



Pettistree People

A newsletter for all the residents of Pettistree and Loudham

Pettistree Parish Council ©

Issue 62
September 2013

Bank Holiday Get Together on the Green

The sun always shines on the righteous, the proverb tells us, and it appears it does on Pettistree as well. Taking advantage of our glorious summer (apologies to any farmers who may have a different view) the Village Hall Committee held a Fun Day on the green, Bank Holiday Monday, 26th August.



Tony Franklin was tasked several months ago to devise an on foot treasure hunt centered around the village and surrounding area. Tony was unable to be with us on the day but a few weeks before had handed over the responsibility to our resident games master Mike Manning.

The green was decked out (not sure if you can deck out a green) with bunting supplied by Clare Signy and a number of games, put into position. The treasure hunt had a theme based on the book Treasure Island, and started at 11.00. However, there was a definite Bank Holiday feeling around and the teams trickled in to start over the following 45 minutes.

Cath Hilton was asked by Mike what her team name was and she replied "haven't a clue". Team Haven't a Clue was not amongst the winners!

The hunt lasted just over an hour and Mike collated the scores and checked the items the teams had to collect. Apologies to anybody who thought there had been some 'scrumping' at their property and I hope they are comforted by the fact they were local 'Saga louts'! His detailed explanation of his ruling followed. Seven teams participated and the winners were:

1st- Villains to Go -41 points. Joint 2nd- The LB's and The Ringers - 40 points



They were presented with their prizes and the afternoon was concluded with the usual barbeque of hot dogs and burgers. Our kitchen still smells a bit like a pickled onion factory with the amount of onions we had to peel and prepare the day before. For a number of walkers and cyclists passing by, the smell from the barbie was too much and so we had some unexpected customers.



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Parish Council News-Chairmans' Report

The Parish Council met for one of its regular meetings on 23rd July. A further change in the police cover for the village was reported but the PCSO cover has stayed with the same familiar faces. A single theft of heating oil was reported but we were assured that the police would keep an eye on the groups from outside the village that occasionally meet in out of the way corners. The importance of **reporting any suspicious vehicles** promptly by e-mail or by ringing 101 was emphasized.

Rumours abound on **possible changes on the Three Tuns site** but nothing definite has appeared. The pub is not patronized by many of us from the village having perhaps been put off by many changes of management and management style. The Parish Council will scrutinize any planning applications that may arise and will pass on its views to the decision makers at Suffolk Coastal District Council.

The derelict payphone on the green has been removed by BT and it will be interesting to see how the Village Green looks without it for the Bank Holiday event in the next few days. Work to reclaim the lay-by as village green will take place in the Autumn and this will return a lot of useful space that was lost in earlier years when there was a problem with parking on the green to use the box.

The Parish Council has discussed ways to **improve communication within the village**. This newsletter is popular and useful but it cannot provide rapid communication and it would be costly to increase its frequency. Most households now have access to computers and e-mail so the possibility of setting up a neighbour hood network is being looked into. We are anxious that residents should not be bombarded by trivial uninvited messages, but a properly monitored and moderated system could be very useful to give

safety information or call meetings urgently.

Discussions have been held with the highways authority over **the state of the two bus shelters near the Three Tuns**. A large pane of glass needs to be replaced in the newer one across the road from the pub, and both shelters were getting overgrown. The nettles have been cleared by volunteers and we hope to get the glass replaced before the weather worsens. This has been delayed while responsibility for the shelters is confirmed. We know that the brick-built shelter adjacent to the Three Tuns is owned by the Parish Council but the glass one opposite was erected and paid for by Suffolk County Council after we had requested it.

The **Parish Council accounts** were scrutinized by outside auditors and found to be in good order with no questions or adverse comments.

As the summer progresses and turns to Autumn we all need to keep a **watch for any problems with tree health**. So far we have not seen ash die-back or acute oak decline so far as I know, but if people have concerns they can contact me as "tree-warden" and I will get expert advice if needed.

The next Parish Council Meeting is scheduled for 10th September in the Parish Room (adjacent to the Church) at 7.30 pm. The agenda will be published on the notice board outside the Greyhound about a week beforehand. Members of the public are welcome to attend and can participate in the public forum at the beginning. After that they can listen but cannot comment or question unless a brief adjournment is agreed.

Councillors would be pleased to see interest from the village and feel that their time-consuming but unpaid work is appreciated.

Jeff Hallett, Chairman of the Parish Council. August 2013



Pettistree and Loudham Village Hall – Chairman’s report July 2013.

The AGM and grand opening of the re-vamped village hall on 15 July included cheese (most of which I had managed to obtain from the French Embassy at their Bastille Day!) and wine which encouraged a few more people to turn up. As always, most turned up after the AGM, it was really enjoyable to celebrate our much improved hall.

The hall continues to be used on a regular basis to support a number of diverse activities including pilates, zumba , indoor bowls and an art class, although the latter has ceased due to declining numbers. We have had an approach from a basket weaving group which may start later in the year. The hall has been used for a number of children’s parties and we have continued with the policy of not accepting bookings for teenagers. We have also held fund raising events, including pub games (we held one with a curry and one with fish and chips!), Burn’s night and St George’s day which was organised by Rita Smith. Looking forward to having a treasure hunt and barbeque on the village green 26 August 2013.

I have been ably supported by all the committee members and we are delighted that Rob Martin from Loudham has joined us. Terry Rowles has been replaced by Ruth Lee as the Parish Council rep. I would like to put on record my thanks to Terry for the installation of our new kitchen.

As you have seen our enthusiastic efficient secretary, Ann Sayer is stepping down. Without Ann’s sterling work we would not have secured the Lottery funding and other donations which have allowed us to upgrade and modernise our hall. I cannot thank Ann enough for this and keeping us all in line at the village hall meetings and wish her and Mike well in their house move. We will be having a sift followed by interviews for the vacant position but realistically I will be in press-gang mode!

Outsiders as far afield as Ufford have been really impressed with our hall! It is a key component in promoting village life and I hope it will continue to be used for all of us.

Jim Jarvie, Chairman



Louis and Pat have set Pippa to work, to find a crock of gold under their dove cote.

So far without success!

Photo: Louis Deliss



They toddled for Barnado's



On Wednesday the 17th of July the children, staff and parents of Presmere Day Nursery took part in the Barnado's Big Toddle. The theme this year was fairy tales and nursery rhymes so everyone had lots of fun dressing up, none more so than the staff who were the seven dwarfs!!

We all assembled at the nursery and set off to walk into the village on what was one of the hottest days of the year. We had a lovely walk into the

village and to see the horses. We then all returned to the nursery for a delicious picnic lunch in the garden which everyone enjoyed and lots of fun was had by all!

Last year we raised the fantastic amount of £465 so it would be great if we could top that this year. A big thank you to everyone who was involved.

Debbie Hayward

Message from Marc Fowler

Since the beginning of August, I am no longer based in Presmere Road. After seven years sharing office space with KindWater, I have decided to run my business from home instead. KindWater are kindly allowing me to keep Water Tower Yard as a postal address, but I no longer have a presence there. I am of course continuing with business as

usual and am more than happy to continue supporting computer users in Pettistree. Thank you to so many of you for your valued custom over the years. Here's to the next seven!

Marc Fowler, trading as FowlerWeb. 07812 453965
marc@fowlerweb.net www.fowlerweb.net

100 CLUB	1st Prize	2nd Prize	3rd Prize
MAY 2013	Alan Whitfield	Guy Signy	Mick Hilton
JUNE 2013	Mary Norris	Liisa Beagley	Nick Beagley
JULY 2013	Mary Chilvers	Steve Wassell	Elaine Boardley



PETTISTREE HERITAGE

This issue of Pettistree People will be our last chance to advertise our forthcoming annual event to the whole of the community. The date for your diary is:

**Friday 15th November, 7.30pm,
Pettistree Village Hall**

and we hope you will join us for what promises to be a very enjoyable evening.



Ray Whitehand, a local lad, is a keen local history researcher and writer of numerous books on the history of our area, and will be entertaining us with his talk on Suffolk Workhouses, entitled "At the Overseer's Door". He will talk about our very own poor houses as well as those further afield and how looking after those less fortunate, they developed up to, during and beyond the Victorian era. A small exhibition on Pettistree's own Poor Law materials from the Suffolk Record Office will be on display. They are fascinating and give a real insight into earlier residents' lives. Do book early to avoid disappointment.

Tickets cost £5 and can be ordered by contacting me on 01728 747170, or email: roguescottage@mypostoffice.co.uk

Cath Caudwell, Chairman, Pettistree Heritage

12th-15th September - Get an Inside View of Suffolk's Energy Smart Buildings!

A growing number of Suffolk building owners have been taking the rising cost of energy bills into their own hands, by installing energy efficient and renewable energy measures. And in September residents are being encouraged to visit twenty eight of these inspiring buildings as part of the national Heritage Open Days event, to meet their owners and find out what they can do themselves to make their own homes or businesses greener and more energy efficient.

Heritage Open Days runs between 12th and 15th September and is an opportunity to see for free, real examples of homes, businesses and community buildings that aim to be more environmentally sustainable and cheaper to heat/light.

Buildings as diverse as a 1960s bungalow, a 16th Century guildhall, a modern semi-detached home and a 21st century school will be open to the public to visit. Tours will be offered by the owners, to better understand what's involved in transforming a building, so that it has low running costs and

reduced environmental impact.

Will Hitchcock of Nayland and owner of a retrofitted Victorian cottage comments: "Opening up my home as part of Heritage Open Days, is a great opportunity for me to show what really is possible. If you are thinking of renovating or building, I would recommend first visiting some of these buildings for inspiration."

The event is being coordinated by the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership as part of the Creating the Greenest County initiative and is supported by Suffolk's Councils.

Details of all the buildings open can be viewed at www.greensuffolk.org/hod2013 or by visiting any Suffolk library or tourist information centre.

Pre-booking is required for a visit to many of the buildings. Either telephone 01473 264555 or online at www.greensuffolk.org/hod2013.

Access restrictions may exist, so check first.



Dear Resident,

I wish to make you aware of the Constabulary's "SAFEKey" key fob recovery and keyholder database service; the service that protects your keys and property in the UK and EU.

Every year the police are handed 1000s of lost keys that, despite our best efforts, cannot be reunited with their rightful owner. Suffolk Constabulary is well aware of the cost and concern resulting from the loss of keys.

Suffolk SAFEKey Join today
www.suffolk.safekey.org.uk

From as little as £1 a month Suffolk SAFEKey offers you the following benefits:

- Suffolk SAFEKey branded key fob, meaning there is a 90% likelihood that your keys will be recovered if lost when attached to a fob.*
- Cover for your keys if lost anywhere in the UK or EU.
- £10 reward to the finder of your keys courtesy of Suffolk SAFEKey.
- Secure database letting the police know whom to call in the event of an incident at your unattended property.
- Option for lock replacement insurance for your car and property.
- A window sticker to confirm your membership to officers.

*Based on Home Office statistics between number of keys reported lost and number of keys found during 12 month period.

Each year Suffolk Police are handed 1000s of lost keys.

Suffolk SafeKey The key to your peace of mind
To register call: 08444 121802

Suffolk Constabulary
Safer Suffolk Foundation

Suffolk SAFEKey SUFFOLK CONSTABULARY
making it safe to keep things safe

FANTASTIC PRIZE DRAW

£250 Shopping vouchers

Join Suffolk SAFEKey today, for the chance to Win £250 of shopping vouchers

Suffolk SafeKey The key to your peace of mind
To register call: 08444 121802
www.suffolk.safekey.org.uk

Open to new members joining between 1st May 2013 to 31st October 2013. Winner will be contacted in November 2013.

Through Suffolk SAFEKey, the Constabulary is offering a service to residential and business owners that will help reunite people with their keys should they be lost or stolen. It can also provide protection for Suffolk based properties, in the event of an incident occurring whilst it is unattended.

Suffolk SAFEKey means that the Constabulary can reunite more people with their lost or stolen keys, regardless of whether keys are lost within the UK or EU. The service has already proven a huge success, with 100s of people joining the scheme.

Benefits of the scheme were experienced by Police Direct member Mr Thomas from Felixstowe. In a recent interview with BBC Radio Suffolk, he explained that as a result of joining Suffolk SAFEKey, he was reunited with his lost keys. He spoke of the inconvenience and financial loss he had avoided as a result of being a member of the scheme.

As a member of Suffolk SAFEKey you will also be helping Suffolk's communities through the Safer Suffolk Foundation, the Constabulary's charitable arm. Money from Suffolk SAFEKey funds community projects that are aimed at improving community safety issues, providing young people with positive activities and improving community cohesion.

From as little as £1 a month Suffolk SAFEKey offers benefits including:

- Suffolk SAFEKey branded key fob; a 90% recovery rate has been experienced in a 12 month period
- Operates anywhere in the UK or EU
- £10 reward to the finder of your keys, courtesy of Suffolk SAFEKey
- Secure database, letting the police know whom to call in the event of an incident at your unattended property
- A window sticker to confirm your membership to officers.

To join Suffolk SAFEKey visit www.suffolk.safekey.org.uk or call the Suffolk SAFEKEY hotline 08444 121802

I joined the scheme, which I recommend, and I look forward to welcoming you as a member,

Yours sincerely, Douglas Paxton, Chief Constable.



YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!



Two issues face Pettistree with Loudham at present. First, as you may be aware, is that the church interior is in urgent need of decoration. The second issue is less well known but if we can solve this we should be able to assist the former. This latter issue is an affliction known as *Pettistree verdus digitus* and has only once previously been found in the village. Many of you will remember it as many of you caught it in 2009.

Yes, you've guessed it – Open Gardens! Cath and I have sounded out some potential open gardens (as and when we have met people) and feel there is sufficient interest to try for another weekend in June next year. In opening our gardens and our village we hope to raise funds to assist with the church redecoration. Last time, in 2009, this amounted to £3,000.

If you are interested in taking part, either by opening your garden or offering help towards the event we would love to hear from you. We do need a few more gardens and we certainly will need help over the designated weekend in the form of car park attendants, refreshment helpers and cakes!

Cath and I will organise the event along similar lines to last time and no-one need fear they will end up organising it themselves – then you can concentrate on your garden or your help on the day. The dates to keep in your diary are:

Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th June 2014.

If you wish to know more, or would like to volunteer to help, please pop in to Rogues Cottage for a chat, telephone 01728 747170 or email roguescottage@mypostoffice.co.uk Once we have sufficient interest we will arrange a meeting in the autumn.

Dave Caudwell

Hedge cutting For 2013

It is the time of the year when we look at our hedgerows and worry about their exuberant growth. Happily, we have a remedy in the person of Richard Hayward who has agreed to trim them as before. He will cut all the hedges according to

last year's schedule unless you inform him otherwise. Richard can be contacted if necessary on 01728 746741 or mobile 07944 398 493. The charge this year is slightly increased to £30.00 per hour.

Peter Hayward



Will she follow in her Grandmother's musical footsteps?

Heidi Poppy Frost was baptised on Sunday 30th June at St Peter and St Paul's, Pettistree.

Heidi is the youngest child of Richard and Katharine Frost of Kennford, Exeter.

The happy grandparents are Dick and Rita Smith.



Wickham Market Extravaganza

A few words started it all off. "Why don't we have a school fair this year?" suggested one of the members of the Wickham Market School Association. Within a week, the WMSA had realised that what the village needed was a big community event to bring everyone together with the school as a focus.



From February to June, conversations in most households which had a member of the WMSA were dominated by the price of bouncy castles, how to build the arena, where to get well priced coconuts, what acts to book and so on and so forth. The teaching staff were incredibly helpful and supportive and pretty soon we had an arena timetable full of the different year groups and their performances. Head Teacher Joanne Stanley-Bell was enthusiastic about the event: "As a school, we were able to reach out into our community and the links we've forged, I believe, will stand us in good stead. It was wonderful to see the children and their families taking part in such a fun day."

Right from the start, the WMSA reached out well beyond Wickham. As a Pettistree resident, whose children attend the school, I mentioned the Extravaganza to every Pettistree person I could think of. The very first business to take the plunge and sponsor the Extravaganza, as well as a raffle prize was our very own Greyhound run by the generous Stewart & Louise. Other Pettistree based businesses quickly followed suit, including Green Farm Clinic, White House Kennels and the Paella and Tapas Company. A phone call to the Chilvers residence secured both Roger, who kindly agreed to give a thatching demonstration (and very interest-

ing it was too) and Mary who promised us a batch of her famed sausage rolls to sell in the WI tea tent. Cath Caudwell of Town Team was delighted to be able to join us with her colleagues on the day.

The 15th June finally dawned. In the early hours of the morning, a number of WMSA members lay sleepless in their beds as the rain poured down. Fortunately, by 7.00 the sun was out and the rain clouds had gone. A team of eager volunteers set the whole field and playground up and by 11.00 the sun was shining and we were ready to welcome everyone to the very first Extravaganza. An estimated 1500 people came along, including many families from Pettistree and Loudham.



Early afternoon, we were treated to a flypast. Technically speaking, it was for the Queen's birthday, but clearly she had heard about the Extravaganza and graciously given permission for the planes to divert to Wickham.

When the rain did come, it came with a vengeance, but it was 3.35 and the day was nearly over. Soaked, but happy, the team took down all the shelters and packed up. To our amazement, we had made a profit of £2,600, every penny of which goes towards to the school for the benefit of all the children

Next year's date is booked - Saturday 14th June 2014 and we look forward to welcoming you.

Ruth Leigh



Wedding of Daniel Hayward and Mary O'Shea

Dan Hayward and Mary O'Shea were married on Saturday 29th June 2013 at SS Peter and Paul church. Dan spent much of his childhood and teenage years in Pettistree. He now works in Exeter in his own osteopathic practice. Mary is a professional musician, an accomplished violinist and a soprano who specialises in classical medieval and baroque music.

The marquee for the reception was erected on 27th June on the front lawn at Green Farm. But the following day, the rain fell in "stair rods" for much of the day and evening, which caused some concern for the wedding day. However, Saturday began dry if dull but the sun redeemed itself by emerging at 1.30 and remained for the rest of the day.

The groom, his best men and the ushers had certain priorities during the morning and they all decamped (in their morning suits) to the Three Tuns to watch the British Lions rugby match !! followed by lunch. Meanwhile, the rest of us were busy doing last minute adjustments to bunting, flowers, hair and dresses, and sorting out lunches for early visitors.

All of us assembled at the church in time to welcome Mary and Michael, her father, who arrived in a beautifully decorated horse drawn carriage driven by Stephen Foster. As the bells pealed, the bride entered the church with the organ playing the " Trumpet Voluntary" by John Stanley.

John Eldridge then conducted the marriage service which included readings by Peter Hayward and James Loong and a prayer composed and read by Mina, the mother of the bride. But, the highlight was Mary singing "Where ere you walk" which was enchanting.



After signing the register, the newlyweds left the church accompanied by the organist who played the "Arrival of the Queen of Sheba".by Handel. Outside, with the bells pealing, they were greeted by Philip Hawes, our local chimney sweep, who kissed the bride in accordance with traditional good luck.



Dan and Mary Hayward then left for the reception at Green Farm in the horse drawn carriage on a circuit of the village. All the guests made their way on foot and arrived in time to welcome the happy couple.

A short interval for more photos and a celebratory drink preceded cream tea in the marquee accompanied by songs from a professional close harmony trio---The Vernon Sisters--- three girls who were at school with Mary. They sang a compilation of old favourites from the sixties and seventies.

The warm afternoon sunshine provided the opportunity for socialising, relaxing, enjoying the garden and the flowers, some of which had been brought from the church. The children were entertained with games, croquet and a play tent.

At 5.30, we assembled back at the marquee where we were served with an amazing selection of tapas by Nick and Ruth Leigh, who had undertaken all the catering arrangements. And so, after a "drop" more Prosecco we all sat down to the wedding feast. This was preceded by speeches and toasts.

Michael O'Shea revealed many of his daughter's achievements and the way in which she brought Dan into their life... all this with great humour and affection.



Toby and Tim, the best men, then performed a double act of anecdotes which related to the chequered past of their partner in many unspeakable student activities. And finally, Dan not only led the toasts for the bridesmaids but also catalogued the interesting methods he used to woo and conquer Mary, acknowledging the help he had from their mutual love of salsa dancing. Then Mary provided her "version" and extended her gratitude to the many friends who had been so encouraging, some of whom were present.

The food was served in a very orderly way since the tables were designated to composers' names so that we successively served ourselves according to a specific musician from enormous pans of paella expertly cooked and presented by Nick and Ruth Leigh. We hardly had room for the wedding cake which was overlooked by bridal meerkats!!

More guests arrived for the evening receptionand more paella....The bride and groom took to the dance floor for the first dance.... Not a waltz, but a performance of their salsa expertise... another departure from tradition . The band was now in place for a "ceilidh" which was another way to join in the celebration... the group was named "Whirligig" which was very appropriate. This continued until 11pm when further refreshments of fruit and cheese were available and completed the evening.

The whole day was so successful and thanks were extended to Stephen Foster (horse drawn carriage), Rita Smith (organist), Sue Sharman (flowers), Ruth and Nick Leigh (catering), Clare Davey (wedding cake). The Vernon Sisters (close harmony trio), Cellar27(evening bar), Whirligig (ceilidh), Anglia Coastal Marquees, Philip Hawes (chimney sweep) . Peter Hayward

Do you read your dog's thoughts?



It's time to hang up your keys when your dog shows alarm; It's thinking -"Hope the brakes work", I'm not strapped in!" or maybe, "Will the air bags work?"

You know it makes sense.

Planning applications

Two planning applications have been received relating to Kindwater Ltd. in Water Tower Yard.

DC/13/2084 For the erection of an advertising sign on the building.

DC/13/2299 For continued use as a business and erection of a small porch.

The applications can be examined on request to myself, or on SCDC Planning website



St Peter & St Paul's Church, Pettistree

Harvest Festival Evensong is on 6th October at 6.30pm and the speaker will be the Archdeacon of Suffolk, the Venerable Ian Morgan, on his first visit to the village since becoming Archdeacon earlier this year.

The Parochial Church Council decided that this year the Harvest donations should be food that is suitable to be passed on to a local Food Bank. Traditionally of course the harvest was celebrated by villagers bringing food from their orchards, vegetable gardens and allotments but we are unable to contribute home grown produce to a Food Bank as everything has to be date stamped. We hope that all those who have donated in the past will continue to do so but will accept these restrictions.

A Food Bank shopping list might include:-

Milk (UHT or powdered)

Sugar (500g)

Fruit Juice (carton)

Soup (tins /cartons / dried packet)

Pasta Sauce

Sponge Pudding (tinned)

Cereals

Rice Pudding (tinned)

Tea Bags & Instant coffee

Instant Mashed Potato

Rice & dried Pasta

Meat & Fish (tinned)

Tinned Fruit

Jam/ Marmite/ Marmalade

Biscuits / Snack bars

We intend to give your donations to an Ipswich based charity called FIND which distributes food parcels in the Ipswich area.

We look forward to seeing you on 6th October

Maggie Hallett

Safety in our village

Not so very long ago we had no problem with safety in our village. The children played outside and visited each other's homes or would go for long walks. They left their bikes at the Three Tuns when going to school or to Woodbridge for leisure. We left our doors and windows open and our sheds and cars unlocked. We never heard of homes being broken into.

Times have changed. We now have to put every conceivable thing under lock and key. In recent years the village has suffered break-ins. Personal items have been taken from cars and the Village Hall has been vandalised. Some things we cannot always protect and one of those is our OIL.

Yes, we have had some oil taken sometime after the May delivery. We had a lock on the main cap and did not think for one minute thieves would break the breather cap off-but they did. One of the problems is that the tank is visible from the road and in the '90's when oil was 11p a litre we had never heard of oil theft. This was the most convenient place for the delivery man. We have made some changes on the advice of the police so hopefully the thieves will not return. We all need to keep our ears and eyes well and truly open and report anything suspicious .

Keep safe!

Maureen Stollery



TOP HAT

A Top Show

Saturday 20th July saw eight Pettistree Pearls 'puttin' on the ritz' and tap-dancing their way down to the Aldwych Theatre in London's West End to see Gavin Lee play the



lead in the stage production of 'Top Hat'.

Gavin is the son of our very own Kath Hilton and what a proud mum she is too – and rightly so. We knew that Gavin had played many successful parts in the past, most notably as Bert in *Mary Poppins*, which played in the West End and Broadway for many years. We needed to see Gavin for ourselves – and we most definitely were not disappointed.

Friday night at The Greyhound was the melting pot for the idea to emerge that we girls could go as a group, 'putting all our eggs on one basket' as you might say (safety in numbers you know – us country girls aren't used to the Big Smoke). Kath researched the tickets with Gavin, and hey presto, we had a group booking for a matinee performance. Next came the organisation of the trip itself. Jacki is great at all things involving tickets, so kept us all informed with letters, booked the train and car lifts and generally sorted us all out. Thank you Jacki, from all of us.

The day dawned bright but not too hot, and we all thought 'isn't this a lovely day' to go down to London? We were ready to go by 11am. (Rita, joined by her son Stephen, had already travelled down early to do a spot of family history research, so joined us at the theatre at the appointed time). Manningtree station was our destination, followed by a packed lunch on the busy train. The taxi drivers probably had a bit of a giggle about our group of excited travellers who thought it a bit of an adventure.

We had time for a coffee near the theatre (thank you Sheila) then joined the theatre queues. We were now ready to 'face the music and dance'. The theatre itself was very cosy, decorated with gilt mouldings and balconies with an orchestra pit fitted snugly below the stage. Souvenir brochures in hand, we started humming some of the Irving Berlin songs that are so famous

from the 1930's film, some already mentioned, and including 'Cheek to Cheek' and of course, 'Top Hat, White Tie and Tails'.

The stage sets were amazing – how they can rearrange it on such a scale so many times during the performance is nothing short of a miracle. We were transported from a Broadway stage, to a top class hotel foyer and room, into a Hansom cab, the passenger deck of a light aircraft and then to Venice, again with many scene changes.

The opening number of 'Puttin' on the Ritz' set the scene for the rest of the performance, with beautiful costumes, superb dancing, stunning timing and of course, the entrance of Gavin tap dancing his way across the stage as Jerry Travers.

The energy and quality of the acting, singing and dancing which Gavin brought to the role certainly justified his place as the lead part. He and Kristen Beth Williams, who played Dale Tremont, brought humour, love and romance onto the stage, aided and abetted by the many supporting actors and dancers. I for one was certainly lifted into the Fred and Ginger era by their performances.

Two hours and forty minutes later and we had experienced an amazing show, with standing ovations continuing for several minutes. The finale was meeting Gavin behind the theatre with mum, chatting about the show, the inevitable autographs and kisses (poor boy), then grandmotherly advice about his new baby son.

As we had 'no strings' and we were 'fancy free' we headed off to Sophie's Steakhouse nearby and all chose the theatre menu. An early return trip to the station meant we arrived back in Pettistree to surprise the husbands at The Greyhound, who had themselves decided that 'no strings' meant they could have a boys' afternoon at Scott's Hall playing croquet, being ably fed by Tony and then wending their way to the pub – only to find the girls were there first. 'Better luck next time' boys!





John Stewart McConville 30 April 1944 – 7 June 2013

John's funeral was held at Pettistree Church on 20th June 2013, with standing room only – there were more than 200 of John's friends and family present.



His family had invited the congregation to the Riverside Centre at Stratford St Andrew for refreshments after the service as it was one of the few halls locally able to accommodate so many guests.

The service was led by the Revd. Barrie Slatter, and included five of John's favourite hymns, all sung with gusto, particularly 'Onward Christian Soldiers' which

John sang as a child with his parents on their way to Devon for their summer holidays.

Each of his four children contributed to the service. Violet read a poem by Henry Scott Holland, Jake read an anonymous poem 'Feel no guilt in laughter', Amber gave a Gaelic Blessing and Butty read a poem that she had composed herself.

It so describes the John that a lot of us remember:

Our Father, who art in heaven':

So proud and dignified, loud and tall

Cheerful and kind, you saw the best in all.

Our memories are of laughter and fun

No spite or negativity, just loyal to everyone.

Late to arrive and last to leave

Most important was your need to please.

Your joie de vivre, your voice so booming

One always knew when you were looming.

But now unwanted silence reigns

Your life cut short, but no more pain,

In some far place at peace at last

So glad are we to have shared your past.

There's a great big void in the world today

Which nothing and no one can fill

We will miss you forever, Daddy

And time for now stands still.

They broke the mould with this one

He was one of a kind, just one.

He will always be remembered

Our larger than life Big John.

Stephen Beaumont, a dear friend of the family, shared several of his memories of John with the congregation – and received a loud ovation afterwards! Briefly, here are some of his thoughts:

For those of you –Captains, Match Managers or exasperated friends –who may at some time said "McConville, you'll even be late for your own funeral"-we were sadly wrong.

John gained entrance to Repton School, which became a cornerstone of his sporting life, in January 1958 and left in March 1963-as one contemporary succinctly said "neither date coinciding with the academic year!"

His education continued in Aix en Provence and played more football. Described as a vision player:

"A golden vision, and truly a man with no position. Put him in the forwards and he will play behind the back four; put him in midfield and he will play on the left wing; put him in defence and he will play centre forward and put him goal and he wont turn up!"

John married Jette Kirstan in 1970, but sadly the marriage foundered-"I didn't get married to be easy to live with" John claimed.

He met Heather at a party in London and on 25th July 1981 they were married. In 1987, with their children Amber, Jake and Butty they moved into Pettistree House. Violet was born, and to a beautiful home was added "a restaurant wiv rooms".

John and Heather became stalwarts of the village hosting the fete and firework display with frequent trips to The Greyhound -"On the slate, Dave".

After a bank foreclosed Heather returned to work in London with John buying and selling everything here and there. He gained a vast array of friends and was always generous with his wealth, and later his time and energy.

I saw his ups and downs, his laughter and dark days, his sporting prowess and his last great struggle with cancer. The first time I heard him finally admit defeat, he asked me to fetch the vicar and arrange his beloved Luton Town sticker and told me how lucky he had been to have so many good friends. I'm sure you all agree with me that the corollary is also true

John wasn't one of a kind; he was several of a kind.

"RIP and tell St Peter to put it on my tab".



Scene Preservation: What can you do to help the Police?

If unfortunately you become a victim of crime there are certain things that you can do to help the Crime Scene Investigator by preserving the crime scene in order to help maximise the forensic evidence recovered and hopefully help us catch those responsible. The key in all circumstances, whether it is a theft from your vehicle or a burglary at your home, is to remain calm and try not to panic. Contact Police in the first instance and a police officer and a member of the Crime Scene Investigation team will be with you as soon as possible. When contacting the Police to report a crime you will be provided with crime scene preservation advice by the control room, however here is some general guidance on how you can help us.

1. Do not touch anything

- Although it may be tempting to tidy up or have a look around to see what has been taken, please await the arrival of Crime Scene Investigation.
- Do not touch anything and try to avoid the areas which have been entered by the offender to avoid damaging possible forensic evidence.
- There are potentially fingerprints belonging to the offender on doors, windows, drawers, cupboards or anything that has been moved by the offender.

2. Hard Standing Floors

- Footwear marks can be compared against shoes belonging to a suspect and a unique wear pattern can link a suspect to the crime and therefore footwear marks can be a key piece of forensic evidence.
- Footwear marks can be recovered from hard standing flooring, such as tiles or laminate floors. Whilst these may not be visible to the naked eye, they can be enhanced by the use of powdering techniques. Avoid walking across hard standing where ever possible.
- If this is unavoidable, place newspaper across the floor and keep the area walked across to a minimum.
- If the footwear mark is wet let it dry before placing down the newspaper.

3. Vehicle Crime

If your vehicle has been broken into, try where possible to avoid driving the vehicle until the Crime Scene Investigator has had chance to examine it.

- If entry was gained via a smashed window, leave the broken glass where it is as the Crime Scene Investigator will need to collect a glass control sample, this also applies to a broken window in a house. A glass control sample could be compared to glass found in the hair or clothing of a suspect.
- If the offender has removed documents or other items from the glove box, these should be left in situ until the Crime Scene Investigator attends as the items may be suitable for fingerprinting or could be sent to the fingerprint development lab for chemical treatment to potentially recover fingerprints left by the offender.

4. Preserving Evidence Outside

Whilst in the majority of instances it is recommended that you do not touch anything there are some instances in relation to outside scenes where your actions could help preserve evidence for crime scene investigation, particularly when bad weather is a factor.

- For example, if you discover your shed has been broken into and there is a clear footwear mark in the soil next to the shed, by covering the footwear mark with a plastic bin liner or dustbin lid you could preserve the mark until the arrival of Crime Scene Investigation.
- If the offender has left a tool behind on the ground outside or if the offender has moved items outside such as an ornament from a windowsill, moving the item inside using a clean plastic bag over the hand could preserve valuable fingerprint or DNA evidence.

This is meant as general guidance, however all scenes are different and may warrant unique scene preservation. When contacting the Police, the control room will ask you a series of questions and provide you with scene preservation specific to your needs.
Crime Scene Investigation, Suffolk Constabulary,



News in Brief

Electric blankets Suffolk County Fire and Rescue Service with Trading Standards and Age Concern are offering you the chance to have your electric blankets tested free of charge. Locally this is at Woodbridge Fire Station on Thursday 3rd October. If it fails the testing you will be offered a FREE replacement. Telephone Suffolk Fire and Rescue on 01473 260588 to book an appointment.

Bus timetable Revised bus services will be in operation from the start of September. Downloadable timetables are available by clicking on the appropriate month on <http://www.suffolkonboard.com/timetables-and-leaflets/passenger-transport-service-changes>

Bus shelters The bus shelters have been tidied up by Jeff Hallett and Jim Jarvie, however the ownership of the glass shelter is being contested by SCDC, for a broken pane of glass has to be replaced.

Police padlock With so much news this issue about keeping your possessions safe may we remind you of an alarmed padlock available from Suffolk Police and the benefits of security marking.

FOR HIRE Chairs and tables from the Village Hall, for a fee negotiable with the booking secretary. Already there have been hires and contributions to the Village Hall Fund received.

Editor's comment

On page 2 Jeff Hallett, our Parish Council Chairman, records the discussion in the Parish Council regarding the desire for improved communication within the village. At present, this newsletter and notices on the village notice boards, are the main methods of conveying news to the residents.

However, our parish clerk, Clive Mann, receives on average about twelve communications each week from a wide range of sources—SCDC, local government groups and communities, the police etc. etc. Often their deadlines end well before the next issue of this newsletter. They therefore become dead news. In this issue though we have been able to include some news items which should be of interest and benefit.

For those of you who belong to Neighbourhood

Watch email news messaging, you are well aware of how prompt the information reaches you.

It is also hoped that by engaging directly with you, using a “21st Century technique”, it may engender an improved village community for as reported in the last issue there is, apparently, little interest in Council affairs and limited interest in events. In fact Jim Jarvie asks for more participation in his article, continued below.

Neighbouring parishes also include alerts, lost and found notices, goods for sale—for example.

The Councillors would appreciate your early response to this suggestion, or by email to “ppedit@uwclub.net”
Thank you, Mike Watts

Fun on the Green continued

Over 40 villagers and visitors attended the afternoon which was a great success **although a few more villagers would have made it even better** (so keep the August bank holiday free next year!). Thanks to the generous donations we have added a further £104 to the Village Hall funds.

A big thank you goes to all the helpers, particularly Mike who did a sterling job as master of ceremonies.

The next event will be a Petanque (French Boule) day at the village hall on Sunday 29th September (11.00 – 13.00). We will be creating a number of pistes in the car park so first timers can try the game along with members of the Greyhound team. We will also be serving cheese and wine. PLEASE COME ALONG.

Jim Jarvie, Village Hall Committee Chairman



DIARY DATES

12th-15th September-Visit Smart Buildings
See page 5

16th to 17th September **The A 12 will be closed Northbound -20.00-05.00 hours for resurfacing from Melton to Hacheston**

Sunday 29th September Petanque at the Village Hall. 11am with cheese and wine to follow. See page 15

Thursday 3rd October-Electric blanket testing at Woodbridge Fire Station See page 15

Sunday 6th October, 6.30pm-Harvest Festival Evensong See page 11

Friday 15th November at 7.30pm. "At the Overseers Door"- interesting talk about Suffolk Workhouses by Ray Whitehand. See page 5

Our next copy date for your news is
10th November
Email—ppedit@uwclub.net

From the Past

HOW A SUNDAY WAS SPENT.—

Ernest Mowson, Campsea Ashe, pleaded guilty to being on licensed premises, at Pettistree, during prohibited hours, on August 28th.—The evidence showed that the defendant and another man were found in the kitchen of the Tuns Inn on Sunday afternoon. A mug and glasses were on the table. The men represented that they came from Little Glemham.—Defendant was also charged with being drunk and disorderly at Wickham Market the same evening.—The Magistrates inflicted a fine of 10s., and costs of 14s. 6d. in the first case, and £1. and 6s. costs in the second.—Superintendent Hubbard said he believed the landlord of the Pettistree Tuns was doing his best to conduct the house respectably.

Ipswich Journal 10 September 1898

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"We thank all the contributors to this issue for their excellent articles, and we hope to have a similar input for the next issue". Editor: Mike Watts and Assistant Editor: Maureen Stollery