

# Pettistree People

Issue 7

July 1997



**Quarterly NewsSheet for Pettistree and Loudham**

**Summer Edition**

Price 30p to Non-residents of Pettistree and Loudham

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Editor - Tony Franklin 01728 746585

## Village of the Year Competition

Pettistree gained third equal place with Easton in the District competition and the marking out of a possible 300 points was as follows:

Parham	234
Friston	219
<b>Pettistree</b>	<b>216</b>
Easton	216

The Judges commented on the high standard of entry and closeness of the competition this year.

Pettistree will receive a third place prize of £25.

### Village of the Year Competition Results

## Vandalism in the Village

On the night of 14 May the Village experienced perhaps the worst case of vandalism in its recent history when nearly every window in the Village Hall was broken.

The individuals thought to be responsible were apprehended that evening in Wickham Market where they were alleged to have committed a similar act of vandalism again, this time to Wickham's Village Hall; they have since been brought before Deben Magistrates' Court and dealt with.

Repairs to our Hall were very quickly made in true Dunkirk spirit thanks to the time and efforts of a number of villagers - especially thanks and appreciation must go to Mike Swain and Neil Arbon who cleaned up the mess before the windows were repaired the very next day.

**..a night of  
destruction is  
quickly  
mended with  
the help of  
Village people  
...**

## Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on 15th May, it was attended by the Parish Council and 14 village residents. Topics discussed included, "The Wuffings" Eastern Angles theatrical production, the Chairman's report, the Village Hall, Village of the year Competition, the Millennium Quinquennial Weekend (July 2000), vandalism, the Village Sign, and footpaths. Copies of the minutes of this meeting can be obtained from the Clerk, Ann Sayer (01394 460639)

**A busy Parish  
Meeting  
rather poorly  
attended**

**... be vigilant - watch out for vandals in our Village....**

# Village Matters

**Parish  
Council  
Chairman  
re-elected**

**Village Sign  
to be re-  
stored**

**Voluntary  
effort  
recognised**

**A well  
attended  
Litter Pick  
finds  
surprisingly  
little litter in  
the Village**

**100 Club  
Winners**

**TrekForce  
Expedition to  
Indonesia**

**Leiston Royal  
British Legion  
Band  
sponsorship  
concert**

At the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 1st May, Joan Peck and Jeff Hallett were re-elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. Also the members of the Council Planning Committee were elected and they are Joan Peck, Tony Franklin and Maureen Stollery.

At their meeting the Council decided to commission restoration of the Village sign and to set aside £800 to cover the cost of the restoration which is planned to start in October.

The Council also noted that the notice boards and seat had been renovated by Sid Cripps and that the 'bus shelter' had been 'spring cleaned' by Les Heard and Philis Plant. The voluntary effort by these people was recognised by the Council who passed a vote of thanks.

The Litter Pick that took place on 27th April was well attended by adults and children alike. The group split in small parties and scoured the village for litter which proved rather hard to find. Yes, a number of bags of litter was collected but the total amount was gratifyingly less than the last litter pick. Well done and thank you to those of you who took part.



	1st	2nd	3rd
<b>April</b>	Val Pizzey	Tony Franklin	Basil Goldsmith
<b>May</b>	Richard Hayward	Mair Peasey	Lesley Dawson

The 100 Club costs just £1 per month and has a first prize of between £20 to £25 depending on the number of members - to take part please contact Alan Whitfield (Tele 746794).

**Christine Whinney** is the daughter of Jenny Whinney who runs the Physiotherapy Clinic at Green Farm in Pettistree. Christine has been selected to join a team of 25 strong volunteers who are to visit Indonesia in 1998. Christine is to spend a year in the rain forests of Indonesia where she will be engaged in conservation work in preparation for University where she is planning to study forestry. Voluntary work means that Christine will not be paid for work in Indonesia where she will have to pay her own way to the tune of £2600 which she is hoping to raise through sponsorship. One sponsored event that she is planning is a concert to be given by the Leiston Royal British Legion Band in which she is a player for the last 5 years. This concert is to take place on 25th October in the Village Hall in Wickham Market - tickets are £3 each and can be obtained by calling Christine's Mom, Jenny, on 01728 746518.



# Policemen, Policing and People

For a few short weeks during April and May PC Frank Ryder became our local policeman, keen to play his part in village life he wrote a piece for PettistreePeople - here is an extract:

..... On Monday, 7th April, 1997, I became one the latest batch of police officers posted to patrol from Woodbridge Police Station. This is my second 'term of office' in the Woodbridge area, having had the great pleasure of being responsible for Martlesham, Newbourne, Hemley, Waldringfield and Brightwell from 1980 to 1992. In those days, a pedal cycle was my usual method of getting from A to B, which probably accounts for my being built like a racing snake.....

.... in the Suffolk Policing Plan for 1997/1998 there are eight objectives within the Plan, 'Quality of Life' being firmly positioned at number 1. This may sound like a 'catch-all' type of goal, but I believe that it targets exactly the sort of behaviour the residents of Pettistree (and, indeed, Wickham Market) have had to endure. Whilst I cannot pretend to be a panacea for a community, I sincerely hope that I can contribute to that particular goal by increasing the police presence whenever possible.....

Unfortunately, PC Ryder was needed elsewhere; we were very sorry to lose him but also very pleased to have him replaced by PC Abraham who is now our local policeman (Parish Liaison Officer - Area Beat Officer) - we look forward to meeting him soon.

In June our Parish Council Chairman, Joan Peck, attended a meeting of Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators organised by the Woodbridge police Sector under the command of Inspector Krolik. At that meeting Joan discovered that the Woodbridge Sector included 50 parishes around Woodbridge, some 44,000 people policed by 43 police officers, 12 specials aided by 8 civilian support staff. As PC Ryder said in his article this year policing priority is to be "Quality of Life" focusing on disorder, drunkenness and damage.

Although the Woodbridge Sector is a big area to police the target for response is 18 minutes, and so far this year calls have been answered within this time on almost 9 out of 10 (88.7%).

## **Suffolk special constable has been rewarded for his outstanding contribution to the force.**

**David Horne**, who until recently lived in Pettistree with his parents Dick and Barbara has been awarded the Godfrey Challenge Cup at Martlesham Police Headquarters.

The cup, which is awarded annually to a member of the Suffolk Special Constabulary, is given for outstanding service to the police force throughout the year, it recognises the work of the individual.

David, 21, started work as a special in February 1994. Incredibly, during 1996, he clocked up 571 hours working with the constabulary - that's an average of at least 10 hours a week. He also frequently attended operations at very short notice and in the opinion of his Inspector. Inspt Krolik he has done some "excellent" work for the force.



**Our new  
Policeman  
keen to get  
started**

**Quality of  
Life is this  
years theme**

**PC Abraham  
take over**

**Pettistree is  
in the  
Woodbridge  
Sector ..... a  
big patch to  
police**

## **Suffolk Policing Plan starts to take effect**

# Inter Parish Sports Tournament

**Pettistree** took part in the tournament again this year under the management of Alan Hunter. Alan, despite heavy work and domestic commitment devoted a great deal of time and effort in getting the Pettistree team together. His efforts and those of the whole Pettistree team were richly rewarded.

A fiercely competitive Pettistree Volley Ball Team pose for a team photo with their winners certificate.



This year Pettistree achieved its best ever result winning the Volley Ball - the Junior Football - the Junior Netball - and we came second in the Table Tennis.



Our Junior teams enjoyed their success against some keen opposition.

Above - Junior Netball Team receive congratulation and medals

Left - Junior Football Team receive their medals

***For a small Village don't we pack a big punch***

# Pettistree Local History Record - 1996

A long cold dreary winter with very little sunshine and plenty of mist punctuating snow and thaw. Very cold most of the time. A very late spring - about three weeks late with daffodils not out until April.

Presmere Pond has filled up largely because the water tower has been cleaned out and the water drained to the pond.

**FEBRUARY** The Village published its first newsletter called Pettistree People and this has received warm praise. A grant was obtained for its first year of publication and it is to be produced quarterly. The Barnes family have moved from "Tyndale".

**APRIL** Rogues Cottage has been sold. Dr & Mrs Gardiner have moved to Woodbridge. Dave, Kath, Nicola and Helen Caudwell have moved into the cottage and Dave is renovating it. Eric and Betty Whitfield celebrated their Golden Wedding. A second newsletter was published. National Clean Up Week saw a group of villagers turn out with rubber gloves and sacks for a litter-pick. They were joined by their Suffolk Coastal Councillor, Ned Cavendish.

**MAY** Alan and Evelyn Whitfield celebrated their Silver Wedding. Still a cold spring with little rainfall but several severe frosts.

**JUNE** A dry month, any showers immediately being dried up by cold northerly winds.

**JULY** Morris men danced outside the "Greyhound". Joe Arbon brought them from Wickham "George" in his waggon pulled by his Suffolk Punch Pioneer. David Horne, now a special constable, has taken over Neighbourhood Watch duties from Ned Hogg.

**AUGUST** Annual Village Barbeque in aid of Village Hall Funds. Another enjoyable occasion with few slight showers. The dry weather continued. 27th A heavy thunderstorm ending weeks of dry weather, 11mm of rain fell in 2 hours. 28th, 29th, and 30th 81mm of rain fell in last 3 days. The wheat harvest is not yet finished.

**OCTOBER** Work started to underground the cables on the Green, BT and EE are combining.

**NOVEMBER** Seat on Village Green broken by a car driving across the Green. On the 11th a group of Parishioners gathered at the war memorial and observed 2 minutes silence.

**DECEMBER** Lt Col and Mrs Maxwell celebrated their Golden Wedding. They invited the Village to have a drink with them in the Village Hall. The village showed their thanks for all Peter and Patience had done over the years by subscribing to a kitchen clock and a cheque.

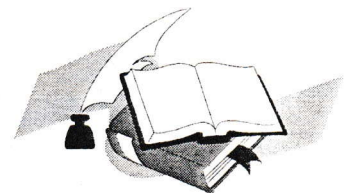
Angela Chilvers died aged 47 years. Sophie Smart, Maxwell's granddaughter christened. The Church experienced a Golden Wedding, funeral, and christening all in one week.

The Village Hall has again had windows (in spite of toughened glass) broken. The curtain was set on fire but thanks to fire-proofing a serious calamity was averted. More trees have been planted in the Churchyard, five young oaks along Presmere Road and more hedging has been planted along the northern boundary of the Village Hall.

**For the past few years the Village's Local History Recorder, Joan Peck, has delivered this record at the Annual parish Meeting which is held in May.**

**The record is for the past calendar year and forms a chronicle of our Village life.**

**It is reproduced here in full.**



**Please send Joan Peck things you want recorded**

## Discovering the Wuffings ??

**1939 - 1st  
Felixstowe  
Guides are let  
into the  
secret of  
Sutton Hoo**

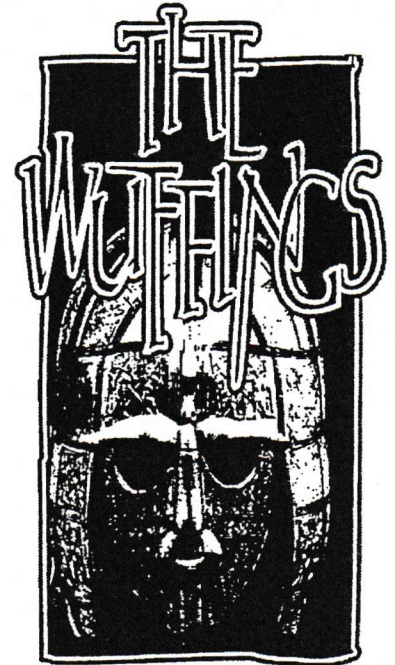
**... sharing in  
the mystery  
of a Saxon  
burial ship ...**

**... excitement  
of being part  
of the  
treasure  
hunt... ..**

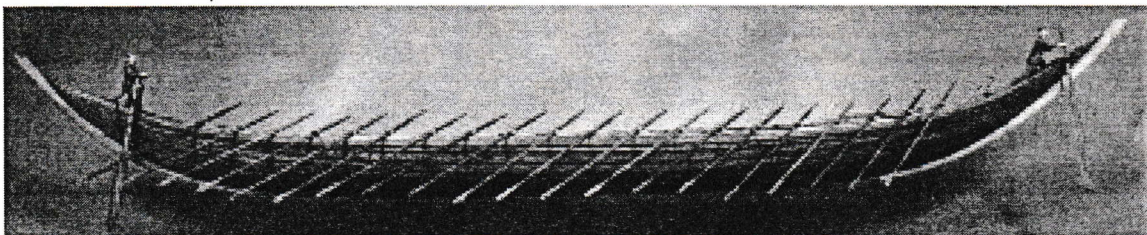
It was the summer of '39. I had just flown up to the Guides from the Brownies and I was at Guide Camp with the 1st Felixstowe Guide Company. The camp was held on the Broxstead Estate owned by Mrs Paul. The site was beautiful, heather, bracken, the smell of pine trees and the not very distant sea. One of the visits arranged for us by our Captain was to Mrs Pretty's Estate of Sutton Hoo! Mrs Pretty and Mrs Paul were sisters I believe and Mrs Paul had heard some exciting news! We were not told much about this visit beforehand except we were going by bus. That was unusual in itself as we usually trudged miles! It was therefore somewhere very special and seemed rather secret and no-one else had had the privilege of going there. Whatever were we going to see?

When we got off our bus a gamekeeper met us and escorted us along a sandy track for quite a distance and suddenly there it was - the Sutton Hoo ship at its first unveiling. I can picture it now, the shape clearly defined in the sandy soil, the ribs of the boat, the rivets and the place where treasure had been found. Very little was known about the discovery. Was it a grave? If so, where was the body? How had a ship been brought up from the river? Who owned the treasure? "Digging" was still going on and Basil Brown explained as much as was known to us. We were allowed to have anything we could find from the spoil beside the dig. I had two minute pieces of bronze and a very rusty rivet - such treasure! Unfortunately the war came and by the next summer I had become an evacuee. Invasion was threatened and my little pieces of history were lost when my people moved house.

It was not until many years later in the 1960s when living in Woodbridge that the site was reopened and we were rowed across the river in the little ferry boat to gaze again at this remarkable discovery.



by Kevin Crossley-Holland



## Who was this Girl Guide ?

# Colonel Peter St George Maxwell - 1916 - 1997

Colonel Peter St George Maxwell was born on 29th August, 1916 into a family who had their roots firmly planted in Suffolk. He spent his working life serving his country as an Army Officer, and in his retirement he came to live contentedly in Pettistree Grange where he died on 25th May, 1997.

After being commissioned at Sandhurst in 1936 as a Lieutenant in the Highland Light Infantry he spent tours of duty in India and Palestine. At the outbreak on World War II the Colonel's first wartime posting was to Cairo in 1940, from where he took part in the Desert campaign. In 1941 the Highland Light Infantry was ordered to Eritrea with the 5th Indian Division to expel the Italians who had occupied the country since 1890. It was in Eritrea that the Colonel was awarded the Military Cross in the battle for Keren, the citation singled out the Colonel's coolness under heavy enemy fire. After Eritrea the Colonel returned to the Western Desert with the 5th Indian Division and was caught up in the retreat to El Alamein. He was then posted to the Staff College in Haifa and later to India and Burma. In Burma the Colonel encountered the Japanese at first hand in the battle for Kohima, the nearest Japanese got to India. In late 1944 the Colonel came home from India to be promoted to Colonel and become a Staff Officer at the School of Infantry at Warminster in July 1945.

In the summer of 1946, during a visit to his parents who then lived in Pettistree, the Colonel met his wife to be, Patience - by November of that year they were married. Married life for the couple was also an Army life and before long Peter was soon on the move to a posting in Palestine where the British Mandate was to expire 14th May 1948. Patience remained in the UK. Returning to the UK the Colonel took up command of a company of the Highland Brigade Training Battalion at Fort George near Inverness. During 1949 the Colonel commanded the Kings Guard during the Royal Family's summer holiday at Balmoral. This was a short but very happy posting of some three months and during the following 13 years the Colonel pursued his peace time army life with postings in the War Office, Egypt, Glasgow, Cyprus, Luneberg, Berlin, Troon, Benghazi, and Tripoli. During this time Peter and Patience's children were born, their oldest son Philip was born in 1947, Ian in 1949, Gillian in Glasgow in 1954 and Penelope in 1956.

The Colonel retired from the Army in 1962 and he and Patience moved into Pettistree Grange. Here in Pettistree, the Colonel took a full part in village life; he became the Suffolk Commissioner of the St Johns Ambulance and was a founder member and Chairman of Pettistree Parish Council, and for many years he served as a Church Warden.

Two characteristics have marked the Colonel's life - pride and service. In his Army career he served his country professionally and with valour; in his retirement he has served the community in which he lived. He had pride, not only in himself, but also in his country - but most of all he was fiercely proud of his family.

The Colonel's death perhaps marks the end of an era in Pettistree - he will be missed by the people of Pettistree, but most of all his memory will be cherished by his family who loved him dearly.

## Obituary

### Col Peter St George Maxwell

### Military Cross awarded in Eritrea, 1941

The Colonel's funeral was very well attended and this quote from the funeral address perhaps reflects the way in which he was regarded by friends and family alike " .... His courtesy and generosity together with a sound understanding of human nature and a firm belief in fair play endeared him to all with whom he came in contact in the Service and Civilian life ...."

### Long and happy retirement in Pettistree

### Pride and Service were the Colonel's hallmark

... perhaps the end of an era ....

# Editor's Notices

**Snippets** - Andrew Whiteley, son of Stuart and Dorothy was married in Cambridge on 4th July - we wish Andrew and his wife well. Rebecca Whitfield is back from monitoring the habits of turtles on the Greek Island of Kefallinia. Yet more aerials have sprouted from the Water Tower. The Village Hall cycle treasure hunt which took place on 18th July is heralded as a great success. Villagers are to be canvassed about removing the telephone kiosk from the Green.

## Facts Sheet

### 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 Hunter	01473 737784	Merton Farm Barn
Nigel Holland	746344	Gelham Hall
Neil Arbon	01473 737784	Merton Farm Barn
Ann Sayer (Clerk)	01394 460639	4 Hungarian Close

The Parish Council meet at least four times a year in the Church Room.

### County & District Councillors

Mr Peter Monk, County Councillor 01394 411373 or Mobile 0850 843055  
Mr Ned Cavendish, District Councillor 01394 450046

### Neighbourhood Watch

David Horne 746637 The Cottage, Pettistree Grange  
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

Vicar	Graham Bell	746314
Bellringers	Mary Garner	746097
Church Wardens	Mike Perkins	
	Jeff Hallett	746210
Village Hall Booking Sec	Jacki Franklin	746585
Local History Recorder	Joan Peck	
The Greyhound Inn	Bill & Jacki Woolven	
The Three Tuns	Terry & Merry Foubister	
Wickham Market	Health Centre	747101
Post Office	Wickham Market	746201

## Calendar

### Carpet Bowls & Table Tennis

every alternate Thursday 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

### Church

1st Sunday of the month Evensong Services at 6.30pm  
Morning Prayer at 9.30am on all other Sundays in the month.

### Bellringing

Practice night is every Wednesday 7pm until 9pm - you will be equally welcome as a beginner or an experienced ringer

### WI Meetings

Every third Wednesday of the month at 2pm in the Village Hall.

### Pop-in

1st Tuesday of the month 2pm till 4pm in the Village Hall - come and have a chat.

### Bar-B-Q

Sunday 24th August - The Park at 12.30pm **Don't miss it !!**

### People Profile Cath Caudwell



Cath and her family (Dave, Helen (14), Nicola (12)) moved Pettistree only 15 months ago, taking on Rogues Cottage, which is proving to be quite a conversational draw for the many walkers who pass by and spy her husband hard at the DIY. Cath has lived in Suffolk for 18 years, having been brought up in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, and prior to moving to Pettistree lived in Ipswich for 6 years and Wickham Market for 10. Cath has been Clerk to Wickham Market Parish Council for 9 years and finds it a very varied, and at times demanding job based as it is at home. For the last two and half years she has also been a classroom assistant for pupils with special educational needs at Wickham Market Primary School. When not grappling with the complexities of Wickham Market you will find her involved in a local youth group, the Woodcraft Folk, or attending various committee meetings. Otherwise the whole family enjoy cycling and walking the byways around Pettistree and beyond.

## Next Edition - October 1997