



# Pettistree People

*A newsletter for all the residents of Pettistree and Loudham*

Pettistree Parish Council ©

Issue 92 September 2021

## St Elizabeth's Hospice fund raising bike ride



On the 2nd July our son Charlie, on far left, and eleven of his friends set off on a bike ride from John O'Groats to Land's End. The boys had all been at school together and should have sat their A levels last year before COVID struck. They have all scattered to different universities this year but had always agreed to get back together to complete this challenge to raise much needed funds for St Elizabeth's Hospice, in memory of one of their teammates mother, who died in 2015.

Buoyed on by 19 year old invincibility, no training and in my sons case a bike he borrowed the day before he left, the 'Bikestreet Boys' set off. The boys had a two man back up team following in a van, us mothers had daily updates via The bikestreet boys mums WhatsApp group, which was highly entertaining and kept us from taking gin intravenously to calm our nerves! On day 4 the boys hit their wall, the highlands with its hills and torrential rain nearly broke them but they dug deep and after 5 days they were back 'in the motherland' (their words). After that they seemed to fly down to Land's End, stopping in campsites and hostels all the way through their journey. Strangers gave them money, one campsite owner donated the fee the boys had paid to stay the night and people from the numerous McDonalds they lunched at on the way donated money to the boys.

On the 15th July, twelve incredibly tired and battered young men rode into Land's End, their target was to raise £7,500 for the hospice and to date, they have raised over £10,000.

Nicki & Dale Mayhew - Scotts Hall

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## Parish Council Chairman's Report

The Parish Council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> July was a first for its venue. We were expecting more attendees than usual and were worried that we might have too many wanting to come to the meeting to fit inside the Parish Room to ensure the “social distancing” that we felt was needed because of a surge in Covid cases. The Village Hall was already booked for a regular user. The weather was good, so we decided to meet in the churchyard meadow. This did necessitate some grass mowing beforehand, but an adequate plot was soon strimmed and raked. As you can see from the photographs below, we achieved “social distancing” and a good circle for discussion.



The extra attendees were from BSR Energy who already have experience with similar large projects. Their plans are to erect a large array of solar panels

on land adjacent to the A12, and they wanted to explain to the Parish Council how it would work. There will be general explanation and consultation before they submit a formal planning application, but we do not think at present that a public presentation meeting will be necessary.

An explanatory brochure and feedback form will be sent to all village households, but in brief the scheme is to generate 21 megawatts of electricity which is enough for 5,251 homes and will bring a good saving of CO<sub>2</sub> release. It will occupy 55 acres of grade 3 arable land on the Westrope's farm in a triangle between the A12 to the East and Loudham Hall Road to the South. The little-used public footpath No.7 crosses the site and will be preserved for walking access. Screening will be provided by the lie of the land and by suitable tree and hedge planting. The only significant traffic increase will be in the 4 to 6 months that they expect the construction will take. They will be able to feed in directly to the National Grid which passes across the site. They say the planned lifespan of 40 years will allow the land to rest and then be available for agriculture. It is their normal practice to make a donation of £1000 per megawatt of generating capacity for the benefit of the local community.

Later in the meeting we noted that in the next few months William Notcutt Estates plan to carry out topping (heavy pruning) of the trees that run along the side of the road between the B1438 and the plant nursery. William Notcutt has explained that the shelter belt of five rows of trees was planted in the early 1980's and now needs reduction to “National Grid Height” of three metres and removal of dead trees. It was last done 15 or 20 years ago. They now present a risk to the glasshouses and beds immediately behind them. The Forestry Commission has approved the felling application. He expects that the lower growth of the trees and the shrubs will then thicken up, so maintaining the visual screen.



Progress has at last been made with the introduction of a Speed Indicating Device (SID) for the village. Posts have already been put up at the three sites where the SID will be positioned for varying periods. Generous grants have been offered by our District and Count Councillors to pay most of the costs. The SID will show the speed and record the time and speed for further analysis.

It looks as if Walnuts Lane and Rogues Lane will be designated as a "Quiet Lane". This will be explained further if the nomination is successful with the Highways Authority, but in brief small signs will warn drivers and other users that there are likely to be pedestrians, horses, dog-walkers etc. in the road. They do not actually impose a speed or traffic restriction.

As a brief update on the Hopkins Homes development between Chapel Lane and the High Street (B1438) at the edge of Wickham Market, I can say that this is definitely going ahead. Details of the layout and public features are still being discussed but they hope to start building at the end of this year and to have the first residents moving in at the end of 2022. Both Pettistree and Wickham Market Parish Councils agree that the

most sensible plan for the new residents will be to move the parish boundaries to enclose just the new development in Wickham Market, where they will naturally target all their services and facilities, rather than being in Pettistree as they would be now.

Next year there will be major celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee marking the 75<sup>th</sup> year of her reign. There will be re-arrangement of Bank Holidays so that a four-day event will be formed from the two Bank Holidays on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> June going on to the Saturday and Sunday. The Parish Council will join with the Church, Pettistree Heritage and the Village Hall Committee to plan celebratory events in the village. We hope to hold a village meeting soon to collect ideas for the events and names of people who will help plan and run the events.

**Do please do support your Parish Council by attending explanatory meetings and completing questionnaires on the Solar Panel Array, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and the Quiet Lanes.**

**Jeffrey Hallett, Chairman Pettistree Parish Council**

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## Village hall - Post lockdown. Autumn update

Following relaxation of the Covid 19 restrictions on 19 July the Village Hall is returning to some sort of normality. However, it is important to all of us, including those groups using the hall and those responsible for the upkeep, that we proceed with caution. Some restrictions will remain in place, including the sanitising stations and the enhanced cleaning regime, until further notice. We are also continuing with the limit on the number of people that can be inside the hall at one time which is currently set at 16 but there is no limit on the number that can attend outdoors. These numbers will be reviewed considering any further guidance and reduction or increase in the level of risk.

Although some of the following was included in the last update it is worth repeating. We currently have the following activities although some will restart in September following the summer break: -

Daytime Art Class (**dates to be confirmed**)  
[amydrayson@msn.com](mailto:amydrayson@msn.com)

Monday Evening - Pilates Contact Sam Whitfield -  
[sn.w@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sn.w@hotmail.co.uk)

Tuesday Daytime - Willow Weaving Contact Coastal Leisure- alternate weeks  
[coastalleisurelearning@gmail.com](mailto:coastalleisurelearning@gmail.com)

Wednesday Evenings - Rock Group practice!



## What a difference a year makes

This time last year, it felt that I had all the time in the world. Term time had merged into school holidays, every day we awoke to cerulean skies and fluffy white clouds, furlough was a thing and the veg garden was alive with produce. There was no need to get up early (cos hardly any work, you see), I was finishing my first novel, making jam from the bumper gooseberry and blackcurrant crop and cycling around the lanes in a languid kind of way.

It was fun. Of course, underpinning the whole business was the constant fear of infection from Covid and losing all social skills from never seeing anyone except the immediate family. Swings and roundabouts, however.

This year, ironically, since we could finally go out and do stuff, it rained. A lot. This meant I didn't have to water the veg patch as much but it also produced a fine crop of nettles and weeds. This time last year in *Pettistree People*, I was sharing that I suffer from that insidious condition, CAD (Courgette Anxiety Disorder). In desperation, by August last year, I was indulging in a spot of guerrilla courgetting around Wickham. Mindful of our over-producing gourds, this year Mr Leigh planted fewer courgette plants and switched from green to yellow. Just one marrow so far and we haven't resorted to making courgette cake yet. Last year we harvested a whopping 12lb of gooseberries resulting in me standing in the kitchen for three hours straight with a pair of nail scissors topping and tailing the darn things. This year, not so much. I was too busy to make jam in June, so I froze them.

Last April we were a cat-free household. By May, a tiny kitten had joined us to our great surprise and a year on, she's a much-loved member of the family.



I suppose the biggest change from last year is that I have a published novel under my belt and the second one will be in the shops in October.

2020 was not what any of us was expecting and I suppose 2021 hasn't been either. Children have had to negotiate online learning, being assessed without having exams and missing their proms and parents have become experts at stuff many of us didn't know anything about a few years ago. Microsoft Teams, anyone?

A year ago, I was on the verge of being a parent with no children at primary school, after fourteen years of it. Now, it's all dropping off and picking up as they zoom around the countryside making up for lost time on their social lives. Restrictions have been lifted, but masks and hand gel are still a vital part of my life.

Last summer was all about staying at home while making jam and painting garden furniture, like a proper housewife. This year I've been far too busy with freelance writing and constructing that difficult second novel to even smell the roses. I assume they're blooming. I really must go and check.



# Pettistree Harvest Thanksgiving

**Sunday October 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**at 3.00 pm**

**To be followed by Tea and cake,  
everyone welcome**

**Please bring your chair and  
perhaps an umbrella!**

Many people will remember that at the end of October last year church services were still very restricted so our Pettistree Harvest Thanksgiving was held in the church yard. This year we are having regular Sunday services in the church building, observing social distancing and continuing to be aware of the need to keep as Covid safe as possible. The PCC decided that to enable everyone (church members, villagers and

friends) to come together to celebrate Harvest we will once again use the churchyard, near to the Church room, and afterwards enjoy Tea and cake. The straw bales from 2020 have been used for animal bedding so please bring a folding chair.



Maggie Hallett

## Open practices return at last

From the 19<sup>th</sup> May until 21<sup>st</sup> July ringing was by invitation only. Every Wednesday a group of ringers met for about 45 minutes. During these two months we measured the CO<sub>2</sub> levels several times so that we could maximise the ventilation and see whether our ringing time could be extended. All this time each ringer rang only one bell and social distancing was strictly observed, as was mask wearing.

On Sunday July 25<sup>th</sup> we rang six bells for service, the first time since March 2020. It was a wonderful feeling and the sound of six seems so much brighter than five. The following Wednesday (July 28<sup>th</sup>) an invited band rang from 6.30pm. The ringing chamber stood empty for half an hour when they had finished and then we had our first open practice since March 2020. It was slightly nerve-racking wondering whether enough people would come, but they did. The churchyard was buzzing from 7.45pm. We practised for about an hour, people using different bells, ringing all six.

We still ring masked, ensure that we sanitise our hands between rings, but even so this feels great after so long.

Last Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, we held our Christmas Dinner (usually held in February). To be fair we held a *Not the Dinner* social over Zoom back in February. We then fixed an early July date to meet in person but had to postpone. However last Saturday evening twenty six of us gathered at the Greyhound. It was a lovely occasion and so good to see everyone together again.



Mary Garner



## Band of volunteers tidied the churchyard

On a Saturday morning in early August I was delighted that 16 people gave up their time to tackle clearing the very over-grown sections of the churchyard. In the past these areas have been cleared by those serving Community Payback Sentences but due to Covid this has been impossible to arrange, and the hedges and grass had grown very long, more like a hayfield than a village churchyard, making it difficult for people to visit some of the grave plots from the last 60 years. Unfortunately the weather was not perfect but in spite of that, with a varied collection of equipment, a great deal was achieved leaving the whole area very much improved.



Cake and cookies had been donated so with drinks also provided the volunteers were able to use the

shelter of the Parish room for a welcome break during the morning.



The photograph shows some of the group taking a break at the end of the session, Leslie Sui, the vicar, had to leave slightly early as he had another commitment, but asked us to pass on his thanks to everyone for their hard work. Particular thanks go to Dave Caudwell who started work early in the morning to thin and trim the hedging around the grave plots, this was an enormous task. Others of the group later cleared the trimmings to the bonfire heap, the size of which now demonstrates the amount of work that was done. On the South side of the church more close work was completed to tidy around the older graves and the cremation plots so that the whole area is very much improved.

**Maggie Hallett**

## Village hall update continued

Thursday Daytime – Patchwork and Quilters – on alternate weeks [coastalleisurelearning@gmail.com](mailto:coastalleisurelearning@gmail.com)

We were able to secure a government grant to see us through the pandemic and that combined with our savings, we are in a good position to improve the hall. Carpeting has already been fitted in the entrance hall and Dave Caudwell has repaired the toilet doors. On the 13 September access to the hall and car park will be restricted. Tenders have been submitted and the current car park surface will be

replaced with tarmac. Due to the drainage system and future access we intend to leave the area near the kitchen door covered with highway shavings.

We are hoping to have a carpark opening event during the Autumn so watch out for future announcements.

We are looking forward to seeing you all soon.

**Jim Jarvie Village Hall Chairman and the Committee**



# 33 holiday destinations Word Search by Pat Deliss

B	A	R	B	A	D	O	S	P	F	I	T	M	S	S	Bath	Oslo	Edam	Odd
A	B	W	K	S	A	B	P	R	I	H	E	U	O	O	Barbados	Paris	End	Ogle
T	U	R	K	E	Y	A	A	I	V	T	A	L	U	U	Denmark	Poole	Fit	Other
H	O	Y	E	S	S	N	I	S	E	U	A	L	T	L	Devon	Portugal	Fivepin	Pot
Y	E	A	E	E	C	I	N	M	P	O	T	A	H	I	Dublin	Rome	God	Pray
O	V	R	L	E	K	A	C	X	I	M	L	K	W	T	Eire	Sicily	Gran	Prism
U	I	P	A	R	I	S	L	I	N	R	A	E	O	A	France	Skye x 2	Icy	Rake
E	A	C	H	A	C	R	O	L	L	A	M	S	L	L	Greece	Southwold	Dea	Rein
N	O	R	W	A	Y	O	G	L	E	Y	T	A	D	Y	Italy	Spain	Ill	Rim
G	R	A	N	I	A	M	I	A	A	Y	S	H	D	E	Lakes	Turkey	Keel	Rod
O	K	K	O	D	D	E	N	M	A	R	K	P	C	E	Latvia	York	Keto	Sordid
D	N	E	D	E	E	W	I	W	A	X	Y	E	O	L	London	Yarmouth	Lee	Soul
R	E	I	N	A	V	E	R	Y	C	R	E	H	T	O	Malta	PLUS	Lei	Tea
O	Y	X	O	I	O	O	D	I	D	R	O	S	L	O	Ma;;orca	Ale	Lie	Very
D	U	B	L	I	N	D	L	A	G	U	T	R	O	P	Mull	All	Live	Waxy
															Naples	Alley	Login	Weed
															Nice	Cake	Love	
															Norway	Days	Main	
															Oban	Doe	Mix	
															Orkney	Each	Nine	

## Planning Matters

DC/21/3028/FUL Erection of single storey extension , Sandpit House, Loudham Hall Lane– no objection  
 DC/21/2387/EIA Proposed 21 MWp solar farm on land west of Sandpit House—no objection  
 Appeal against refusal of two light industrial units in Presmere Road, was dismissed on 5th May.

## Quiet Lanes

A leaflet explaining the proposal for Walnuts Lane and Rogues Lane is distributed with this issue

## SARS - Suffolk Accident Rescue Service

Their specialist volunteers assist the East of England Ambulance Service at the scenes of serious accidents or trauma across Suffolk and its borders— be that in the home or at the roadside. As clinicians live locally it means they can be on a scene before any other medical resources. Over 300 times so far this year.

SARS receives no central government funding and relies on voluntary fundraising to maintain its activity.

Help is needed towards its running costs, equipment , drugs, and training up new responders— as well as maintaining its fleet of vehicles. When shopping on Amazon sign up to Amazon Smile and they will donate 0.5% of any net purchase price <https://smile.amazon.co.uk>. Also, over 4,000 Easyfundraising retailers make a small donation to say thank you to SARS. <https://www.eastfundraising.org.uk> and there is SARS Lottery– for £1 a week you could win £25,000. To sign up visit [www.sars999.org.uk/lottery](http://www.sars999.org.uk/lottery)

For more information on SARS please visit [www.sars99.org.uk](http://www.sars99.org.uk)



**DIARY DATES**

**7th Sept 1400-1900** Park Farm solar park consultation event in village hall

**21st Sept at 6.30pm** Public meeting in the village hall to discuss proposals for the Quiet Lanes, the solar park, the installation of the SID device and arrangements for the 2022 Queens Jubilee.

**YOUR OPINION IS REQUIRED**

**SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE MAINTAINED**

**3rd October at 3pm** in the churchyard there will be the Harvest Thanksgiving service.

**12th November is the Copy Date for the December issue of Pettistree People.**

**Caterpillar**

Hello little caterpillar  
how did you get there?  
I thought I felt a tickle  
did you come in on my hair?

You must have fallen onto me  
when I was underneath a tree  
now I'll carefully place you  
where I think that you should be

I hope I've chosen wisely  
and you're happy on that leaf  
I wouldn't like to get it wrong  
and cause you any grief

Maybe we will meet again  
on the next stage of your cycle  
not when you're a chrysalis  
but when you're flying and delightful.

Olivia M J Smith

**CONTACTS DIRECTORY**

**Parish Councillors**

Jeff Hallett, Chairman, The Laurels 01728 746210

Mary Chilvers, Coopers Cottage 746123

Chris Cook, Byng Brook House 748388

James Hayward, Old School Farmhouse, Wickham Market 07500 818121

Sue Jones, Holmleigh 747277

Mike Watts, Burways 747202

Philip Westrope, Park Farm House 746139

**Road Safety Manager**, James Clark, 1 Old Orchard Cottage, Gelham Hall, Wickham Market 07949 796007

**Parish Clerk**, Rod Caird 07785 331317

**County Councillor** Alexander Nicoll  
alexander.nicoll@suffolk.gov.uk

**District Councillor** Carol Poulter  
carol.poulter@eastssuffolk.gov.uk

**Vicar** Rev Leslie Siu 561572

**Church Wardens** Brian Nobbs 746590

Kevin Blyth 748205

**Bellringers** Mary Garner 746097

**Village Hall Booking** Pauline Jarvie 745030

**The Greyhound** 746451

**Wickham Market Health Centre** 747101

**Wickham Market Post Office** 746201

**Wickham Market Library** 747216

**Dial-a-Ride** 01473 281194

**Village website** www.pettistree.suffolk.gov.uk

**Webmaster** webmaster@pettistree.suffolk.gov.uk

**WANTED A distributor for Pettistree People in the Loudham Area. Only four times a year to 14 properties.**

**Can you help, please? Please contact Mike Watts 01728 747202 or email him on ppedit@uwclub.net Thank you**