



Pettistree People

Issue 37

March 2007

Deadline for next issue is May 19th 2007



Parish Plan

Just a brief progress report on the Parish Plan, where we've got to and more importantly what will be happening over the next couple of months.

We're currently completing a pilot run of the questionnaire with a cross section of ten households in the village. Many thanks to those people for their input. This will ensure the finished questionnaire is as clear and easy to fill in as possible and contains all the relevant issues to the village.

When all the feedback from these pilots has been analysed the questionnaire will be amended and improved accordingly. We then aim to issue the real questionnaire within the next couple of months to all households.

It will then be over to the residents of Pettistree to complete the questionnaires. Once they are all returned and collated we will then hope to issue the Parish Plan by early summer.

If anyone has any more questions then please let me know.

However I'd like to finish with a plea to all residents to please complete and return your questionnaire. The Parish Plan will only be as good as the contributions received.

Many Thanks

Carol Edworthy
Tel No 748059

Welcome

Welcome to Barry, Elvin, and Becky Fehily who have moved in to Home Farm.

Inside this Issue

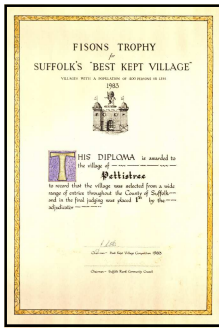
Parish Plan	P1
Parish Council	P2 & 3
Village hall	P3
Church News	P4
100 Club Carols In the Barn Heritage 2000 Trust	P5
Red Poll News	P6
Neighbourhood Watch	P7
Mollie & Nellie	P8 & 9
Emilia Hogg	P9
Age Concern Carpet Bowls	P10
Useful Numbers	P11
Word search Planning Application	P12

Parish Councillors

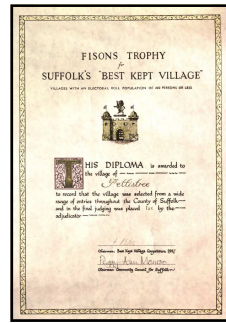
Tony Franklin	Chairman
Scott's Hall	Tel No 746585
Maureen Stollery	Vice Chairman
1 Presmere Road	746653
Jeff Hallett	
The Laurels	746210
Nick Beagley	746344
Pettistree Grange	
Karen Hunter	747430
2 Presmere Road	
Mark Edworthy	748069
Grove Farm	
Henrietta Kay	748008
Pettistree House	

Pettistree Parish Council Report by Tony Franklin Chairman

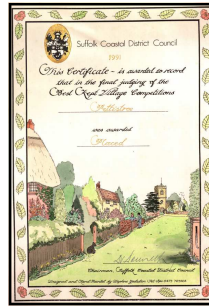
Best kept Village Competition



1st 1983



1st 1987



Placed 1991



3rd 1997

It is now 10 years since the Village entered the competition which is held every other year for villages of less than 400 inhabitants. For each year the Village is eligible the Parish Council considers on behalf of the Village whether we should enter the competition. At its meeting on 5th February the Council decided that it was time we entered the competition again in 2007. Jeff Hallett has kindly volunteered his services coordinating the Pettistree entry for this time.

Local Elections

This year the local elections will include Pettistree and as a consequence all seven seats on the Parish Council will be up for re-election. The election will take place on Thursday 3rd May 2007 and anyone wishing to be nominated should contact our Parish Council Clerk, Heather Heelis for preliminary information and the Returning Officer at Suffolk Coastal District Council for detailed information and the necessary nomination papers. If you wish to offer yourself for election then the deadline for nominations is noon on 4th April 2007.

Meetings

May is an important month for local government parish meetings. The Parish Council has set two meeting dates in May, the first being the Annual Parish Council meeting which will take place on 15th May. At this meeting the newly elected members of the Parish Council will make their declarations of office and elect a new Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

The second meeting is the Parish Meeting which will take place on Tuesday 22nd May. This meeting is for all people in the village who may place on the agenda any topics which they wish to have discussed. Motions may be proposed and voted upon and if passed they will then provide guidance to the Parish Council when it is deciding on matters affecting the village.

This meeting is an important opportunity for debate within the village and this year the Parish Plan will be the first item on the agenda.

The Greyhound Inn

Since the last issue of the Pettistree People, the Parish Council has received no further reliable or attributable information about the future of the Greyhound.

Allegedly, there is an individual who is keen to buy and reopen the Greyhound, however, we are not able to identify that person and nor do we have knowledge of what stage the sales negotiation has reached.

Concern within the Village has continued to grow and at its meeting on 5th February the Parish Council received a letter of concern from a group of residents. That letter suggested that the Parish Council may wish to consider initiating action under the Town and County Planning Act in relation to the upkeep of listed buildings.

Although sympathetic to this suggestion the Council did not feel that it was either knowledgeable enough or sufficiently empowered to take any such action. However, it was decided that the Council should seek advice on taking action from the Director of Planning at Suffolk Coastal.

Postwatch

The Parish Council receives many requests for responses to government public consultation exercises. One recently received was concerning the rationalisation of Post Offices. The Council tries to respond to as many of such request as it can and on this occasion it decided that the best action it could take was for each member of the Council to write to the Wickham Market Post Master saying how worthwhile it is to have a local Post Office which is regarded as an essential service which is highly valued by the local community.

Standing down

After a great deal of consideration I have decided not to seek re-election to the Parish Council at the elections in May. I have been a Parish Councillor for more years than I care to remember and I think the time has come to make way for new blood.

Dates of forthcoming Parish Council Meetings

Tuesday 17th April, 8pm.

Tuesday 15th May, Annual Parish Council Meeting & Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm.

Tuesday 22nd May – Parish Meeting, 7.30pm

All of these meetings are to be held in the Village Hall.

Village Hall News

Pettistree Village Hall

At the time of writing we are looking forward to the refurbishment of the Hall. Orders have been placed for a new back door and new windows, which will match the existing ones, and the building will be decorated inside and out. We hope that the work will be completed by Easter.

The Hall is a valuable asset and depends for its survival on the people of the village. The committee would like to thank all those who have supported it over the past year by coming to the events that have been arranged.

An Evening of Suffolk Squit

It was a full house for the evening of **Suffolk Squit** with Peter Holloway accompanied by Alan Smith on November 23rd 2006. We found ourselves laughing so much, whether at his jokes, his magic, or at being the butt of his wit. The Red Poll Beef mince and jacket potatoes all disappeared, and when Peter returned in his star role of Elvis, the encores could have gone on for ages. It was generally agreed that it was a superb evening of pre-Christmas entertainment.

The Christmas Lunch Party

The 'bring a plate' lunch party on Sunday 10th December was attended by about 30 people, but it proved to be a very warm and friendly occasion. The Hall had been decorated by members of the committee, and with the addition of the beautiful Christmas tree, kindly donated by Clare, it felt most welcoming. Everyone had contributed a plate of food and a bottle, and young and old alike shared an enjoyable meal together. Cath had set up a table of games for the children, which was well used by everybody throughout, and we were able to finish the meal with some delicious chocolate petit-fours, hand-made by the children from the White House. Thank you to everyone who made it such a happy occasion.

Future Events arranged for 2007:

Sat.10th March 7.30. Quiz Evening. Teams of 4 or 5 people can be made up on the night, so don't be put off if you haven't got a team beforehand.

Sat.14th April: Pub Games Evening.

Sun. 20th May: BBQ on the Village Green.

Sat.15th Sept: Beetle Drive with BBQ.

Please come and support the Hall at these events.

Rita Smith

News from St Peter & St Paul's Church *by Maggie Hallett*

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) meet regularly to review the year and plan for the future. At the meeting on January 29th the accounts for 2006 were discussed and these will be presented to the Annual meeting of the church on April 16th. It was noted that the replacement oak gates for the churchyard should be installed by Easter and this will improve the appearance of the village.

The interior decoration of the church is in a poor state and the PCC hoped that it would be possible to redecorate, unfortunately it seems that when this was last done in the 1960's emulsion paint was used, rather than the limewash or distemper originally used. This means that to redecorate would be very costly, a provisional quote is "more than £15,000", as we have to use a 'breathable' paint which will prove difficult as it may fail to stick to the old emulsion.

The plans for adding a disabled toilet to the Church room have now been approved by Suffolk Coastal. In order to minimise costs a suggestion was made that it may be possible to use an eco-friendly tank system and so avoid the high cost of connecting to the mains sewer. The PCC are going to take advice on this from all sources including other local churches who have experience of installing this type of system.

In order to fund this work we will look into any possible grants but will also be planning to raise as much as we can locally. Many people will remember that for the Queen's Jubilee in June 2003 part of Pettistree's Day of celebration was a very special Songs of Praise service where the top 10 favourite hymns of the village were sung. The PCC plan to canvas the village for the current favourites, and follow up a late afternoon service with a fund raising barbecue in the churchyard. The date chosen for this is Sunday July 8th and we hope that as many people as possible will be able to come and join in. Please put the date in your diary and start thinking about your favourite hymns.

Any offers of help and ideas for fund-raising during the year will be very much appreciated as of course will be any suggestions for future uses of the Church room. It is only used four of five times a year at present as we no longer have a Sunday School which was probably the original purpose.

It is worth restating that although the church is kept locked visitors are always welcome. I have a key so please contact me if you would like to see inside and inspect the recently uncovered alcoves. We have a steady trickle of visitors during the year and since the Altar rail kneelers have featured on Radio Suffolk in the Divine Art section I have had calls from art groups wishing to come as well. Later in the year members of the Suffolk Institute of History and Archaeology are visiting the village so we hope to learn even more about the history of the building.

Church services

We are very lucky that even though we are a very small parish we still have a service every Sunday here in Pettistree. Evensong on the 1st and Morning Prayer on the 3rd Sundays are traditional services using the Book of Common Prayer, while on the 2nd and 4th Sundays a printed sheet is used for Communion services which are recognisably traditionally based, but using some modern prayer forms and language. Coffee is available after all the morning services. Every other month we hold a special service designed to welcome young families into the church; this will include activities and songs for this age group and so far have been joyful occasions which have drawn families from outside the village as well. The next one will be on March 11th at 9.30 am. A great opportunity to meet other families, and the rest of the congregation as well. At Easter there is no Good Friday service in Pettistree but there will be a contemplative style service of readings and prayers in Wickham Market. Easter Communion is celebrated at 9.30 am in Pettistree for which the church will have been decorated by many volunteer flower arrangers and always looks lovely.

100 Club

	1st	2nd	3rd
November	Dick Smith	Joan Peck	Adam Signy
December	Mrs Green	Hannah Signy	John Lock
January	Lucinda Kay	Philip Kay	Maggie Hallett
February	Kath Hilton	Cath Caudwell	Mr Jackson

The 100 Club is due in May and costs £12 for the year. 50% of the money collected is allocated to the monthly draw. The other 50% helps to maintain the Village Hall. Why not join if you have not already done so?. Contact Sheila Manning for details Tel No 01728 747321

Carols in the Barn

Dick and I were once again really pleased with the responses from those who joined us to sing carols in the barn either in French on 15th December or in English on the 23rd. The barn provides such a meaningful venue for the Christmas story, and fortunately the weather was comparatively kind to us. We'd like to thank Jim and Pauline for providing the most welcome barbecue on both occasions, and to everybody who contributed to the events.

Following the French evening I have been able to send £225 to *The Tree of Life Foundation* – an orphanage and relief centre in Indonesia that our son Stephen is involved with. Stephen has been able to buy 6 bunk beds for the orphanage with the money raised. Following the English evening I have sent £200 to *The Starlight Children's Foundation* and I have received a letter of thanks saying that the gift will be used to enhance the quality of life of the Starlight Children.

Rita Smith

Heritage 2000 Trust

Pettistree Heritage Trust

Picnic and AGM

Dick and Rita Smith have kindly invited the Pettistree Heritage 2000 Trust to hold their AGM at Mount Piece, Uncle Bill's Meadow. It will be an opportunity for everyone to view the Mount and Canal and to enjoy a picnic together.

Cold drinks will be provided.

A small exhibition will be mounted and activities for children will be organised.

Sunday 10th June 2007 3.30-5.30pm

For more information contact Rosie Hayward 01728 746 558

Red Poll News *by Rita Smith*

In our last Red Poll News, written in April 2005 for Pettistree People, I wrote about Pettistree Leila calving. We were expecting problems, because, not only was she 14 days overdue and seriously fat, but her Australian father, Eurimbla Gladstone (by artificial insemination) was reputed to give big calves. What we didn't expect, and which came as a huge surprise to us, was to have an e-mail on Nov. 17th 2006 from Eurimbla Gladstone's breeders in Australia. They had logged onto the Red Poll website, and discovered us in Pettistree! They gave us such a lot of news about their farm, and we are hoping to meet with them when they come to England this June.



Victoria & Ula

We learnt that Gladstone himself has a rich history. His mother Gladys was a Grand Champion at the Sydney Show. Gladys and Gladstone (as an 8 month old calf) were sold to the Chairman of Taronga Park Zoo (Sydney), but the owners regretted having parted with them, and when the occasion arose, they managed to buy them back! Gladys was taken to their farm at Mitta, to retire gracefully, but sadly fell into the river and was swept away, despite valiant attempts to rescue her. The latest news we have of Gladstone – sent at the beginning of January- is that he is alive and well, still on the farm, and was being prepared for the Canberra Royal Show, where there were 100 entries from every Red Poll region in Australia, despite the massive droughts that the country has been suffering from. What an amazing thing the world wide web is!



Leila with calf born 9th Jan.

Returning to Pettistree and Leila – the calf that was born to her in April '05 we named Victoria – because of the Australian connection. She is looking really good and we hope to serve her in the Spring. Leila herself is fatter than ever, and Dick was even more worried about her calving this time around. Happily his fears were once again unfounded, and on the 9th Jan. this year she dropped a little heifer calf in the yard with all the other cows around her. This time the sire was Gedding Badger. To date she has produced 6 heifer calves and 1 bull. Her first calf by Eurimbla Gladstone Pettistree Ula has grown into an enormous cow weighing over 750kgs. but disappointingly she lost her first calf at 8 months from no apparent cause.

We have to keep the numbers of cows down, so unfortunately the gentle Suze, who also calved in April '05 was sold together with her lovely heifer Vanessa (sired by Gedding Badger) to a new breeder setting up in Kent. The field where Suze and Vanessa are kept runs parallel to a road, and they have become quite an attraction to people passing by. Another of Leila's daughters, Sheila, was sold with her calf, together with Miss Santa, (born on Christmas day 2002) and her calf, to another new breeder near Kings Lynn in Norfolk.

On Monday 29th January Dick had the pleasure of going to Sandringham and briefly meeting with the Queen. The Red Poll Society had decided to present the Queen with 2 Red Poll heifers as a present for her 80th Birthday, as she is their long standing Patron. The 2 heifers that were chosen were from farms in Yorkshire and Leicestershire and because Dick had been part of the selection committee he had the privilege of being invited to the presentation ceremony. The heifers will form part of Tony Barratt's herd on the Sandringham Estate, so the Queen will not have to look after them person-





Personal Safety Advice whilst out on foot from Suffolk Police

- Be alert - walk with purpose and confidence.
- Plan your route there and back. Avoid short cuts through unlit or deserted areas.
- Try to walk in groups.
- Let someone know where you are going and your time of return.
- Walk facing the traffic so a car cannot pull up behind you unnoticed.
- If you walk alone regularly or go jogging or cycling, try to vary your route and time and take the routes that you know best.
- Be aware of your surroundings; a personal stereo may prevent you from hearing traffic or somebody approaching behind you.
- Cover up expensive-looking jewellery.
- Do not use mobile phones in open view.
- Carry a personal attack alarm in your hand or on your belt (available from any police station).
- If you are carrying a handbag, keep it close to your body with the clasp inwards.
- Keep your house and car keys in a pocket, not in your bag.
Have them ready so that you can get into your house or car quickly.
- If you think you are being followed, cross the street, more than once if necessary; if are certain you are being followed, go to the nearest place where there are people, such as a pub or shop, and call the police.
- If a car stops and the occupant asks for directions, keep your distance.
- If your bag is snatched do not resist but shout for help.
- If you are confronted, use your alarm and run; scream and shout to attract attention.
- Do not hitchhike or accept lifts from strangers.

Always **call 999** in the case of an **emergency** when you need immediate assistance.

Issued by the police in December but appropriate in most situations

Welcome to Molly and Nellie by Jeff Hallett

People in Pettistree may have noticed a new sound since the Autumn. Sometimes it sounds like a very rusty gate but more usually it is like a foghorn with stomach ache. It does not come very often and is not often repeated. The most common times are about mid morning, late afternoon, and when we come home after being out. Readers brought up in the country or perhaps at the seaside may have recognised it as a donkey braying.

When our 21 year old Shetland Pony died (of Cushing's Disease) at the end of last Summer our Suffolk Punch "Bear" obviously missed her company. We were therefore keen to find a new companion for "Bear" and decided to follow my long-standing interest in having a donkey, especially since they are said to make very good companions for horses and are even used for that in the racing world. We thought it would be an easy matter to find a donkey and give it a good home without much money changing hands. Those days have gone. The donkey sanctuaries have become very well funded and organised and they had none available as a 'rescue donkey'. There are not very many donkeys about and even those used for rides on the beaches are very closely regulated. However we let it be known we were looking for a donkey and very soon a lot of people had helpful suggestions and contacts. We learned a lot very quickly from talking to breeders and reading the information on the excellent donkey websites such as www.donkeybreedsociety.co.uk.

We were told by everyone that you could not have just one donkey. They are very companionable animals and get very upset if left alone. This would have happened if we had only one and then took the horse away to a show or even out for a walk. When upset and lonely they do a lot of calling and although an occasional bray is rather nice, braying all day long would be rather trying.

We also had to choose the sex of the donkeys. We had clear advice that stallions (Jacks) could be difficult and unpredictable. Geldings would have been fine but we decided on mature mares (Jennies) with a possibility of breeding if we get on well. After seeing a few donkeys we bought Molly (14) and Nellie (18) from a very helpful and successful breeder in Norfolk. They could live to 50 so they are not old for donkeys!

We collected them in our horsebox after lowering the fittings from Suffolk Punch height to ensure they would travel comfortably. They settled well in their stable and after vetting, worming and micro-chipping they have been able to enjoy exclusive use of our field while we wait for "Bear" to come back from training.

Donkeys are the same equidae genus as horses but they are rather different in many ways. They come naturally from the warm dry Mediterranean area so one of the main differences is that their coats are not really waterproof and they need shelter in cold wet weather. They can also do well on much rougher feed than horses and there is a risk of overfeeding illnesses if they get too much good grass, or too many carrots! Donkeys are naturally suspicious of dogs and have even chased our own friendly dogs out of the field.

By getting mature donkeys we have animals that are ready trained in many ways. They walk well with halters so they have already been taken for exercise around the village. They are pretty calm but thank you to those of you in cars for slowing down while passing. Both are friendly but interestingly different. Molly is always very co-operative but Nellie has 'attitude' and is always the leader.

We have only known them in their shaggy winter coats so we are looking forward to seeing them in spring with new sleeker coats and neatly trimmed hooves. We also look forward to finding out how

much they will be happy to do in harness or perhaps even carrying the shopping.

Mollie



Nellie



This delightful picture is of Emilia age four years on her ski school passing out parade

Emilia is the Great grand daughter of Ned Hogg and lives in Geneva.

AGE CONCERN

A National Scandal

Four out of 10 older people admitted to hospital are malnourished on arrival. Patients over the age of 80 admitted to hospital have a five times higher prevalence of malnutrition than those under the age of 50.

Whether their condition goes unnoticed, or untreated, and worsens during their hospital stay is a lottery. Older people and their relatives are left worried and not knowing whether they will be given appropriate food or help with eating it.

The result is that six out of 10 older people are at risk of becoming malnourished, or their situation getting worse, in hospital.

This is extremely serious because patients who receive good nutrition may have shorter hospital stays, fewer post-operative complications and less need for drugs and other interventions.

Despite everyone recognising that there is a problem, it persists. The problem does not need more legislation and more guidance, it needs to be tackled by changes in culture and practice within the NHS.

Until malnutrition in hospitals is ended, the lack of respect for the dignity of older people continues to be a national scandal.

Village representative

Maureen Stollery Tel No 01728 746 653

AGE CONCERN'S SEVEN STEPS TO END MALNUTRITION IN HOSPITALS

First listen to older people, their relatives and carers and act on what they say.

2. All ward staff must become 'food aware' and take responsibility for the food needs of older people in hospital.
3. Hospital staff must follow their own professional codes and guidance from other bodies.
4. Older people must be assessed for the signs or danger of malnourishment on admission and at regular intervals during their stay.
5. Introduce 'protected mealtimes' where all non-urgent activity - such as ward and drug rounds, tests, etc. - is not allowed to happen during mealtimes.
6. Implement a 'red tray' system that allows all staff to easily recognise those older people who need help with eating at mealtimes. Ensure that it works in practice.
7. Use trained volunteers where appropriate to provide additional help and support at mealtimes.

CARPET BOWLS

Carpet bowls is played in the village hall fortnightly. For information contact Mike Sayer 01394460639.

USEFUL NUMBERS

County & District Councillors

Mrs Clare Aitcheson County Councillor 01394 383759
Mr Paul Callaghan, District Councillor 01394 389052
Mr John Perry 01394389523

Neighbourhood Watch

Dave Caudwell 01728747170 Rogues Cottage
Mike Sayer 01394 460 639 4 Hungarian Close

For Crimeline Information, 01473 613611. Current crime update available after 5 pm 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

Parish Clerk Heather Heelis 01728747789
Vicar Rev John Eldridge 01728746026
Bellringers Mary Garner 01728 746097
ChurchWardensRichard Sherrington 01728747955
Jeff Hallett 01728746210
Village Hall Booking Sec. Pauline 01728 745030
Local History Recorder Joan Peck
Age ConcernMaureen Stollery 01728746653
Age Concern S & East Suffolk 01473257039
The Three Tuns 01728746244
Wickham MarketHealth Centre 0844 477 2557
Post Office 01728746201
Library 01728747216
Dial A Ride Contact No. 01473281194

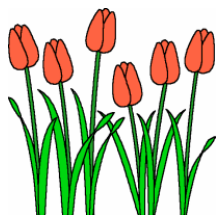
Spring into ac-

Daffodils
Crocus
Snowdrops
Lambs
Blossom
Sunshine
Easter
Chick
Egg Hunt
Tulip



Flowers
Puddles
Showers
Buds
Nature
Hyacinth
Pansy
Robin
Sparrow

Nest
Violet
Seed
Duckling
Foal
Umbrella
Geese
Basket
Spring
Bloom



D	H	N	S	R	E	W	O	L	F	E	S	A	G	H
E	V	T	E	K	S	A	B	T	A	I	D	L	N	Y
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U	A	S	A	S	U	N	S	H	I	N	E	N	U	G
D	N	A	W	E	A	C	N	C	N	O	E	R	E	H
X	M	O	O	L	B	E	W	O	R	R	A	P	S	T

Planning

Mr Wilton	Home Farm Barn Grove Road Pettistree IP13 0HY	Erection of stable, proposed manege, conversion of former granary to cartlodge/store Temporary (15 months siting/use of mobile home for residential accom- modation)	CO/1809/FUL	8/12/06
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Thank you to all the contributors to this edition of the Village Newsletter.
And a big thank you to those of you who met the deadline. (Not quite 100% this time)
What would you like to see in the newsletter?
Please tell

Maureen Stollery
Maureen.stollery@btinternet.com

Joan Peck
de.rola@virgin.net

Have a look at the web-site.
If you would like anything put on it. Use it as a village diary.
Please contact

Web Master Chris Garner
www.pettistree.suffolk.gov.uk