not appear to be as plentiful as they used to be. In an attempt to try to provide some facts on this subject a survey of butterfly numbers and species has been going on this summer in churchyards. One criticism levelled at churchyards is that closely cut grass whilst being tidy does not provide habitat for wildlife. Those managing churchyards have been encouraged to leave a corner to take on a more natural feel: uncut grass, wild flowers, trees and shrubs allowed to flower, fruit and shed their foliage with the seasons. Ann Sayer volunteered to make a survey in Pettistree Churchyard and she was rewarded with sightings of the following:-Meadow Brown, Gatekeeper, Wall, Speckled Wood, Ringlet and possibly Holly Blue. We have taken greater interest in butterflies this year and in addition to the above six species, which were all present in our garden, we have seen Red Admiral, Peacock, Small Tortoiseshell, Brimstone, Orange Tip, Large White, and Small White.

I mentioned in the previous issue of Pettistree People that if we could help Swallows and House Martins find a home with us it would make their lives easier and we would be rewarded by their presence. I have been disappointed again this summer by so few swallows in our area but I was pleased to hear on a recent visit to friends in Norfolk that they had two nests which raised two broods of five chicks each on their property. Good news indeed!

What an abundance of fruit and berries we have seen this year in our hedgerows. Blackberries were sizeable and plentiful while some oak trees are heavily laden with acorns. I expect jam and wine makers have been busy out collecting.

Autumn is the time for bonfires, the traditional method of turning heaps of garden rubbish and hedge trimmings into usable ash for the garden plants.

Before lighting a bonfire I suggest the following:-

- Never light the rubbish heap where it stands.
- Always take material from the heap to an adjacent site and keep the bonfire to a manageable size
- Keep a hosepipe close by or a long handled rake, which can be used to break up the bonfire if it threatens to get out of control.
- Never light bonfires in strong winds and always consider your neighbours.
- Do not let smoke drift onto roads.
- Do not light your bonfire near a hedge, as a sudden change of wind direction could prove disastrous.

If the fire will not draw, try another day. Never use petrol or diesel to force combustion.

As you are probably using a garden fork to transfer material from the original heap to the bonfire please take care as you get to the bottom of the pile, you could do as much damage to a slumbering hedgehog with your fork as you would have done by attempting to light the original heap where it stood.

As winter approaches our thoughts turn to feeding our feathered friends once more. If you wish to help song birds through the difficult months ahead always elevate as much of the food as possible keeping it out of the way of rats, mice and bullying larger birds like magpies and crows. Water is also vital for birds for drinking and bathing. Remember to break the ice on your bird-bath or bowl every day. Even on cold days birds need to bathe to keep their plumage in tip-top condition.

I hope that during the dark days of December and January you will be rewarded by sightings of winter visitors or unusual residents all appreciative of your efforts on their behalf.

Mike Sayer

Bowls Club

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

Church Roof Appeal

As soon as the extent of the roof damage was realised at the beginning of the year it was clear that repairs could only be undertaken with the support of not only the regular congregation but also the whole village.

The PCC knew that such support would be forthcoming and were not disappointed. Thanks to so many people contributing through the Gift Day and village events the roofing bill has now been paid. Grants were also applied for and those that were awarded have now provided enough for us to be able to consider tackling the problems caused to the electrical system by the damage.

Including tax relief claimed through the Gift Aid scheme we have now reached the magnificent total of £13000 and on behalf of the Vicar and Churchwardens I must thank everyone for their generous response.

Joan Jordan
PCC Treasurer

Jeff Hallett - A Profile

Jeff Hallett was elected Chairman of the Pettistree Parish Council earlier this year. He has been a member of the Parish Council since 1986 and retained his position in subsequent uncontested elections and the election that went to a vote in 1999. He was Vice Chairman from 1988. His contributions to council business have been based on non-political principles being guided by the interests of villagers.

Jeff was appointed as a Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon to the Ipswich Hospital in 1983 and moved to Pettistree with his wife Maggie and three children David, Mary and Susie. They moved into The Laurels in a central position in the village and over the years have added various types of livestock and some building modifications. Experience of several planning applications for the modifications has given insight in to the varied approaches taken by planning officers.

Jeff and his family have been involved in nearly all aspects of village life. As a regular churchgoer he joined the Parochial Church Council and has been a Churchwarden since 1992. One of the highlights was helping with the campaign to raise money and restore the church bells. It was a flattering coincidence that the bells were rededicated by the Bishop on his birthday in 1986. There was nobody in the village who could ring bells so a band was taught by the Suffolk Guild of Ringers and has never failed to ring them since the rededication.

Livestock from The Laurels have been seen in several village situations. Several years ago the Halletts could be seen taking one of their pet sheep around the village on a lead, later they took brown labradors and more recently Jeff is to be seen taking his Suffolk Punch heavy horse around the village for training and exercise. The picture shows him testing the flood situation in the village street.

A village is always changing as people come and go, their employment changes, and housing is altered, but it seems that we are in a period where a lot of things are happening all at the same time. There is a lot that needs to be done to maintain the village in its present good condition and we look forward to the ideas and help of the many families who have joined us recently and those who will be moving in soon.

An Appreciation

On Sunday September 2nd three boys were seen hurling stones and smashing the Village Hall windows. Thanks to Neighbourhood Watch, Dave and Cath, a Rapid Response Team, were able to run to the hall and with their help and that of a dog walker the police were able to identify the culprits. Our sincere thanks to Dave and Cath, and Robbie our Bobbie and also to Eric for giving up his time replacing at least sixteen window panes.

The 100 Club

Our 100 Club is now in to the sixth month of our eighth year. It was started by Members of the Village Hall Committee, in 1993 to help with the maintenance of the Village Hall, as at the time we were fund-raising to refurbish the Hall with new kitchen and new toilets. The money now helps with maintenance such as:- decorating, lighting and keeping it in tip top condition, for your use. Any one who would like to join please contact:- Maureen Stollery 746653, Jacki Franklin 746585, or Alan Whitfield 746794.

It is £1 per month each and drawn every month, with half the money given back in prizes.

Maureen Stoller

Forthcoming Events

Village Hall - Quiz Night November 23rd

This is an event not to be missed – it is always a sell-out.

Don't miss out, get in touch with Dave Caudwell (747170) or Jacki Franklin (746585)

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	Sunnyside
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	Sheila Hemmings	746451
The Three Tuns	John & Brenda Pallett	746244
Wickham Market	Health Centre	747101
Post Office	Wickham Market	746201