

Pettistree People



Issue 12

February 1999

A NewsSheet for Pettistree and Loudham Residents

Compiled and Edited by Tony Franklin 01728 746585

Elections - coming soon

Would you like to be a Parish Councillor?

If so your chance is coming soon in the May local elections when all seats on the Parish Council will be up for grabs.

There are seven seats on the Parish Council, and at this time, it is known that at least one of the current members of the Council will not be standing for election in May.

Are you eligible to become a Parish Councillor? Yes, normally you are eligible if you are a British subject, over 18 years of age and have lived in or within three miles of the Parish during the whole of the 12 months before the election. You may also be eligible if you have occupied or rented any land or premises within the Parish or your principle or only place of work is within the Parish boundary.

If you are interested in offering yourself for election as a Pettistree Parish Councillor then please give the Parish Clerk, Ann Sayer a call on 01394 460639; Ann will be able to tell what you need to do to be nominated for election.

Alternatively, contact Suffolk Coastal District Council offices at Melton Hill, Woodbridge.

The Parish Council elections will take place on Thursday 6th May 1999

Up until now Pettistree has never had a contested election for the Parish Council – will 1999 be a first for Pettistree?

Farewell to our Parish Clerk

After serving for eight years as Parish Clerk Ann Sayer has decided to stand down at the end of March.

Over the years that she has been our Parish Clerk, Ann's dedication, professionalism and helpfulness has set an example to us all. Ann will be especially missed by the members of the Parish Council who passed a very well earned vote of thanks at its February meeting. Ann's last as Clerk.

At the same meeting the Parish Council was able to appoint a successor to Ann, Mr Bob Osborne. While Bob does not live in Pettistree he has a great deal of experience in being Clerk as he is at present also Parish Clerk for two other Parishes, Bredfield and Hasketon.

100 Club Winners

December:

1st D Spall, 2nd R Sherrington, 3rd N Arbon

January

1st C Garner, 2nd P Maxwell, 3rd B Goldsmith

End of an Era

Pettistree WI closes down

Pettistree Women's Institute was suspended on December 9th, 1998, after eighty years as part of village life.

It was on the 24th November, 1918, that thirty-three local ladies met at The Lodge, home of Mrs Gilligan, to discuss the new Women's movement which had started up in this country in 1915. Meetings after that were held in the Church Room, the Rev. Pollard allowing them to have the room, with its coal fire and oil lamps, free of charge. Life in those days was hard; some members had long cycle rides to and from meetings. A member living in the cottage opposite let them leave their coats there, and it was quite a step across to the Church Room, very cold on a winter's night, but such was their enthusiasm they thought little of it.

The members' great ambition was to have their own hall, and fund-raising to this end was always on the agenda. There were whist drives, jumble sales and a fete every year; but £12 was always given to the Church Fund. After a time a search began for a suitable piece of land on which to put up a W.I. hall. Eventually the founder's husband, Col. Gilligan, offered them a piece of his park at a peppercorn rent of one shilling a year; and in 1928 the hall was built by a Mr Wightman of Wickham Market, a wheelwright by trade, at an estimate of £206.00. By modern standards it must have been somewhat primitive, but members were thrilled to have their very own paid-for accommodation. The building was cared for and improved as years went by, and in 1934 electric light was put in.

Meetings were lively occasions, with a jazz band and country dancing, good demonstrations, talks and film shows. Outings were greatly enjoyed, and parties travelled far and wide, even up to London to see the Royal Tournament and to Windsor Castle. The institute always entered for the Wickham Market Carnival, and entered for many W.I. functions. They never forgot to help difference charities, collecting eggs and making garments for the then East Suffolk Hospital, in the days before the National Health Service. In war-time members made many hundreds of pounds of jam from surplus fruit. When war ended members shared with the village people in cooking and serving a Victory dinner. These early reminiscences were recorded by Mrs G Fryett, who joined in the 1920's and was secretary for many years. Since then there has been an unbroken line of meetings with speakers and demonstrations, garden meetings, social events and outings, participation in the Suffolk Show, and anniversaries which were joyous occasions.

But it was becoming increasingly difficult to cope with the constant expense of maintaining the hall, and in 1993 the building was given to the village. It re-opened as Pettistree Village Hall in 1994, much money having been spent on transforming it from the original W.I. meeting-place.

Now, after much thought and discussion, and with great regret, Pettistree W.I. is suspended for three years, during which time it is just possible that someone may come along and re-form it. If not, it will then be finally closed.

Eighty years is a long time to be part of village life, and we, the ex-members, feel the W.I. may be missed. We are the losers, too.

Village Tidy Day will be Sunday 25th April

Parkinson's Disease help at hand

Rosie Hayward writes

Parkinson's disease is a progressive, degenerative disorder of the brain, which arises as a consequence of specialised nerve cells and their connections. These cells produce vital chemicals called dopamine, which is involved in many functions especially those concerned with movement control and co-ordination

Although Parkinson's is mostly a disorder of the elderly, one person in seven diagnosed is under 50 years old. The Parkinson's Disease Society of the UK have a strong band of young sufferers and their carers and families who have formed their own groups called YAPP&RS. The membership is about 1,275 nationally

Individual people may show very different symptoms, and the rate of progression of the illness varies from 3 to 30 years. Initially, physical tiredness and a general 'slowing down' may be the only symptoms. However 70% of people develop rhythmical muscular shaking. Additional symptoms include pain, falling, depression, loss of facial expression, excessive sweating and difficulty walking speaking and swallowing. Eventually dementia, confusion and severe disablement can occur.

This means that in terms of everyday life many activities become increasingly difficult or have to be abandoned, for example, shopping, cooking, working, talking, gardening, playing sport, driving, answering the phone, socialising. Help with personal carewashing and dressing, toileting and domestic tasks become vital. If you are young when Parkinson's strikes, and have a young family these problems can become overwhelming. They often lead to unemployment, financial hardship, marital and family difficulties and homelessness. The children in these families often have to take on the tasks and responsibilities which give them the role of young carers.

A Family Holiday with a Difference

With this in mind as Placements Advisor to the Parkinson's Disease Society of the UK, I organised a family respite holiday in France in September 1998 This was made possible by GMTV sponsorship funding. The group was made up of five families with children from 6 to 17 years old.

The aim of the holiday was to provide an ambient therapeutic environment in which families could relax and enjoy each others company and ease the 'burden' placed on many of these children. In all cases the families had been or were going through a particularly stressful period. This organised group provided young carers with a secure base and an environment in which to relax.

The Party travelled by coach and ferry to a specially designated holiday centre in Brittany. A Dance and movement therapist and an art therapist accompanied the group. My husband, Peter acted as a voluntary medical adviser. The staff at the centre had all had Parkinson's training in management and awareness and were therefore well prepared for our visit.

The activities included canoeing and sailing sessions which took place with skilled, trained and empathetic staff. The programme was essentially flexible and tailored to appeal to both adults and children. Some of the sessions were challenging but enabled many to achieve unexpected successes. Young carers were enabled to reverse their roles and where possible become children, not needing to care for a parent.

The evaluation showed that the holiday provided the therapeutic "fun" and laughter in a natural empathetic support group. The skilled trained staff gave the necessary support needed for the group, so that all members of the party could benefit from the activities.

Village support

At the December meeting of the Village Hall Committee it was decided to give a percentage of their fund-raising efforts, aiming for a target of £500, towards a similar holiday in the year 2000. If anyone would like to help either collectively or individually please get in touch with Rosie Hayward on 01728746869 Placement Advisor Parkinson's Disease.

I am extremely grateful to the Village Hall committee for the interest shown in helping us to achieve another visit to Brittany with a similar group of people

Rosie Hayward – Tele 01728 746869

Placement Advisor Parkinson's Disease– January 1999

Pettistree on the Web

For those readers who are on the Internet have a look at

<http://www.bluecats.demon.co.uk/pettistree/>

Anyone who like to receive their copy of Pettistree People by Email please contact Joan Peck on joan.peck3@virgin.net

Heritage 2000

Plans are afoot to mark the new century with an exhibition and celebration during the weekend of July 1st & 2nd 2000AD This will be similar (but better than) the one that was staged three and a half years ago. Joan Peck holds a fascinating collection of the village archive and we will also plan to have on display some of the collection held by the Suffolk Record Office. A small committee has been established and we would welcome any suggestions and indeed any further archive material. Later we will be asking for help with various aspects of the weekend but at present would just request that you put the date in your diaries and remember not to throw anything relevant away during your "end of the century" spring clean. **DATES for your diary - June 30th, July 1st & 2nd**

Testing the water

Once again it is time to organize the Inter village sports tournament which will be held at Leiston Sports Centre on Sunday June 6th 1999.

Last year the tournament fell far short of the expectations as many villages failed to enter any teams and events in which we had always taken part where cancelled, our presence at the event being limited to senior carpet bowls and table tennis with both teams excelling against stiff opposition.

It is apparent that interest in the tournament in some villages has waned over the years. Our team manager, Alan Hunter, feels that it would be prudent to test the water and the Village's enthusiasm for the tournament before we spend too much time preparing for the event. **So, if you wish to take part in the event, please contact Alan Hunter ASAP on 01728 747430 so that a list of teams can be drawn up.**

The sports to be played in the tournament are:

Senior.	Junior (under 16 years on the day of the event).
Netball	Netball
Tennis	Tennis
Volleyball	5 a side football
5 a side football	Badminton
Table tennis	Table tennis
Carpet bowls	Carpet bowls
Darts	
Badminton	
Joint team	Rounders

Parish Council Membership

Joan Peck (Chairman)		The Den
Jeff Hallett (Vice Chairman)	746210	The Laurels
Tony Franklin	746585	Scott's Hall
Maureen Stollery	746653	1 Presmere Rd
Sharon Cripps		
Nigel Holland	746344	Gelham Hall, Wickham Market
Neil Arbon	746809	
Ann Sayer (Clerk)	01394 460639	4 Hungarian Close

County & District Councillors

Mr Peter Monk, County Councillor	01394 411373
	or Mobile 0850 843055
Mr George Franks, District Councillor	01394 411206

Neighbourhood Watch

Dave Caudwell	747170	Rogues Cottage
Mike Sayer	01394 460639	4 Hungarian Close

For Crimeline Information, 01473 613617. Current crime update available after 5pm on Tuesdays. Call this number to find out what is happening in your area. The Parish Police Officer can be contacted at Woodbridge Police Station on 01473 613500.

Useful People to Contact

Bellringers	Mary Garner	746097
Church Wardens	Mike Perkins	01394 460284
	Jeff Hallett	746210
Village Hall Booking Sec	Jacki Franklin	746585
Local History Recorder	Joan Peck	
The Greyhound Inn	Bill & Jacki Woolven	746451
The Three Tuns	Terry & Merry Foubister	746244
Wickham Market	Health Centre	747101
Post Office	Wickham Market	746201