



Pettistree People

Issue 47

September 2009

Deadline for next issue is November 8th 2009

Well done Pettistree & Loudham!



The Gardens Weekend has now been and gone and we are just so proud of what Pettistree & Loudham achieved. Not only was the fantastic sum of **£3,012** raised for the Church & Village Hall but the atmosphere over the two days was incredible. It seems as if the whole village was talking with each other and with the enthusiastic visitors, of which we know there were 398 paying adults, plus children.

At this point we must thank everyone who took part in opening their gardens. There was some trepidation to begin with – are our gardens good enough, what do we have to do, what will visitors ask us? However, we needn't have worried – the enjoyment was very evident, not only from the visitors but from those taking part as well. There were 138 comments made in the Church visitor book and we would like to share just some of them:

'The most beautiful gardens I've ever seen'
'Lovely flowers – super gardens and church – enjoyed very much'
'Had a wonderful tour of village gardens – great effort everyone'
'This beats even Woodbridge'

The visitor experience was greatly enhanced by the colourful and energetic Morris dancing provided by Danegeld, whilst the bell ringing celebrated the weekend in style (with many people taking time to watch the ringers). The flower festival in the church was truly beautiful.

We would also like to thank everyone who donated cakes for the refreshments and helped on the stalls – The Laurels and Coopers Cottage refreshment & cake stalls raised a magnificent £680 between them, whilst the plant stall took £115 and the book stall £37. A thank you is also due to Paul & Margi at The Greyhound for allowing visitors to share their facilities, together with a generous donation to top up our funds. Last but not least, thanks to Terry, Jim & Alan for their car park guardianship and to Claire & Adam Signy and Dick & Rita Smith for the use of their fields.

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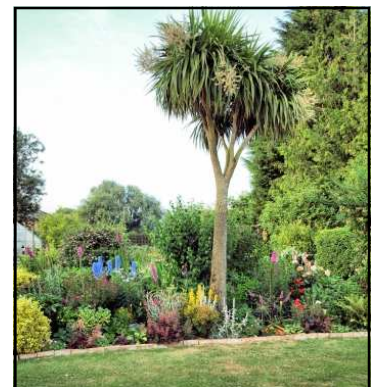
Book stall



Open gardens June 27 & 28th 2009



Security



Roger & Mary Chilvers held a competition in their garden for identifying agricultural tools (raising £26.40), the winners being Ted & Mary Norris from Ufford (the first of the correct entries drawn out of the hat). For those who took part the tools on show were:

- a. Heat tester for a haystack
- b. Malt turner
- c. Cartridge packer for a 12 bore
- d. Mousetrap

The Bottle of Whiskey draw (raising £34) was won by Pauline Cracknell (green ticket no.258).

Many visitors had a local connection with Pettistree and came to reminisce and re-acquaint themselves with the village. One thank you letter from former residents said '*...It was really lovely & nostalgic. We have so many happy memories of Pettistree & it still seems such a happy village to live in as it was then. Everyone there for one another....*' What more can we say?

Cath Caudwell

The photo's were taken Friday evening and with the fading light it was not possible to record all participating gardens. Everyone was too busy on Saturday & Sunday.

Planning

Applicant: Mr Bye

C 09/1093

Location: Woodlands, Grove Road, Pettistree, Woodbridge, IP13 0HY,

Proposal: Erection of bungalow (existing to be demolished.)

Village Hall

October 16th 2009 Pub Games in Village Hall

100 Club

	1st	2nd	3rd
MAY	Cherry White	Claire Signy	Brian Stollery
JUNE	Mr Jackson	Mary Garner	Ann Sayer
JULY	Gemma Crofts	Anna Ayris	Margi Whayman

Interview with Sheila Manning

At the Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee on July 22nd 2009, the committee regrettably accepted Sheila's resignation as secretary. She had held the position for 17 years, and will be greatly missed. I asked her a few questions about her time on the committee.

How did you get involved?

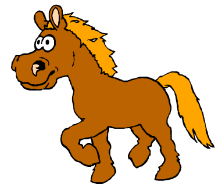
Sheila: It was in 1992. We had been living in the village for 18 months when a meeting was called in what was then the Women's Institute hut. The WI felt that the hut was too costly for their dwindling numbers to maintain, and decided to offer the building to the Village as a gift for use as a Village Hall. Following this, at the Annual Parish Meeting in May a group of people got together to form a Management Committee which was when I volunteered as the Secretary. Joan was the Chairman, and helped me a lot, and we worked alongside the WI for about 2 years.

What did the position of Secretary involve?

Sheila: First of all I had to teach myself to type – on a typewriter, as there were no computers then. At work I was a cartographer and had had no secretarial experience other than managing a Netball Team. Joan helped me through the more formal work, as taking over the running of the Hall meant that we had to produce a Declaration of Trust. This involved dealings with the Solicitor and the Charity Commissioners, and I became one of the three Trustees, along with Joan and Rita. I can remember Patience Maxwell witnessing our signatures. Following this we had a lot of fund-raising events to get the money necessary to completely re-furbish the Hall and I spent a lot of time finding out, and claiming for, the grants that were available from the various councils and institutions.

Which events stand out particularly?

Sheila: There have been so many, but the BBQ's in the marquee on the Pettistree Lodge field were very special. All the committee with lots of helpers spent a good 2 days of preparation – putting up the marquee, setting up the tables and chairs, cooking etc. About 200 people would arrive by mid-day, and when the cooks called out 'meat's ready' we were heads down and serving food without a break for at least one and half hours. After this there were often sports and games, and somehow the sun was always shining. I well remember John Barker dressed up as a horse in one of the races; Joe and John giving horse and cart rides with the Suffolk Punch; and the cow-pat event.



Since then we've had the Pub Games evenings, Quiz evenings, Treasure Hunts, Archive Evenings, Musical events; Social evenings and more recently the Burns Nights. They have all been great fun, and enabled us to continue with the upkeep of the Hall – even building the extension - whilst at the same time enjoying a really good community spirit.

And now?

Sheila: Well, I feel it's time to let different people become involved. One of the things that I've most enjoyed is being able to bring the community together, but it's time for me to move on now.

Sheila Manning & Rita Smith

A Blast from the Past



Recently Joan received this e-mail from Ireland

Forgive this possibly quite unusual e-mail, but I am looking for some assistance in getting information about a very old car which I now own. The factory certificate records the car as having been delivered to a Mr. J. M. Shand of Pettistree, Woodbridge, Suffolk in 1953. I found reference to a Mr. Jimmy Shand in a newsletter of your parish posted on the internet.

The car, a Jaguar XK120 sports car, is quite unusual for it's time and would have been rather expensive and conspicuous when new!

I found myself wondering who Mr. Shand was, what he did, and whether he or his family were still alive in the area. Perhaps you might be able to answer these questions for me?

If the family are still around and anyone remembers his old Jaguar, then they may like to know that it is still on the road and running very well.

Interestingly a couple of the chaps I know in Jaguar recognised Jimmy's name from old race records – so he was a busy competitor I believe!!

It had found its way to Perthshire in my native Scotland for restoration work by 1999, at this time having covered only 44,000 miles.

I purchased the car in 2006 when I was 28, thereby becoming the youngest owner of an XK120 in the world (we understand.)

After a further 2 years in of work the car is up and running.

Despite being originally red with biscuit leather interior, the car is now silver with a red interior

Barrie Graham

Co Cork Ireland

Mr Shand used to enter the Monte Carlo Rally and was a keen competitor. Several people remember him roaring through the village and children being warned not to play in the road!

JMP

Parish Council News from Jeff Hallett Chairman

Gardens and growth have featured strongly in our thoughts recently. The large amount of alternating Summer warmth and rain have made the gardens and hedgerows grow in profusion and many of us are racing to keep up with the courgette crop. Some of our farmer friends are not so happy with the rain continually interrupting plans for harvesting the grain but so far the prospects look quite good.

Gardens were of course the highlight of village activity since the last newsletter with the highly successful Open Gardens Weekend. I will leave it to others to report in detail but will simply add it was one of our best activities for getting the village working and socializing together. Thanks from all the village goes to Dave and Cath Caudwell for leading the organisation.

At our last Parish Council meeting on 14th July we congratulated our District Councillor Michael Bond on his election as County Councillor. He has been a regular attender at our Parish Council meetings and we look forward to the same excellent communications that we had with his predecessor (who stood down) Claire Aitcheson, who also supported several village projects from her local community fund.

We still have a vacancy on the Parish Council and will be pleased to hear from anyone who lives or works in Pettistree and Loudham who would like to be considered for co-option to help shape and manage local aspects of our life.

Some of us were surprised to hear that police speed checks on the B1438 near the Three Tuns in the morning did not show any speeding and only a few cars were over 50 mph. Several people feel that the national speed limit of 60mph is too high for that stretch of road but we will need properly documented examples of any problems in that area if we are to make any progress in getting the limit reduced. If you see anything that worries you please note down the date, time and circumstances.

The Parish Plan consultation and report that was carried out in the village had as one of its recommendations that a housing needs survey should be carried out. We had an underspend on the grant given by Suffolk ACRE for that project and it is possible that we may get permission to use that money to conduct a survey of housing needs. The survey would take the form of a questionnaire sent to every household. The comments made on the questionnaire will be kept confidential as the forms will be returned direct to Suffolk ACRE (so no-one in the village will be aware of the individual replies).

There is no certainty that any building would take place but the first essential step is to identify the type and amount of any need. Most people think of affordable or social housing for hard-up young couples wanting to live and work where they have been brought up, but another possibility is for older people in the village who want to downsize but stay locally. Financial need is not a requirement but the new properties would stay in shared ownership and therefore remain in the social housing pool.

If we do go ahead with the survey please take a few minutes to answer the questionnaire and return it. It could be of help to any of us or our families.

We have not had a single comment about the suggested removal of the dilapidated public telephone box on the village green so we will now go ahead and request its removal and reconstitution of the lay -by that was built to serve it. It is interesting that the ability to use a public call box in an emergency is no longer something that is taught to children.

Our next Parish Council meeting is on 22nd September so do let a councillor or our clerk know if you have any suggestions or matters of concern about the village.

Parish Clerk

I have been asked to write a few words to introduce myself and let you know how I came to be the new Parish Clerk for Pettistree & Loudham.

My parents moved to north Essex when I was a youngster and they decided to send me to school in Ipswich where I spent many happy years. Leaving school I joined a major UK company and worked for them for over 30 years until they decided that I would enjoy life more by taking early retirement. I agreed with enthusiasm! I then found a position working for a charity that helps people with disabilities, based mainly in Cambridgeshire but also with centres in Ipswich and Basildon. I had almost 10 very enjoyable years with them but the time came again for a change.

I had never given the role of Parish Clerk much thought until a District Councillor with SCDC suggested that I apply for a position that he thought was about to come vacant. The District Councillor was a work colleague and SCDC was South Cambridgeshire not Suffolk Coastal. In the event the vacancy did not arise and the idea of becoming a Parish Clerk took something of a backseat.

Although we lived in Cambridgeshire I remembered with fondness my youthful years in Suffolk and bought a mobile holiday home near to Waldringfield. That was a very good decision and most available weekends during the summer months were spent enjoying the countryside of Suffolk Coastal. Then in 2008 my wife joined the Community Health team in Woodbridge and last June we put our house on the market and prepared to move.

I thought again about Parish Clerk duties and the Suffolk County website showed that there was a vacancy in Pettistree for a Parish Clerk. An email to Jeff Hallett (Chairman of the Parish Council) led to an invitation to attend the September Parish Council meeting. The meeting seemed to go well and the councillors appeared to be quite interested in me joining them as their Clerk. And so I did - it was afterwards that I discovered that I was the only candidate!

Unfortunately, we have not yet moved permanently to Suffolk. The housing market collapse has not helped and we have a house in Cambridgeshire to sell, so for the time being we are living in temporary accommodation. Still the housing market will pick up eventually and we can finally move to a county that we both love.

Mike Flanagan
Clerk to the Parish Council of Pettistree & Loudham

Plea from the Editors

Please **watch and note** the date of the deadline on the front of every copy and let us have your contributions, preferably **Times New Roman Size 12**.

We like to receive copy on any of the following subjects

Your news
Family Events
Weddings
Baptisms
Funerals

Holidays

Village events
Achievements
Recipes
Handy Hints

Jottings from Pettistree Church

The toilet at the church room was functioning at the end of June, but the access ramps are still “under discussion” as the gradient required makes the positioning of the slope a little tricky! The Parochial Church Council (PCC) would like to thank all those who helped in so many ways to make the Open Gardens such a successful weekend (the comments in the Church visitors book are worth reading), and the money raised for the church will be spent on redecorating/repairing the Church Room.

In the Church the ‘Patch tests’ for suitable wall paint have been applied and we now ‘wait and see’ for 12 months so the experts can assess the ‘stickability’ of the different products. Redecoration of the interior is long overdue but is likely to be expensive. The PCC have asked the church architect to give an estimate and will hope to obtain some grant-aid.

NB If there is anyone who could give practical help with finding grant-giving bodies and making applications please contact Maggie Hallett.

At the Annual Meeting the problem of ‘Dog-fouling’ of the churchyard paths was raised. Please can anyone who sees this occurring point out to the dogs owner that it is anti-social, and that there are bins provided at either end of the footpath along the field behind the Village Hall. We do rely on all villagers to help to keep the churchyard a pleasant place to visit and would welcome any practical help or ideas for more effective management.

At the PCC meeting on September 21st an item scheduled for discussion is whether Pettistree church should be open every day. It would be very helpful to know what you feel about this subject, whether you have ever been put-off from visiting the church because of the need to collect a key, and in particular to know if there are any volunteers prepared to un-lock and lock-up at either end of the day once or twice a week. Please can you help us make the right decision by writing/e-mailing your view to Maggie Hallett, or any member of the PCC.

Our next major service is the Harvest Festival Evensong on Sunday October 4th at 6.30 pm. The normal Sunday service continues to be a 9.30 am except for the 1st Sunday of each month when we have Evensong at 6.30 pm. The monthly weekday Communion (a quiet contemplative service) is on the 3rd Friday of each month at 10.30 am. and is followed by coffee at The Greyhound.

Maggie Hallett PCC secretary

Greyhound News from Paul & Margi

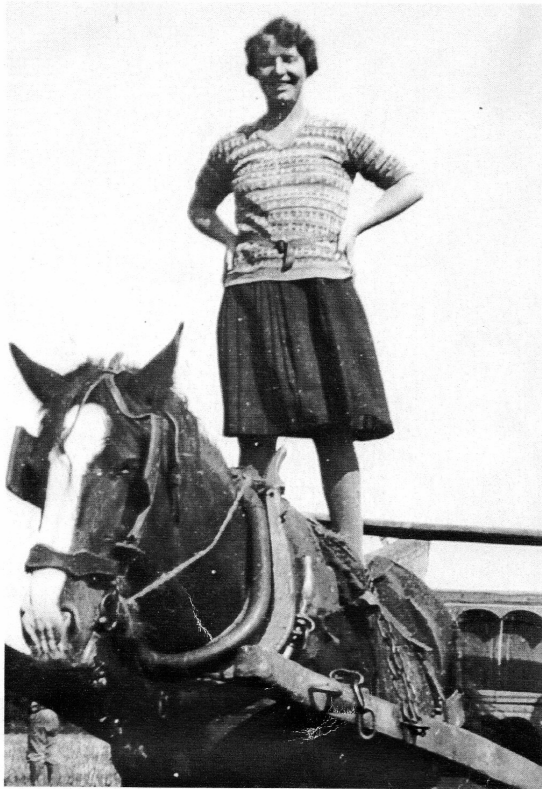
Update 24.6.09 - Paul and Margi would like to advise that contrary to popular belief they are now staying at The Greyhound but to help them in their endeavours they have recruited a manager to their team in the guise of Miriam Mitchell. Miriam has current experience in managing a similar pub at the marina in Ipswich is a Personal Licence holder and BII, City and Guilds 706-1 and 706-2 and NVQ qualified in all aspects of public house management, and will be a valued member of the team commencing her post on Wednesday 22nd July, 2009. The rest of the team is exactly as it has been from the start with the kitchen staff being under the supervision of Head Chef Jon Jones. We would like to thank all our customers for their continued support and look forward to seeing you all in the future.

8th August, 2009 – Miriam has now been with us two weeks and I am sure you will all agree is making excellent progress. It will take a little while for her to get to know you all so please be patient as Margi and I are confident she will be a great asset to the pub and the village as a whole.

Please Don't Forget!

For Pettistree Heritage

The Bumpstead Boys present



RUBY & HER HORSES

A true life Suffolk
narrative in
Story Song & Screen
set against the hardships
of the
agricultural depression

'An excellent show full of touching stories, humour and local songs in Andrews fine Suffolk Voice & 2 squeeze boxes'. *The Lavenham Life*

'Quite brilliant, excellent entertainment from sadness to side splitting laughter, magnificent photos on big screen presentation - should not be missed' *The Box River News*

'A special evening, delightful' *West Suffolk Newspapers*

PETTISTREE VILLAGE HALL

Friday 27th November 2009

7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets £6 to include light refreshments
Phone 01728 746558

Parish Councillors

Jeff Hallett Chairman The Laurels	746210
Maureen Stollery Vice Chairman I Presmere Road	746653
Nick Beagley Pettistree grange	746334
Mary Chilvers Cooper's Cottage	7461 23
Elaine Boardley 1 Hungarian Close	01394461451
Peter Hayward Green Farm	746558
Vacancy	



Police Reminder

The Police would like to advise people to UV pen mark all of their equipment with their postcode so if the property is recovered it can be easily identified and returned to the rightful owner. Pens can be obtained from your local

County & District Councillors

Mr Michael Bond, County Councillor
Mr Jim Bidwell District Councillor

Neighbourhood Watch

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

Pettistree Web Site

www.pettistree.suffolk.gov.uk

Useful people to contact

Parish Clerk	Mike Flanagan	07817610714
Vicar	Rev John Eldridge	01728746026
Bellringers	Mary Garner	01728 46097
ChurchWarden	Brian Nobbs	01728746590
Village Hall Booking Secretary.	Pauline Jarvie	01728 745030
Local History Recorder	Joan Peck	
Age Concern	Maureen Stollery	01728746653
The Three Tuns		01728747979
Wickham Market	Health Centre	0844 477 2557
Post Office		01728746201
Library		01728747216
Dial A Ride	Contact No.	01473281194

Amy Judging at the Norfolk Show

It was only after receiving an e mail from Joan and a chat with Dick Smith outside the Greyhound (where else!) that we realised that both Dick and myself had been asked to judge at this years Royal Norfolk show.

I was first asked to judge there 3 years ago and accepted when the invite landed on my mat the Christmas before and then had to hastily decline when I found out I was expecting Jake and his due date was the day of the show. This time round I accepted safe in the knowledge there would be no new arrivals but I would have to convince Dan to have the children in the middle of his busiest spraying time!

I have been on the judge's panel of the Suffolk Horse Society since 1993 and judged at various shows but the Royal Norfolk is probably one of the biggest for Suffolks after Woodbridge and Suffolk so I was quietly chuffed to be going! Arriving the night before and finding the hotel hadn't a record of my booking from the show didn't bode well however! That sorted, I arrived at the show for breakfast and found I had some big classes to judge, something I really like as I find them easier to judge and I also like to think that the exhibitors hopefully trust my judgement if they are prepared to pay their entry and travel to be judged by me!

Show day was extremely hot and having started at 9 a.m..I was finally finished at 1.p.m. having had some good quality horses put before me and hopefully having not upset too many people! As my late father always said to me "Everyone outside the ring is a better judge than you! The one you place first is the only one you'll please but as long as you're happy that you did your best and the one you put first is the one you would pay good money to bring home for yourself then you can do no more!"

As Dick commented outside the pub, for such a small village it was quite something for two Pettistree People to be judging two of our County breeds at a major agricultural show and two of the rarest breeds.
Amy Nicholls



Dick Judging at the Norfolk Show

I was very pleased to be asked to judge the Red Poll cattle at this year's Royal Norfolk Show for various reasons. Firstly, Norfolk is the home of the Red Poll cow which originated from crossing the Norfolk Red with the Suffolk Dun cow. I was looking forward to seeing some good cattle. Secondly, from a personal point of view, my own ancestry goes back on my maternal side to generations of Norfolk agricultural labourers, so I feel a certain affinity with the county.



The Red Poll classes were due to start at 8.00am on the opening day. Prior to this we were very well entertained at the pre-show dinner the evening before and for breakfast at the showground in the morning. As usual the maiden and in-calf heifer classes were very well represented, but with fewer animals in the bull and cow classes. There were some excellent animals on show, particularly from the Lavenham herd which took the prizes in the heifer classes. The most difficult decision of the day was with the overall championship which was between an excellent milking cow, Sedgefield Knapweed sired by Coddendam Christopher, and a young bull from Writtle College. I made the young bull the champion

because of his outstanding presence. Overall it was a very enjoyable day and I was most impressed with the Norfolk Show remaining true to its agricultural roots and for the very good facilities for judging the cattle.

Afterwards I discovered that our small village of Pettistree had provided two judges at this year's Norfolk Show. I wonder if this has happened before?

Dick Smith

Welcome

We should like to welcome Jenny and Mike Barnes who have come to live in Strawtop. They said how happy they are to have moved into such a lovely village.

Chuckles!

Definition of Committee

A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours!

Toothache

A pain that drives you to extraction!

Chickens

The only animal you can eat before they are born and after they are dead!

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OFFENDING COMMAND: --nostringval--

STACK:

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