



Pettistree People

Issue 49

March 2010

Deadline for next issue is May 9th 2010



Spot the Bird!

Lunch time for a bird which has recently taken up permanent residence in Pettistree during the snowy weather in a Cordyline Australis.



Maureen Stollery

To all budding photographers

Please take your camera when out and about in the village so that things of interest may be recorded for the Village Archive or Pettistree People
Please send to Joan e-mail de.rola@virgin.net



*Burns' Night
January 2010*



*Carols in the Barn
December 18th 2009*

Report on Carols In the Barn see page 4

PETTISTREE VILLAGE BURNS' NIGHT

The Village Hall hosted the Third Burns Night which was a combination of celebrating the 251st anniversary of the birth of Scotland's national poet and 'Strictly Come Dancing on Thin Ice'!! Once again and despite the sub zero temperatures, the Pettistree Piper, Rod Caird welcomed guests as they arrived. It only took us 15 minutes to thaw him out afterwards and a dram of whisky certainly helped.

On arrival, our new 'bouncer' Mike (Strawtops) ensured the guests dug deep into their pockets to pay for the tickets for the event and the raffle which included a hamper of Scottish delights, a potted plant, biscuits and several bottles of wine and spirits.

Following the Selkirk Grace kindly by Rob (I asked him 5 minutes before so he didn't have time to wriggle out) we began our Burns supper with 'Cock-a-Leekie' soup.

The haggis was then piped from the kitchen to the top table and Alex Jarvie Snr. addressed the 'great chieftan o the puddin'-race' with the traditional toast. The haggis, neeps and tatties were consumed with a liberal dash of whisky sauce (well just whisky really). Pauline knew we had just about the right amount of haggis, although Dave Caudwell complained he could only go to the kitchen three times for seconds (?)

A traditional Scottish sweet cranachan prepared by Rita, Maureen and Ann finished off the three course meal.

What better way to burn off the calories but to move the tables, chairs, roll up the imaginary carpet and get yourselves into sets of eight. Last year, Joan Peck the Pettistree Scottish Country Dancing choreographer, taught us some of the dances. This year, her protégés eagerly rose to the challenge, although we had to drag some of them kicking and screaming onto the dance floor. Cath Caudwell took on the challenge as the caller. We were doing so well with the Gay Gordons, the Dashing White Sergeant and some simple reels. Pride comes before a fall as they say and we became a bit too confident and twice we failed to complete a change over of groups. I ended up holding the hand of and dancing with a male friend much to the amusement of the rest of the dancers and bewildered onlookers.

Proceedings came to an end when the Pettistree Piper played Robert Burns most famous composition, Auld Lang Syne. Rod the piper had played at six other Burns Suppers, some in London and he told us this was by far the best.

The success of this was a real village effort with Pauline cooking the soup, haggis, and neeps. Cath, Jill, Maureen, Rita and Ann all helped with the food, not forgetting Mike the bouncer and Jimmy and Ollie who did the washing up.

This was a really enjoyable evening and with the raffle we have been able to raise over £400 to go towards the upkeep of the village hall. Hope to see you next year, particularly Carol and John Speedman (the Pettistree Clan chieftain) at their rightful place on the top table.

Jim Jarvie



WICKHAM MARKET MEDICAL CENTRE



Are you aware that Wickham Market medical Centre has an excellent web-site where you can find out about the doctors and other staff, repeat prescriptions and quarterly newsletters.

www.wickhammarketmc.co.uk

CAROLS IN THE BARN

We had been expecting sixty–eight people to the fifth Carols in the Barn at Church Farm on Friday 18th December, but were really quite pleased when we found that about forty people had actually managed to arrive. It was the coldest evening that we had ever had for the event, and although it felt authentic to have the snow and ice still very much on the ground, the journey was very difficult for those who had to drive – other than the 4x4 owners.

Dick greeted the singers at 7 o'clock with a glass of mulled wine, or his own apple juice (which had been crushed in November and stored in the freezer), and Pauline had been tempted to buy some mince pies from Tesco's which went down very nicely with the drink.

The crowd then had to leave the warmth of Jim's barbecue and step through the main barn into the small area next door. There they picked up a song sheet, and looked for a seat on the bales, away from the worst draughts, where they could wrap up in the blankets that they'd brought.

Dick welcomed everyone by saying that he wouldn't be happy until they had all left the farm safely! After a moments hesitation the people fortunately realised that what he meant was that in these litigious times he didn't want anyone suing him for having slipped on the ice! He then gave a brief update on the state of the cows. There is usually at least one calf born around Christmas time. We like to have a cow with her calf in the little shed next door, peeping at us through the slats, being a reminder of that first Christmas when Mary and Joseph stayed in a stable and laid the new born baby Jesus in a manger. The cow that we had hoped would be the star player this year was not actually due to calve until Christmas Day, and as I write this – a week after Christmas - there is still no sign of the happy event!

With a quick check to see that everyone had a torch to see the words of the carols, and that nobody required one of Rita's special sunshades to protect them from dove droppings (the doves have just about all been persuaded that the cow sheds make them a much better home than the barns), the carols got under way.

We started with the instruments playing Good King Wenceslas, but with just Mary and me on descant recorder and Daphne on flute, we didn't make a very strong sound. We soon gave up and I reverted to playing the keyboard whilst the others joined in with the singers. We had been given 2 requests in advance – '*In the bleak mid-winter*' from Pat and '*See Him a-lying in a bed of straw*' from Cherry, so these popular carols were obviously included. We also listened to a duet from Mary and Daphne, the beautiful song '*O Holy Night*' by Adolphe Adam. Steve's solo singing with guitar accompaniment of '*This is the time*' also gave us a welcome break from singing, and gave me a chance to put my gloves on to try to warm my hands. Steve had played this through to us a couple of days previously, sitting in our kitchen. I had been so moved by the words - a Father regretted what he had said to his daughter and had lost contact with her, but then when he was least expecting it, she returned on a Christmas Day. Dick and I were so impressed by the song – we really thought that Steve had written it and felt it was good enough to be this year's Christmas number one. However Steve came clean and admitted that he had not written it, but it was by Eric Bogle. I think all of us in the barn were moved by the words and enjoyed Steve's performance very much.

The carols were interspersed with 2 readings. The first, '*Night in Bethlehem*' was read by Cherry and set the scene of the first Christmas in Bethlehem. The second, some verses from '*The Three Kings*' by Longfellow' was read by Rob. Afterwards Maggie confided in me that she had read the poem when she was at school and not understood it, but thanks to Rob's reading she had not only understood it this time, but enjoyed it as well. For the final song, Steve sang and played Chris de Burgh's '*The Bells of Christmas*' and we all joined in the chorus.

The people kindly thanked me for organising the event and we had a cheer for Jim and Pauline working on the barbecue. We tucked into the good hot food - sausage, chicken, onions, chopped peppers and bread, and as the snow began to fall again we went back into the barn for shelter and looked out on a very wintry scene in the yard.

As the singers left, Jill and Pauline came into the kitchen to help me wash up the glasses and plates, and the warm smell of cooking led us to look in the oven. There was a tray full of mince pies that we'd forgotten! It didn't take long to decide the best thing to do was to take them all to the Greyhound and share them with the drinkers there!

After taking the expenses we have £170 profit which is to be divided between 2 charities: *The Starlight Children's Foundation*, a charity based in England which helps to fulfil the dreams of very sick children, and *The Tree of Life Foundation*, an orphanage and refuge for children at risk, based in Indonesia, which our son Stephen founded in 2006. Their web-site is www.gunungan.org

Dick and I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who contributed to the very enjoyable evening.
Dick & Rita Smith.

GREYHOUND NEWS

The heavy snows during December and January were a considerable challenge to us all. I would just like to thank everybody who through best endeavour either by car or on foot managed to get to us and support the pub at this difficult time and that includes our staff, particularly Miriam and Jon who with one exception on the Friday night managed to get to The Greyhound to open it for those who did brave the cold and ice to share a libation. Thank you all.

We have a number of events planned for both the Spring and Summer of 2010. By the time you read this news letter we will have had our Valentines Celebration and our British Food Night (both in February).

However in late March we hope to hold an Italian Wine Tasting Night with six excellent wines and six dishes to match each tasting. This will include a demonstration and talk by a local wine merchant relative to the finer points of the wine in question. The actual date is to be agreed so please watch our notice board and web site. (www.pettistreepub.co.uk)

We hope to continue this theme throughout the Summer.

The Petanque league also starts in April and we still wish to recruit new players. You do not have to be an expert so if you are interested please contact either David Caudwell or myself. We play at 10.30 am on Sunday mornings on a home and away basis for about 1 hour. Refreshments are provided and of course the pub is open at 12 midday.

Again during the summer we hope to have at least two Marquee events but have yet to finalize the dates again please keep an eye on the website for dates and details. Not forgetting the ever popular folk nights which occur on the 2nd Monday of every month.

Paul & Margi

VILLAGE HALL

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

As you will have read from the September Issue of Pettistree People, Sheila Manning resigned as Secretary of the Village Hall Management Committee after seventeen years of hard work and dedication to the role. After retiring as Chairman, Mike Manning kindly stood in as Secretary until January of this year and I have now taken over. It therefore seemed a good idea to give details of the current Committee Structure, which is as follows:

Chairman	Jim Jarvie
Vice Chairman	Steve Boardley
Treasurer	Eric Dowker
Secretary	Ann Sayer

Committee Members

Pauline Jarvie	Bookings Secretary for Village Hall
Jenny Ayris	
Dave Caudwell	
Kath Hilton	
Mike Manning	
Clare Signy	
Rita Smith	
Brian Stollery	
Maureen Stollery	



Western side of Village Hall prior to 1992

Please note the events detailed in the Pettistree People, the Parish Magazine and on the Pettistree Website and for notices that are displayed at times throughout the village of forthcoming events.

Ann Sayer

100 CLUB WINNERS

	Ist	2nd	3rd
November	Maggie Hallett	Brian Stollery	Mollie Incoll
December	Rita Smith	Ann Sayer	Louis Deliss
January 2010	Adam Signy	Mick Hilton	Mollie Incoll

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Quiz Night	Friday 9 th April	in the Village Hall
Fun Day	Sunday 13 th June	at Hungarian Hall
Pub Games	Friday 8 th October	in the Village Hall

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The weather has been the main influence on village life over the last couple of months. Some clearing up of the roads by the highways department was under way but was overtaken by the first really heavy snow so the improvement in our muddy lanes has been limited. Our purchase of grit bins was fairly well timed but the two yellow bins did not actually arrive until after the first heavy snow fall. I put them in position immediately but it was several more days before the Highways Department filled them. Since then the salt and grit has been helpful near the bins but our spreaders cannot cover the road away from the bins so those areas remain icy, and care is always needed especially in parts that are not in the sun during the day. We are now planning a third bin for the steep corners at Hungarian Hall.

Despite the weather we have had some excellent community activities. "Carols in the Barn" was a wonderful start to Christmas with Dick Smith providing the venue and mulled wine. Rita led the carols and readings, and Jim and Pauline Jarvie provided the BBQ despite a biting cold wind. The Church carol service was packed as usual and more mulled wine and mince pies went down well afterwards with a record crowd in the Church Room. Christmas Eve in the Greyhound Pub was excellent, followed by a well-attended Midnight Service. More recently Jim and Pauline Jarvie were back in action as they ran another very enjoyable Burns Supper in the village hall complete with haggis and piper. I heard the piper say that he had been to seven Burns Nights this year and Pettistree was the best.

Only six of the anonymous preliminary questionnaires were returned after the last Pettistree People and your parish council is concerned that villagers may not understand exactly what is meant by affordable housing. This is why this edition will include a comprehensive explanation and a copy of the full Suffolk ACRE survey that can be returned direct to them.

Please remember to turn out for the Village Litter Pick on Sunday 14th March starting at 11.00 AM at the Greyhound. A good clear up before re-growth of the verges makes a big difference for the rest of the year. Remember we were doing this long before Radio Suffolk made it trendy!

I hope you did put the date of the Annual Parish Meeting in your diaries for May 25th at 8.00 PM in the Village Hall. This is a chance for everyone to ask questions of the Parish Council and to say what you think should be happening in the village.

I will finish with what I consider to be very good news. Mike Watts has agreed to be co-opted to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council. He has already shown how valuable his expertise can be in understanding the implications of planning changes. We can expect the business of the Parish Council to run a bit more easily now that we have a full complement of councillors and Mike Flanagan is well settled-in as parish clerk.

Jeff Hallett, Chairman of the Parish Council. February 2010.

LITTER PICK 2010

**Please come and help clean up your village.
Sunday March 14th
Meet Greyhound 11 am
Bags & Gloves provided**

PETTISTREE NEEDS YOU!



Photographic survey of the people & houses of the parish

In the December edition of Pettistree People the local history group, Pettistree Heritage, expressed its wish to update the photographic survey last carried out in 2000. Plans are now well in hand to conduct this and very shortly you will find flyers landing on your doormats inviting you to contact your photographer to arrange a convenient time for your house and occupants to be photographed for our historical records. We do hope you will support us in this venture – it was extremely successful last time, providing a snapshot of our parish in a rapidly changing world. Our photographers will not be intrusive – a picture of the front of your house, and one of your family next to it is all that is required. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.



Ruby & Her Horses – a sell-out!

In November Pettistree Heritage enjoyed its best ever attendance at an event. The Village Hall was packed to capacity for the performance of 'Ruby & Her Horses', presented and narrated by Neil Lanham and supported by the atmospheric singing of Andrew Stannard. The audience had come from far and wide – my own mother hails from Worksop in Nottinghamshire – and it proved a nostalgic evening for many (see full Ruby report). Tickets had been snapped up quickly – testament to an early and thorough advertising campaign (thank you Pettistree People, the Pettistree website and Community News). Judging by the requests nearer to the date we could have filled the hall twice over. With a well-supported raffle, excellent ticket sales and donations, we raised sufficient funds to cover our running costs for another year.

The group has arranged a variety of presentations relating to Pettistree and Suffolk over the past few years, all of which have been very informative and hugely enjoyable. We hope to continue this in November 2010. Watch this space! Given their popularity we would urge you to buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

Finally, the Committee would like to thank you for your support – without your contributions to the historical research of Pettistree with Loudham and attendance at our fund-raising events we could not hope to achieve as much as we do. If you are interested in finding out more about Pettistree Heritage, do come along to our Annual General Meeting on Saturday 15th May at 10.30pm in the Parish Room (next to the church). You will be made very welcome.

Cath Caudwell, Chairman, Pettistree Heritage
Tel. 01728 747170 Email: roguescottage@mypostoffice.co.uk

RUBY & HER HORSES

Pettistree Heritage's annual event took place at the end of November, not the most popular of months and you might think it could be difficult to encourage people to venture out on a dark winter's night but tickets went like hot cakes and were a sell out. Cath Caudwell welcomed everybody and introduced Neil Lanham and Andrew Stannard.

The subject of Neil's talk was his mother Ruby and he regaled us with stories of her life and her love of horses. The whole evening revolved around oral history passed down from generation to generation through tales and songs, not through books, radio, television or computers.

The evening was brought alive as Neil introduced us to the village characters from Ruby's childhood and recounted the hard times experienced during the agricultural depression. Andrew Stannard added to the enjoyment by singing and playing the squeeze box; some of the songs we recognized and others were new to us.

During the 1914-1918 war 2 ½ million horses were used for army service and we learnt it was not unusual for carts to be halted in the street of Ipswich and Bury St Edmunds and the horses commandeered on the spot for duty. Ruby's father Charles Alleston was paid £55 a piece for the 5 taken from his farm. After the War only a few came back and these were bought by horsedealers and sold on. Bill Pattle & his sons were the horsedealers in Boxford and Charles took a liking to a horse with a funny eye. Enquiring about the condition of the horse he was told that he lost an eye in the Dardenelles and in Boxford lost a shoe. Despite his faults the horse was purchased and was by all accounts his master's favourite.

Despite the hard times, humour was ever present: the planting of a crop of peas proved a failure when the pickers were discovered taking more peas home in their bloomers than they put in the sacks. It wasn't difficult to visualise Ruby's grandfather laden with a fish basket, squaring up for a fight first asking his son to 'Hold my haddocks boy' which thereafter became a family catchphrase.

We were introduced to Lazzie Pattle, son of the horsedealer. His own daughter had tragically died in a fire and he lived a simple life at Groton Wood. He knew all about nature and a great deal about horses and how to cure their ills. It was Lazzie who taught Ruby to ride. Each year Ruby delivered a Christmas Pudding to him made by her mother. Recipes were handed down and written in a book along with cures for all manner of afflictions. The name of the person who had passed the cure or recipe would be written alongside.

On leaving school, Ruby went to work on the farm. The agricultural depression of the 1920s meant there was no money in farming and the arrival of the bailiff was a common occurrence. Her father was a difficult man. Ruby saved what little money she was given and in 1926 left home and went to London to learn to become a hairdresser. She enjoyed the work and the training would stand her in good stead, but the pressure to return to her family was overwhelming. In 1935 Ruby married Arthur Lanham and had two children. He died 8 years later and she was left to raise them herself. Her love of horses never waned and her dream to own a horse good enough to win a race was fulfilled in 1984 when Obadiah won the Richard Marsh Handicap Stakes at the Rowley Mile Course Newmarket in 1984.

Cath Caudwell thanked Neil and Andrew for a most entertaining evening. The next hour was spent socialising and swapping memories of life on the land. Refreshments were served and Neil complimented the organizers on the fine selection of home made cakes provided.

JOTTINGS FROM ST PETER & ST PAUL'S CHURCH

At their most recent meeting the Parochial Church Council (PCC) were pleased to learn that progress has been made on the Car Parking issue with the identification of a couple of possible areas of the church yard that could be used. We are now waiting to discuss these with Suffolk Coastal planners before requesting planning permission. The recently appointed Archdeacon of Suffolk, the Venerable Judy Hunt, visited to help decide the most suitable area, and was delighted to see the church for the first time. The PCC have invited her to come to a special service of Evensong on July 4th to dedicate the new pew runners and are pleased that she has accepted the invitation. Judy is keen to meet as many people as possible so although details will be given later in the year please put the date in your diary now.

This summer there are two concerts planned to be held in the church; Illuminati who have sung at Pettistree in the past are coming in May and then the Kirbye Consort choir a few weeks later on July 3rd. Illuminati are Woodbridge based so probably better known locally, while the Kirbye Consort may be based in Bury St Edmunds but do have a local resident in their line-up! I know that we will be well entertained by both choirs and suggest that again diaries should be checked as soon as the details are available.

Those who came to the Carol service and then refreshments in the Church-room will be delighted to know that it is looking much smarter now, having been re-decorated and provided with new curtains. It is possible to use the room more effectively now for small meetings and any enquiries for booking should be with Maggie Hallett.

There is still no date for the start of the keeping the Church Open Plan (ie unlocked during the day), but it will be as soon as locks have been fitted to the tower entrance to make sure that we do not fall foul of any safety rules. The PCC hope that all villagers will not only take some time to use the church, but also act as good neighbours to the building and be aware of any unusual activity.

Maggie Hallett PCC secretary.

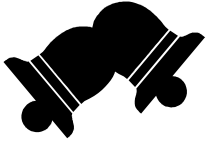
LIFE AT STRAWTOP by *Jenny & Mike Barnes*

We have now lived here for just over 6 months & we are loving it. The house captivated us the first time we saw it, purely by chance, on a car treasure hunt last May and the spell has not been broken. In fact, if anything, it has been amplified by the experience of living here as we have tailored the house decor & furnishings to our taste and have got to know the lovely people that live around here. Even the pets are really happy here with Snoopy the dog loving having neighbours to watch (rabbits & squirrels) & Charlie the cat coming home after 2 days out in the snow. (He didn't go out for three weeks after that!) Our special thanks to all those of you who helped look for him.

Pub games nights, Ruby & Her Horses & Burns Night events at the village hall plus the Church and the Greyhound have led us to meet so many of you. Pettistree really does seem to have the best of all worlds.

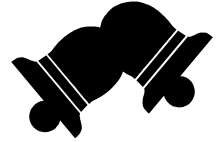
On the one hand it is a quiet little village with a lovely pub & church on a road that doesn't really go anywhere. Everyone is so friendly and you all seem so happy!! And on the other hand the close proximity of Wickham Market is wonderful, especially in the snow.

Recently we tried to think of something that was negative in living here & the only thing we could think of was the fact that the kitchen sink hot tap is really slow to run hot! So if that is all we can moan about we think it is fair to say that living here in Pettistree & Strawtop is just wonderful. . Thank you all so very much.



BELLS AT MIDNIGHT

Part two



It was blowing a blizzard when seven intrepid ringers along with four supporters including Ebony, the dog, met just before midnight on New Year's Eve. We gathered in the ringing chamber to enjoy a glass of mulled wine prior to **Ringing out the old and ringing in the new**. We haven't missed this opportunity to ring in the middle of the night since the band was formed in 1986. Traditionally everyone has a ring in the old year and then in the three minutes or so before midnight the bells gradually stop ringing, first the **treble**, the highest sound, then the second and so on until at midnight the **tenor** strikes twelve blows. After a few minutes silence during which there are toasts and New Year Good wishes are exchanged, the bells ring out again for ten minutes or so.

Other special occasions are marked too. A quarter peal, **half-muffled**, was rung prior to the Remembrance Day service at the War Memorial on 11th November. The bells speak normally at one stroke alternating with a muffled note at the other. This is achieved by strapping a thick leather pad to one side of each **clapper**. The result is a more measured and reflective sound and it is sometimes requested at funerals. (You may remember Princess Diana's funeral in 1997 when the tenor at St Paul's was rung every minute during the procession, **open** at hand and **half-muffled** at back stroke.)

Of course service ringing every Sunday morning is special, but ringing for Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve is extra special as are the bells for weddings.

Mary Garner (Tower Captain)

(If you would like the bells rung to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or another special occasion contact Mary on 746097, or come and see us ring any Wednesday between 7pm and 9pm.)

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application: NoC09/1191

Location: Loudham Hall, Loudham Lane, Loudham IP13 0NN

Proposal: Erection of pergola/covered area to provide link between dwelling and adjacent building.
Granted.

Application: Nos, C09/1478 & C09/1479

Location: Woodlands, Grove Rd, Pettistree IP13 0HY

Proposal: Erection of replacement dwelling & Demolition of existing dwelling to facilitate erection of new dwelling.
Granted

Application: No C09/1845

Location: Loudham Hall, Loudham Lane, Loudham, IP13 0NN

Proposal: Replacement of existing dilapidated greenhouse with new garden room & green house.

Application: NoC10/0043

Location: As above.

Proposal: Erection of garden walling(& re-alignment of existing vehicular access track) to allow creation of enclosed orchard.

Application: No C10/0225

Location: Townlands, Stump Street, Pettistree, Woodbridge, IP13 0JB

Proposal: Erection of two storey extension (existing single-storey west wing to be demolished.

A REMINDER OF PREVIOUS WINTERS THEN & NOW

Recently there were some pretty spectacular snow scenes and I am sure many of you took some beautiful shots of different parts of the village. It would be appreciated if you felt able to let the village archive benefit from them and could let me have a disc with them on. I have a file labelled "Unusual Weather."

Below are some reminders.

Joan Peck History Recorder

Main Road 1947

Note the single track for the double-decker bus and the insulators on the telegraph poles



Thong Hall Road 1987



Rogues Lane 1996



A garden 2001



Rogues Lane 2009-2010

SUFFOLK ACRE HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

Just what is Affordable and Shared Equity Housing?

Affordable housing is what is more commonly known as '**local housing for local people**'. Many villages throughout Suffolk have successfully completed schemes by building 3, 6 or more homes to enable people with a local connection to either stay or move back to the village that they may have grown up or work in. However, affordable housing schemes are not just for the young. If there is a need proven, the scheme can also incorporate bungalows for the elderly to enable them to continue to live independently rather than having to relocate to residential care homes. All houses are built to a very high standard and 'for life' which means they are built to accommodate changes and adaptations as the residents grow older.

Affordable housing can be rented accommodation or shared equity. Shared equity is particularly aimed at first time buyers wanting to get on the housing ladder, whether you are single, a couple or a family. How this works is by allowing the home owner to buy up to 80% of the house. The remaining 20% is always owned by the housing association eg Hastoe. When the owner wants to sell and move on, it is the housing association which buys back the 80%. This ensures that all the homes are always kept for local people. The rented properties have rents that are below the private sector and therefore more affordable.

A very successful scheme has recently been built in Ufford in partnership with Hastoe Housing Association, Ufford Parish Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council. A total of 6 homes were built - 3 rented and 3 shared equity. The homes were a mixture of 2 and 3 bed roomed houses and a bungalow. All the homes have been filled by people with a strong local connection to Ufford. The properties were extremely well built and incorporated solar panels.

Following the recent survey carried out in December the Parish Council have agreed to carry out a more detailed survey which will identify whether there is a need in Pettistree for some 'affordable housing'. If you have children wanting to get on the housing ladder or may need somewhere to live in the next few years and they would like to be able to stay in the village close to family, or if you are elderly and living in a home which is not suitable for adaptation and want to stay near to family and friends, fill in the enclosed Housing Needs Survey and return it to Suffolk ACRE.

Schemes, like the one in Ufford, have made a real difference to the lives of local people. Isobel Wright, Project Manager of the Ufford Scheme said 'It is projects like this that help to keep rural communities sustainable; often it is the younger generations in the village who have to move away in order to secure suitable and affordable accommodation. We hope that others might be inspired to tackle the lack of affordable housing in their village, before it's too late.'

If you would like any more information on the Ufford scheme please contact Heather Heelis, Parish Clerk on 01728 747789 or e-mail: pc@ufford.suffolk.gov.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

GREYHOUND	VILLAGE HALL	PARISH COUNCIL	CHURCH
March Wine Tasting			May Illuminati
April Petanque	Quiz Night April 9th	Annual Parish Meeting May 25th	Kirbye Concert July 3rd
Various Marquee Events	Fun Day June 13th		

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	746123
Elaine Boardley 1 Hungarian Close	01394 461451
Peter Hayward Green Farm	746558
Mike Watts	747202

Help Please

Is there anyone who works in the Ipswich area and travels via Westerfield Road into the town?

We now have Pettistree People printed by Sharward services of Westerfield Business Centre and would like to know of anyone passing that way who could deliver the disc and pick up the newsletter about a day later. This does not have to be in office hours as there are arrangements in place for collection.

Alternatively if anyone would like to undertake this job the hard working editors would be very grateful

This should happen four times a year.

Joan & Maureen

County & District Councillors

Mr Michael Bond	County & District Councillor
Mr Jim Bidwell	District Councillor

Neighbourhood Watch

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

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	01728746097
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	01728747101
Post Office		01728746201
Library		01728747216
Dial A Ride	Contact No.	01473281194

REVVING UP IN LOUDHAM

Traditionally, Boxing Day is a time for families to relax on the sofa, eating the remains of their selection boxes and squabbling about what to watch on television. However, if you live in Loudham, such sloth is out of the question. Last year, three families got together for the inaugural Loudham Boxing Day Tractor Race Challenge and we've never looked back.

Team Bailey (Palegate Cottage), Team Martin (2 Hawthorn Cottages) and Team Leigh (1 Hall Farm Cottages) conceived the mad idea of racing garden tractors on a warm summer's evening while sipping alcoholic beverages. Now we think about it, it may well have been the alcohol which made the enterprise seem like such a good idea. However, everyone was stone cold sober on Boxing Day 2008 when the first race took place. For some days beforehand, the peace had been shattered by the sound of engines revving while the exotic scent of two stroke engine oil filled the air. A capacity crowd turned out to watch as the three intrepid competitors wheeled out their vehicles and prepared to race.

Nick Leigh was immediately consigned to the pit when his tractor failed to start. A push from Paul Bailey got him going and he raced off down the lane at a surprisingly fast speed. Rob Martin was slow, but reliable. His tractor started first time and maintained what could best be described as a stately pace. As Bailey and Leigh hammered back down the second leg of the course, it was anyone's race. However, some sneaky overtaking at the Palegate Chicane ensured that Bailey was the 2008 champion. He was presented with a specially made silver cup (lovingly crafted from tinfoil) and vowed to return next year to triumph again. Bacon sandwiches and coffee were enjoyed before the three heroes returned home to put their feet up and wait for the sponsorship offers to come rolling in.

It may have been the dearth of decent programmes on Boxing Day, or it may have been our unstoppable competitive spirit, but the Loudham Tractor Race was on again for 2009. Team Bailey were talking the talk, Team Martin were walking the walk and Team Leigh were rubbing liniment into their joints as the day dawned cold and clear. Tragically, engine trouble (it caught fire, basically!) put Team Leigh out of the race before it even began. It was now a two man race between Paul "Lewis Hamilton" Bailey and Rob "Reliant Robin" Martin. The 2008 champion got away to a cracking start, disappearing in a haze of smoke, while his opponent chugged off at the usual dignified pace. As the race drew to a close, it became clear that the same name would have to be engraved on the cup again. Once again, the inhabitants of Palegate Cottage had good reason to cheer as Paul Bailey raised the cup for the second year running.



Muttered threats aside, good sportsmanship prevailed and it was agreed that next year, the winning team would have to look to their laurels. Once again, the three families enjoyed brunch together on Hall Farm Cottages' drive (the finishing line) and looked forward to another closely fought race next year.

(We're still waiting for those sponsorship offers, by the way).

WELCOME

Lorcan William Roche born 16 October 2009 to Rebecca and Ronan Roche, brother to Finbar. Evelyn and Alan Whitfield's fourth grandson.



FAREWELL

We are very sad to see Joyce & Joe Arbon leave the village . Both of them local people, Joyce having been born here and Joe the local builder who did much to help in the village in many ways.

Janet and Edwin Shadforth have also moved from Townlands after twenty eight years. They have left an interesting and historic area as this was the site of the village workhouse.

They have not moved far away—only as far as Wickham Market !

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS

I would be very grateful if you could inform people that as of 1st February 2010 I am back in uniform and on full duties. I look forward to spending much more time in my villages and meeting as many people as possible.

I would also be grateful if you could let people know that there has been no reported crime in the village during December and January.

Unfortunately a broken down vehicle on the A12 (just before Christmas during the heavy snow) was broken into and a CD player stolen. Due to the adverse weather conditions the vehicle was left in situ for a few days and when it was recovered the theft was discovered. This crime was recorded as being in Pettistree because that was the nearest village
Victoria Gilmore.



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