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No 347

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NOVEMBER 2021



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PARISH PUMP

If you have a news item or wish to publicise a local event please contact
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WHO'S WHO in YOUR VILLAGE?

Stansfield parish council

Chairman: Sarah Hopkins
stansfieldparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Stradishall parish council

Chairman: Ady Swift
Vice Chairman: Adrian Lee
stradishallparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Denston meeting

Chairman: Jeff Fellows
01440 820310
jefffellows.crown@gmail.com

Suffolk county councillor

Bobby Bennett
bobby.bennett@suffolk.gov.uk

West Suffolk councillor for Denston, Stansfield & Hawkedon

Sarah Pugh
sarah.pugh@westsuffolk.gov.uk

West Suffolk councillor for Stradishall, Clare, Hundon etc

Nick Clarke
nick.clarke@me.com

WHAT'S WHERE?

Wickhambrook Surgery

www.wickhambrooksurgery.co.uk
Boyden Close, Nunnery Green,
Wickhambrook. CB8 8XU

Appointments, emergencies and general
enquiries: 01440 820140

Dispensary: 01440 823801

The surgery is open from 8.30am to 6.30pm,
Monday to Friday.

Police Force HQ 01473 613500

Denston Village Hall Enquiries:

Denston: 01440 820675 Stefan

Stansfield village hall booking enquiries

Tel: 01284 789192
bookings@stansfieldvillage.org.uk

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Not only will you appear in over 700 copies of the Parish Pump and hand delivered to all homes in Stradishall, Stansfield and Denston, you will also be included in our online edition, landing in over 400 inboxes.

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Wendy Johnson-Houghton

e:

wendy.johnsonhoughton@gmail.com

Christmas is coming in Thursford!

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**Please contact D. Crysell
01440820115 for the full details**

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



As you probably know by now, I am new to this editing game. I am learning fast but this month, due to a communication error, on my part, we will not have articles from some of your favourite regular contributors. I do apologise for this. I will try harder next month!

Kind regards

Peter

**Covid jab reminder
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autumn of four 90 minutes lessons with
excellent teachers - free of charge**

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stansfieldbridgeclub@googlemail.com**

Exotic Bird

Life in the depth of the Suffolk countryside just became a little bit more exciting recently with the arrival of a beautiful crested crane at our window.

My husband was quietly eating his breakfast one morning recently when he heard a tapping on the window behind him. He turned round and to his surprise came face to face with a large unusual bird.

When I arrived on the scene I recognised it as a crested crane - a most elegant bird. This one seemed quite tame and happy to pose for photographs. When it got bored with us it wandered towards the road and to prevent a disaster my husband encouraged it to go across the road into the field opposite. As it went, it dramatically opened its beautiful white wings with black edging demonstrating a huge wing span. As we live on the crest of the hill between Stansfield and Poslingford we imagine the crane belongs to the menagerie at Poslingford House along with the wandering porcupines!

Clare Powell



Kingfisher

Not quite exotic but I spotted a kingfisher over our pond, it was gone in a flash but it did make me feel good!

WICKHAMBROOK WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HALL OPEN DAY

As one of the few Women's Institutes to have their own hall, we decided to hold an open day on Saturday 2nd October between 11.00am and 3.00pm for all the other organisations who use the Hall for various activities. On the day there were stalls representing the Horticultural Society, the History Society and the Women's Institute itself of course. There was also a stall for the Farmers Market selling delicious jams, pickles and homemade cakes. There were representatives from the Yoga and Country Dancing classes, held on Saturday mornings and every other Wednesday at 2-00pm respectively. Maria Sumner who does a great job of managing the Wickhambrook website was also in attendance to

show people what's on offer in the village. Jo Gearing was there to represent the 1st Wickhambrook Beavers who meet in the WI Hall

every Monday from 18-00 to 19-00. She was also there with a plea for anyone willing to help out and get involved as they are trying to re-establish the Cubs within the village as they have had to combine with Moulton Cubs. Anyone interested should contact Jo on 01440 820860.

Finally members of the WI provided refreshments: tea, coffee and homemade cake. It is hoped that people who attended gained an insight into what goes on at the Hall on a weekly basis.



For information on Hall Bookings please contact:
Jackie Fieldsend on 01440 820108

Forth coming events in Wickenbrook

Saturday 4th December : Christmas Shopping Day! Starting at 2-00pm. There will be an array of stalls selling gifts suitable for Christmas. Come along and buy those last minute presents! Refreshments will be served and there will be a tombola and a Christmas Hamper raffle.

For further information please contact
Dorothy : 01440 820376 or
Gillian : 01440 820052



GRAB A JAB!
Coronavirus cases are rising.....but anyone over the age of 12 is now eligible for vaccination. If you are over 16, you can get a vaccination from a walk-in centre, such as the excellent one at Chevington Close, Bury St Edmunds. So whether it's your first, second or booster, help stop the spread. Please don't put it off!

Black British Histories 1970's

In October there was an appeal from Dorothy Anderson of Wickhambrook History Society for any information on the 1972 Ugandan Asian refugees. The interest in this has gained momentum , and Ruth Seal is repeating this request All they need now is some contacts.

STRADISHALL HISTORY: UGANDAN REFUGEES

CAN YOU HELP PLEASE?

Do you remember when the Ugandan Asian Refugees were temporarily housed in Stradishall Former RAF Camp in 1972/73?

If you volunteered to work there, or, knew anyone who did, please contact Ruth Seal 01440 820631, Wickhambrook History Society.

ANY INFORMATION WOULD BE GRATEFULLY RECEIVED!

We are collecting information on Volunteering and what happened at Stradishall, during the 6/7 months it was used to house these refugees, before they were resettled elsewhere.

Ruth Seal



***Please stretch your memories
for our historians.***

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07772 286106

Look forward to seeing you soon.



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Martin Kinna

November

And so we come to November, possibly surfeited on Pumpkin Soup. I never thought it would come to be a favourite month as it always heralded Winter but now as I, too, begin to wither and things look likely to drop off soon, I can appreciate much more the season of "mists and mellow fruitfulness" and, of course, the special time of Remembrance.

My father was a regular soldier who fought on the North West Frontier, at El Alamein, Monte Casino, in Austria and Germany, Malaya and Korea. You can imagine he had a lot to remember and he told me some of it.

For the hundredth anniversary of the First World War a particular effort was made to add focus to our remembrances. One item was the life sized perspex outlines of uniformed soldiers that could be placed near graves or seated in church pews. These have continued to be used and if you visit a church where they have been installed the effect is quite amazing. There sit in opaque ghostly outline the Tommies whose names appear on our war memorials. Sometimes

*There sit in opaque ghostly outline
the Tommies whose names appear on
our war memorials.*

there may be two or three in the same pew where they had worshipped as a family. It does make the forgotten presence seem very real and brings home the poignancy of the losses to us in our villages today.

Remembrance Day is the day each year on which I feel most proud to be British.



I recall some of my Dad's stories, tales of his friends who were with him in various theatres of war but failed to return.


. They went because they felt they had to and did their best for the love they bore for our country
Round these parts many who served had never before been to London but suddenly were confronted by totally foreign countries, food, speech and behaviour. Suffolk lads who never questioned why they went and had no time to question why they never came back.

I am proud that in our small communities we huddle together in the cold by our small stone memorials to hear the names of the fallen read out and in our tiny groups thank them for their sacrifices that have enabled us to be here, to enjoy November.

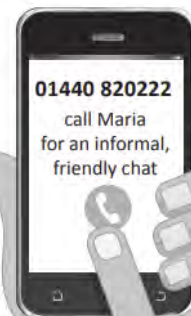


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Monthly rainfall 2021 mm collated by Rod Taylor

	June	July	August	September
Apologies for last month's error July and August were mixed up				
Nick Burton (Stradishall)	79	70	32	78
Tina Lee (Stradishall)	78	64	47	69
Sam Slater (Stansfield)	66	88	36	81
Rod Taylor (Stansfield)	73	77	31	86
Jay Gridley (Hundon)	72	97	35	94
Victoria Pakenham (Fenstead End)	55.5	40.5	20.5	56
Elaine Plumptre (Gt Saxham)	69	66	25	73



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Stansfield Village Lunch Thursday, 18th November

The Stansfield Village Lunch for November will be held at the Village Hall.
Government guidelines will be completely adhered to if necessary, depending if
there are any restrictions at the time.
A delicious two course lunch will be served:

Braised Normandy Pheasant
with Sautéed Potatoes and Seasonal Veg

Followed by:
Fallen chocolate soufflé with prunes and creme fraiche.

Both courses are gluten free
The meal will conclude with tea and coffee.
The cost is just £4 per head.

Please advise us, when booking your lunch, of any dietary restrictions that you
may have and we will discuss alternatives with you.
The next village lunch will take place on Thursday, 9th December (Christmas
Lunch) dependant on Government guidelines should there be another wave of the
virus.

To reserve your place at the November lunch, please contact Jacky by email
jacky21@mac.com or phone 01284 789118 We look forward to you joining u



Here be dragonflies



Unfortunately for **Parish Pump** but good for Sophie. She is taking a sabbatical
and has a real job. We all at Parish Pump wish her the best of luck with her new
venture and wait impatiently to welcome her back!

FRESH FISH • SMOKED FISH • SHELL FISH



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WEDNESDAY
Willow Tree Farm Shop
9am-1pm
THURSDAY
Coggeshall 7.30am-12.30pm
Long Melford 2.30pm-5pm
FRIDAY
Clare Market Hill 8am-10am
Lavenham Market Place 11am-1pm
Depden 2-4pm





SWITCH-ON SATURDAY 27th NOV CLARE CHRISTMAS FAIR.

We are crossing our fingers, toes and everything else that the Christmas Fair and Switch-On will be able to go ahead this year as planned.

Last year it was so disappointing to have to cancel both events and we missed seeing all the happy, friendly faces enjoying the festivities.

The fair will once again be held in St Peter and Paul, our lovely parish church, and also in the Town Hall. This will mean that everything is more centralized and that Market Hill will be the focus of the planned entertainment on the Saturday afternoon and evening.

On Friday evening the **fair will be open from 5-8pm** and there will be carols from the choir in the candlelit church, along with complimentary mulled wine - and **Father Christmas will be visiting us! He will be found in his grotto from 5.30-7.30pm.** There will also be face painting in the church.

On Saturday the fair will be open from 10am-7pm and there will be music from Long Melford Silver Band and lots of other family entertainment. **Father Christmas will be there again, from 2-4pm.**

The Switch-On will take place on Market Hill at 6pm with hot dogs, mulled wine and other goodies to make it all go with a swing.

Make sure you put this major event in your diaries and you will be able to do most of your gift and other festive shopping right here in town - so much easier and much more fun!

We need to raise funds to help pay for the entertainment and lights, so please look out for our collection boxes around the town and support our fundraising events, including the Christmas Lights Raffle. Tickets will be on sale on 20th November at Clare Market and there are some great prizes!

Highpoint Prison needs you!

COULD YOU LOOK BEHIND THE CLOSED DOOR?

Loyal readers of the Parish Pump may remember an article about this time last year, which described the work of the **Independent Monitoring Board (IMB)** at Her Majesty's Prison at Highpoint. Well, we are again looking to recruit new members to join us, so here is a brief resume of that article:

The IMB monitors what is happening day-to-day in the prison, and its effect on the outcomes for prisoners. Assessments are made with four main headings in mind: Safety, Humane treatment, Health and well-being, Progression and release. Any concerns we have are reported at an appropriate level, and each board submits an annual report to the Secretary of State.

Board members have unfettered access to the prison and its residents, and to all documentation, with the exception of health records. All areas of the prison are visited regularly, and contact is established with the prisoners and the staff. As the "eyes and ears" of the public, we observe. We record our evidence-based findings, in objective and unbiased reports. We deal with individual applications from prisoners, relating to problems or complaints, which we work to resolve. We also attend meetings and reviews, to observe how the prison is managing a variety of issues. This means going into the prison three or four times a month to visit residential units, the kitchens, workshops, healthcare, educa-

tion, chaplaincy.....anywhere and everywhere, depending on what is on your rota. There are no restrictions on the time of day for visits. (Some Board members fit their visits in round a busy working week, on weekends, or evenings.)

Interested in joining us? Once past the interview, and the inevitable security checks, you will receive a thorough training, and will work under the guidance of a mentor for a probationary period (usually one year). Anyone over eighteen can apply, and we aim to recruit from a diversity of backgrounds. There is on-going training throughout your tenure, and members are encouraged to identify an area of special interest.

If you are interested, please go to www.imb.org.uk/join-now/current-vacancies and follow the links to 'Online Applications Form', where you will be invited to sign up and log in. The closing date for applications is 14th November 2021.

.If you'd like an informal chat about what is involved, please contact Carol Thompson on 07708899579

IMB



What does it take to be a Board member?

Board members should be:

- Open minded
- Caring
- Committed to diversity, equality and human rights.
- A good listener

They should also have the following skills:

- Perseverance
- Integrity
- Willingness to take responsibility
- Ability to challenge
- Ability to maintain confidentiality
- Commitment
- Confidence
- Good teamwork skills
- Effective communication skills



A Skirt through History

with Louise Duckling



Louise's article will also not appear this month either Apologies once again Peter

WICKHAMBROOK WOMENS INSTITUTE

Monthly Meeting held in the WI Hall 12/10/21

Helen's Herbaceous Garden with Helen Hilliard

What was billed as a talk on Gardens in fact turned into a really interesting display of flower arranging! Helen had brought lots of plants and flowers from her garden to demonstrate how to make stunning but simple displays which anyone could achieve. Helen stressed that you don't necessarily need exotic or expensive plants to make a show. Members were held spell-bound as she proceeded to make several seasonal arrangements which she then very kindly donated for the raffle. Helen began with a circular display which she built up with groups of plants interspersed with small crab apples in keeping with the autumnal theme. She then made a table decoration using a hollowed out butternut squash complete with its "hat". Finally she demonstrated how to put together a beautiful hand tie bouquet which was offered with a gift bag. Along the way Helen gave several useful tips and ideas on flower displays which members could take away with them. The members who won the flower displays in the raffle were delighted!

Wendy Mansfield





Due to a teething communication problem by myself, Caroline will not be contributing this month. Please wait next month everything will be back to normal

Watercolour & Vintage Workshop

Saturday 13th November

10am – 3pm

Stansfield Village Hall

£25 per person



Join Julie Ghirardani for this beginner's workshop and learn how to make cards, gift tags and pictures using watercolour paint and vintage lace.

No previous experience required.

Materials and light refreshments provided.

Includes FREE PRIZE DRAW.

Booking is in advance via 'eventbrite' - see address below:
eventbrite.co.uk/e/watercolour-vintage-workshop-tickets-174723541817

If you have any questions about this event or for help with booking please ring 01284 789 192

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HAS STRADISHALL CHURCH BEEN SAVED? – THE NEXT STEP

Following the successful village meeting held on the 15th September, a further meeting was held on the 7th October at the Benefice Hall, Wickhambrook of all those who had expressed an interest in getting involved in the restoration and future running of St. Margaret's Church. Seventeen people attended, including the Archdeacon of Sudbury, Revd David Jenkins.

Our Rector, Revd Eve Bell opened by welcoming everyone and thanking them for coming. She said that she hoped that we could now move forward and form ourselves into groups to deal with the various tasks required.

Robert Helliwell started by saying that Tia and Ashley Sparling, who had recently moved into the village had said they wished to join the PCC (Parochial Church Council) with a view to putting themselves forward for election as Churchwardens at the next annual meeting. This was very welcome news and they were given a round of applause. He summarised the position at the moment and what had brought matters to a head and then set out the idea of having

4 separate committees or sub-committees in order for the Church to move forward. An early decision was as to decide if the village wished the Church to be available to be used as a community facility as that would require further work on the building but there were several obstacles in the way. The building was Grade 1 listed, it had no car park, and there were bats (protected



species) in the building plus other problems. He said the Church had £25,000 in the fabric / restoration fund so substantial fundraising would be required. He then set out the PCC's ideas for these groups.

Group 1 would pursue major fundraising through grant applications.

Group 2 would put on local fundraising such as fetes, flower festivals etc which do not raise large sums but do encourage community involvement.

Group 3 would deal with restoration, liaising with architects, builders etc. obtaining the necessary Diocesan permissions.

Group 4 Churchyard maintenance.

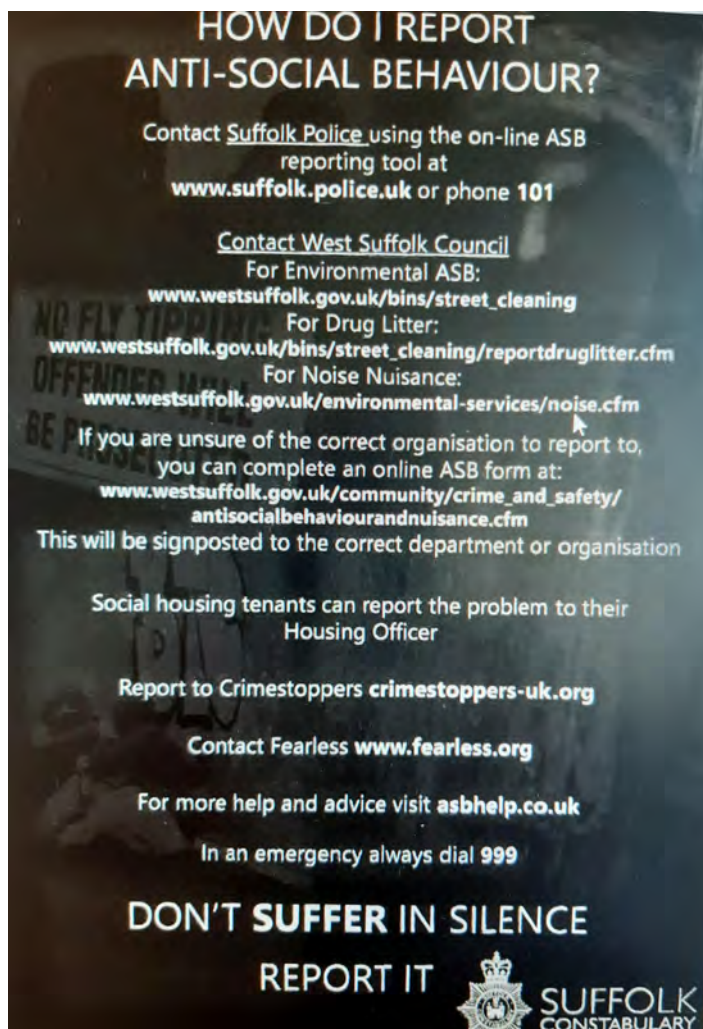
Philip Rous said we had to decide on the future vision of the Church building. Are we just going to repair the building or adapt it for other uses such as a community facility? It needs to be made fit for the 21st century, disabled access, toilets, heating, lighting etc. This would be developed into a "statement of needs" and a "development brief." Do we employ a consultant or use the Church architect to provide a feasibility study with costs and timescales? Approvals would be required from the local authority, English Heritage, and the Diocese in due course.

The Archdeacon then spoke about the permissions required from the Diocese. He explained that legally Churches are outside the range of local authority planning rules unless the outward appearance is altered, such as by an extension. Permission for any work has to be obtained from the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) via what is known as a faculty. The DAC can also give advice if required. He then explained that Church architects have extra qualifications that ordinary architects do not.

A letter was read out from Chris Fallon who was unable to attend but said his company had an experienced fundraiser who could help. He mentioned, amongst others, Innovate UK, a government funding service which gave substantial grants for sustainable applications and that foreign investors who wished to domicile in the UK could invest in worthy causes such as historic building conservation.

The meeting seemed to be in favour of going for a full restoration and looking into the possibility of community use so at the end everyone was asked which of the 4 groups they wanted to join based on their particular expertise. Meetings of some groups have already been organised so the future of our lovely old Church looks more and more optimistic. Anyone who was unable to attend who wishes to get involved with one or other of the groups please contact Robert or Jane Helliwell 01440 820095.

Robert and Jane Helliwell



COUNTRY COOKING

with LOUISE MACKRILL

November sees a glut of veg that loves a bit of frost, hearty root veg is perfect with rich game meats & pears & apples are abundant.

At this time of year we need warming up with comfort food & maybe a little guilty pleasure or two, such as my chocolate & salted caramel mousse.

Roast pear & blue cheese souffle

Sweet roasted pears counterpoint the salty blue cheese in this savoury vegetarian souffle

Handful dried breadcrumbs

2 firm dessert pears, 1 peeled, 1 left unpeeled, both quartered, then halved

50g butter

2 tsp soft brown sugar

4 fresh thyme sprigs

Freshly ground black pepper

1½ tbsp plain flour

125ml whole milk, warmed

2 large free-range eggs, separated

75g creamy blue cheese (we used vegetarian stilton), crumbled

Sprinkle breadcrumbs into a greased baking dish, turning to coat the inside. Heat the oven to 200°C. Fry the pear slices with 25g of the butter, the sugar, a splash of water and the thyme. Bring to the boil, lower the heat & cook for 15-20 minutes or until soft and caramelised. Season with freshly ground black pepper. Set aside to cool a little. Meanwhile, heat the remaining butter in a pan until foaming, stir in the flour and cook for 3-4 minutes, stirring until it smells biscuity. Take the pan off the heat and beat in the warm milk until smooth. Simmer gently for 3-4 minutes, stirring until smooth and thick.

Remove the pan from the heat and mix in the egg yolks and half the blue cheese. Put half the pears (a mix of peeled and unpeeled) in the prepared dish.

In a clean mixing bowl, whisk the egg whites to medium-stiff peaks. Mix 1 tbsp of the egg white into the egg yolk mixture to loosen it, then gently but briskly fold in the remainder. Pour into the dish and top with the remaining cheese. Bake for 18-20 minutes until puffed up but with a slight wobble. Serve immediately.

Pork & apple sausage rolls

These are so easy & deliciously comforting, serve warm from the oven for a tasty supper

500g sausage meat

50g white onion, finely chopped

A good pinch of salt and pepper

5g ground black pepper

100g apple, roughly chopped

5g dried sage

300g puff pastry

Beaten egg

Place all the filling ingredients in a bowl and combine. Lay the pastry sheet on a worktop and cut in half lengthways. Place half the filling on the first half of the pastry sheet lengthways in an even line. Fold one half of the pas-

*Mmm.....
Delicious!*



try over the filling, wet the edge with a little water. Fold over the other half of the pastry and press down to seal. Repeat with the other half of pastry.

Cut into 6 even rolls, place on a lined tray and score the tops with a knife. Brush with the egg wash. Place in the oven at 170C for 30-35 minutes until golden and risen.

Chocolate & salted caramel mousse

Dessert in under 10 minutes? Yes please

140g Mars bars, chopped

340ml double cream, plus 60ml for the topping

A pinch of sea salt

120g condensed milk

A little dark chocolate to serve

Warm the mars bars gently in a pan with 40ml of cream, stirring constantly until melted into a thick sauce. Add a pinch of salt, stir then set aside. Combine the remaining 300ml of cream with condensed milk, whisk until thick but not stiff, fold in the melted chocolate & spoon into 4 glasses. Chill a few hours to set. Before serving whisk the 60ml cream until thick, spoon on top of each mousse & grate some dark chocolate over.

Home wanted for two lovely Silkie cockerels

Sadly due to a lack of space, two 4 month old Silkie cockerels are looking for new roosts to rule and a flock of hens to call their own. Happy to rehome individually. No fee, but new homes will be vetted first. Please contact Emma-Jane on 07931997213.



Jeff Fellowes'

As we move into Autumn the wines to drink will gradually increase in body, flavour and alcohol. A number of suggestions to consider. These four are from the Coop in Clare.

Les Cardinaux 2018 £9 (reduced by £1) 14.5%. Produced by Famille Perrin from the Rhône valley, whose wines are always well made, and this is no exception. Lots of wild berry fruit, lots of oomph, plenty to fill the mouth. Think stews for this one.

Baron de Ley Rioja reserva 2016 £10 13.5%. Another producer whose wines are worth buying. Also full bodied, with fruit, but dryer than the above. Ideal with roasts or mature cheeses.

Il Sarmiento. Nero Di Troia 2019 £6.50 13%. This is a light bodied fruity refreshing wine. Probably better chilled. Suitable for pizza and pasta.

Marques de Valido Gran Reserva 2012 £9 13%. A well balanced wine where the components have blended together to produce a soft taste on the palate. Very pleasing to drink with roasts, lamb, and hard cheeses.

I have mentioned previously that there are a number of Gran reserva and reserva wines on offer in supermarkets. They are not expensive and provide not only very good value but the chance to buy wines which have been allowed to mature, unlike the majority on the shelves. As an example I recently bought from Lidl a wine from Cahors, **La Caselle 2016** £ 7.50 12%. Quite tart



and acid which is not what to expect from Malbec, with Merlot. Put away overnight and when tried next was an altogether better wine. Rounded with fruit, little evidence of tannins but quite acceptable. Confit of Duck for this one.

Aldi have an increasing selection of better quality wines and here are a few.

Baron Amarillo Albariño Rias Baixas 2020 £7. From NW Spain on the Atlantic Coast. This is as good an Albariño as I have tasted. It



expresses the grape better than any others I have drunk. Dry and crisp on the palate and very refreshing. Of course to be enjoyed with any seafood. A bargain.

Roussane 2020 13% £7. From the Pays d'Oc. A white wine made from a grape synonymous with Southern Rhône. A much more elegant wine with a slightly nutty taste along with apricots and a flowery background. Also drink with seafood and cheese. **Baron Amarillo Gran Reserva Navarro 2015 13% £6.50.** Another good example of my comments above. Very obvious vanilla on the nose. Slightly spicy on the palate with lots of fruit to enjoy. Longish finish. Another bargain. Roasts and cheese.

Wine Press. It won't only be Electricity that we will be importing less of from France. After a series of bad frosts the prediction is of a 25-30% shortfall in the harvest, making this the smallest crop for decades. The Spanish wines listed above, and many others, should prove to be a very acceptable alternative. Best, Jeff

Well October has been a surprising month, which was busier than we expected, and all the instructions that came to the market selling swiftly and at good prices. As an office, here in Wickhambrook, we achieved 109% of asking prices in October, showing demand is strong for this time of year. From November the 7th this year we will be running our Christmas promotion, offering our clients a release to market day of 25th December, to make the most of some of the busiest days of traffic to Rightmove, Zoopla, On The Market and the other property portals we use. Boxing Day to the 29th December see a dramatic rise in people searching for new homes, so by releasing on Christmas Day, your property will show as a new instruction and right at the top of everyone's searches come Boxing Day. Last year this promotion was a great success, with all properties launched on Boxing Day, selling at asking price or over, by the 21st January. There are limited spaces available in this promotion, and if you are interested it is better to get involved prior to your festive decorations going up. Call the Wickhambrook office on 01440 979980, me directly on 07949 448428 (text or WhatsApp available), message us on Messenger (@Barry Passmore Estate Agents Wickhambrook), or email lee@barrypasmore.co.uk



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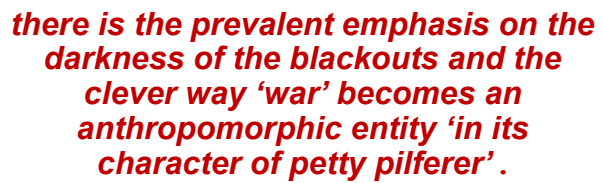
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The roles require a flexible, positive, 'can-do' attitude, tasks will also include:-

- making product entries with our listings on the web
- quality control, systems assembly and goods handling
- assisting with general office and sales related tasks

The qualities we are looking for are:-

Good communication skills, excellent English, accuracy, persistence, efficient, self-motivated and a flexible, positive and an enthusiastic attitude. Proficiency with MS Word and MS Excel are essential as is a full UK Driving Licence.

To apply, please email your CV to:

Bob Town

E-Mail: bob.town@gtvision.co.uk

GT Vision Ltd www.gtvision.co.uk





SMALLHOLDING by Fay Gridley

I finally won the battle of the red mite – with a gas burner. I tried pretty much everything including buying in predator Androlis mites, Jeyes fluid, lime, Dettol, poultry insecticide to name a few, I was faced with potentially



A mite
killer

burning the coops. Something a lot of fellow poultry keepers resorted to this damp year. However, I saw a comment on Facebook that suggested using a blowtorch to burn off any visible mites, which I did, but the blowtorch wasn't mighty enough, so I purchased a garden weed burner. Just 15 minutes with that and all sight of anything creepy crawly had gone. And no problems since. Phew! The chickens will be much happier. Red mite are nasty little mites that feed off chicken's blood over night while they are sleeping. The little bites

*Red mite are nasty little mites
that feed off chicken's blood over
night while they are sleeping.*

are uncomfortable for the hens, but with their rapid reproduction rates can easily kill a chicken when enough of them are feeding in one sitting.

Our new sheep have mingled in well with our existing ewe lambs and are growing well. The ewes themselves



have been divided up into groups and are now with their tups (entire male sheep). Changing the raddle colour used on the rams weekly will help us when lambing time comes to sort the ewes out into expected due dates. We have probably got enough breeding ewes to warrant scanning this year, if we can find someone who doesn't mind doing a small group, it will be useful to know who is carrying what. Not only for organising the correct level of feed to give the ewes, but it will also be useful to know when lambing has started – when we don't know how many they are carrying we spend a lot of time waiting for the placenta to arrive which indicates the mum has finished giving birth.

We have received some wonderful reports on the quality and flavour of our lamb this year. Being rare breed and pasture fed really does make all the difference.

The Pigs have now gone. A little earlier than we would have liked due to the time of year. Butchers need to get ready for the Christmas period which is naturally busy for them and therefore private

cutting jobs are not available during November and December, so end of October was booked in. The upside of this is we will have plentiful chipolatas perfect for the Christmas table!

Our local abattoir had no problems with booking the pigs in either, although they did tell me they have a shortage of butchers available. Not a problem to us as we typically use Humphrey's in Clare. However, there will be many farmers who will find that difficult to deal with.

Some of the cockerels I have reared this year are approaching 7 months old and are almost ready for the table, the females being sold to fellow Ixworth keepers new and old which has been lovely to do. Seeing our Ixworth's go to Jimmy's Farm in Ipswich as they start with this breed and to Farthings Farm at Wattisfield and Greenacres near Otley which has this year turned into a care farm, the breed is starting to spread across Suffolk not forgetting the hatching eggs posted across the country, all from our little flock here in Stansfield! Free Range, Rare Breed Norfolk Bronze Turkeys are now available to order for collection from Bayments Farm in Stansfield on December 23rd. A £20 deposit will secure your order; choose from a whole bird, crown or breast roll. Prices can be seen on Facebook [@riverglemsmallholders](#) or requested via email.

Where to buy our produce:

Horringer Farmers Market, 1st Saturday of the month (9:30am – 12:30)

Thurlow Homemade & Homegrown Market, 1st Sunday of the month (10am - 1pm)

Order via email – join our mailing list for our most up to date stock list.

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Free (covid safe) delivery within a 7mile radius of Stansfield. Or order and collect at any of the above markets.





Stansfield village hall news

Stansfield Village Hall News – November 2021 Village Hall Roof

As I write the new village hall roof is now in place and looking great, with only the guttering to be fitted. The builders managed to get the work done with minimum disruption for hall users while the hall remained open during the improvement work. A big thank you to everyone in the community that came together to help make this possible whether as individuals or groups, through donations or organising/attending fundraising events, we couldn't have done it without your help.

Last of the grant funding rolls in

Thanks to Jessica Martin Wells from Per-simmon Homes for travelling from Ips-wich to present a big cheque towards the roof fund to members of the village hall committee! (**See next page**)

Dates for Your Diary

Join us for two fabulous workshops for beginners led by Julie Ghirardani
Watercolour and Vintage Workshop – Saturday 13th November

Learn how to make cards, gift tags and pictures using watercolour paint and vintage lace. eventbrite.co.uk/e/watercolour-vintage-workshop-tickets-174723541817
Christmas Wreath Workshop – Satur-

day 11th December

Learn how to make a beautiful, luxury Christmas wreath to give as a gift or to decorate your home. eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-wreath-workshop-tickets-195805037137

Christmas Shopping Evening – Wednesday 24th November

6 to 8pm. A range of interesting stalls, Prize Draw, Refreshments, Mulled Wine, Bar.

Cleaner Wanted

Stansfield Village Hall, 3hrs a week, £10 per hour, phone 01284 789192 or email friends@stansfieldvillage.org.uk for more

Part-time Job Opportunity

Stansfield Parish Council is looking for someone to fulfil the role of **Clerk and RFO (Responsible Financial Officer)** to the Parish Council. This is a part-time post.

Hours: 4 hours a week plus attendance at 6 Parish Council meetings per year plus any planning meetings, if required.

Salary: in line with NJC salary scale and dependent on qualifications and experience.

To apply: please email a CV and covering letter to the Chair of Stanfield Parish Council, **Sarah Hopkins** shopkinsstansfieldpc@gmail.com

An informal phone discussion can be arranged if this would be helpful, or email the above address for more information. The successful candidate will have good information and numeracy skills, an ability to work independently and good IT skills, including a working knowledge of Word, Excel and Zoom. Experience of working as a parish clerk and RFO is preferred. However, training is available from SALC (Suffolk Association of Local Councils).

Christmas
Shopping
Evening



Wednesday 24th November

6 to 8 pm

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 In aid of Stansfield Village Hall, Reg Charity No: 304939



Christmas Wreath Workshop

Saturday 11th December

10am – 2pm

Stansfield Village Hall

£25 per person

Includes FREE PRIZE DRAW



Join Julie Ghirardani for this beginner's workshop and learn how to make a beautiful, luxury Christmas wreath to give as a gift or to decorate your home.

No previous experience required.

Materials and green foliage will be provided, but you are most welcome to bring any additional foliage or other items to add to your wreath.

Light refreshments provided.

Booking is in advance via 'eventbrite' - see address below:

eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-wreath-workshop-tickets-195805037137

If you have any questions about this event or for help with booking please ring 01284 789 192

In aid of Stansfield Village Hall – Charity No: 304939

GRAB A JAB!

Coronavirus cases are rising.....but anyone over the age of 12 is now eligible for vaccination. If you are over 16, you can get a vaccination from a walk-in centre, such as the excellent one at Chevington Close, Bury St Edmunds. So whether it's your first, second or booster, help stop the spread. Please don't put it off!

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Problem page

with Carol Reay-Glover



CAROL is a trained counsellor living locally who can offer advice on personal problems, such as relationships, divorce, child issues, employment, depression - or general worries. Email her in complete confidence at carolreay1@icloud.com

Dear Carol

I am struggling with feelings of being useless.

My son, who's in his 20s, has developed real mental health issues and suffers from depression. I don't want to break his confidence by saying too much but there has been drug use involved.

I have 3 children and everything seemed so fine. I just feel this must mean I've been a bad mother. I must have. Or he wouldn't have these problems would he? Then I worry I'm being selfish because that is me thinking about me. But if I'm honest these problems do make me feel terrible about myself.

C

Dear C,

I am sorry your son has these difficulties and being a parent can be so hard and throw up so many challenges.

You are obviously a caring, thoughtful mother and your reaction is blaming yourself. This ironically can give you a sense of control in a situation where you feel you have none. If it's you, you can solve it. But the truth is it isn't you. And bearing this alongside your son will feel very difficult and painful for you.

People suffer from mental health issues just as they do other health issues. It is

not your fault. You are not being selfish having these worries but try, if you can, and if your son talks to you, to hear where he is coming from; how he sees things.

It can be hard as a parent to bear the troubles of our children. We want to fix them, make them alright, take pain away, even have the pain ourselves instead. But showing your son that you can and will bear things with him, be there for him, will be so valuable. You will be, in your words, so useful.

I wish you well with this C and do bear in mind that there is support for you and your son should you need it.

Carol



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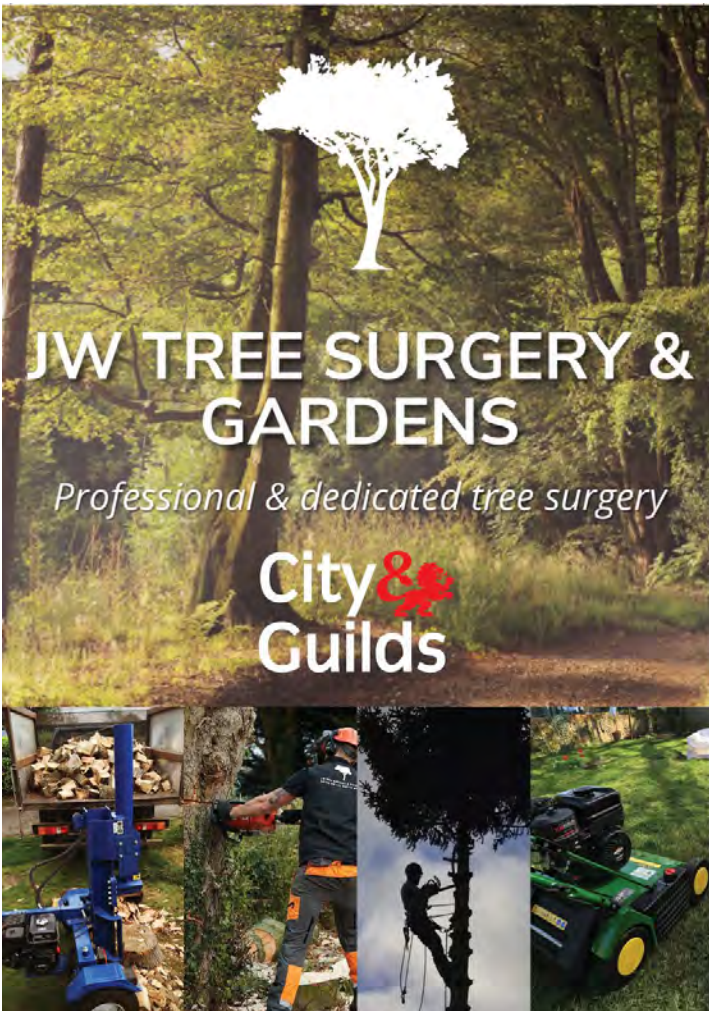
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Are you a Kinship Carer? - please read on



By Mary Cleaver

Financial Support for Kinship Carers

Sometimes when parents are unable to look after children it falls to the grandparents, or other family and friends carers to step in and help. These heroes are known as kinship carers. Frequently this is done on a voluntary basis so that minimal disruption is caused to the children and means they can avoid a confusing period in foster care. However the impact on the unofficially appointed foster carer might be considerable – perhaps an early retirement is now required, or reducing work hours is needed to enable a school run and the cost of raising children is not to be underestimated. The House of Commons library has released a briefing paper to explain what help **financial help** might be available for kinship carers from local authorities and/or the social security/tax credits systems.

If the Local Authority has had to step in for welfare reasons, they can only

place a child with a kinship carer if that person is also an approved foster carer. If you are in this fortunate position then you will be eligible for the National Minimum Fostering Allowance. If there is any other private arrangement in place, then Local Authorities are not obliged to provide financial assistance, despite this arrangement saving the public purse a fortune.

Kinship carers may apply to the courts for orders which provide legal recognition of a caring arrangement. Depending on the nature of the order, it may also confer parental responsibility for the child on the carer. Kinship, a national charity dedicated to supporting kinship carers advises: *Once you've got your Child Arrangements Order, there's no additional entitlement to support, although you will be able to claim Child Benefit and Child Tax Credits if applicable. Local authorities have the power to pay an allowance to a carer with a Child Arrangements Order. This is more likely to be paid if the child was previously looked after by the local authority, but even then there is no automatic entitlement.*

The Special Guardianship provisions were introduced by the Adoption and Children Act 2002 with the aim of allowing a child to be placed with a non-

parent with a degree of permanence greater than a residence order, but less final than full adoption. Like an adoptive parent, a special guardian has parental responsibility for the child. The Local Authority does have a duty to offer financial and other support services to Special Guardian and there is a complex set of regulations that define what can be paid and when.

For most kinship carers needing financial support then it might be possible for the Child Benefit to be transferred as it should be paid to the person with whom the child lives. Then it is worth looking at Child Tax Credits, some help via Housing Benefit and ultimately Universal Credit, however for each of these benefits a kinship carers means will affect eligibility and for any Universal Credit claim there is a two-child rule and the arrival of non-biological child can impact upon this such that there is an entire briefing paper on this point alone!

– despite the expense of raising children and the fact that by stepping in you are saving the public purse a fortune, kinship carers are unlikely to receive any additional financial help unless you can extract a discretionary payment from the local authority or can make a claim for Universal Credit.



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BY ROBIN SHARP

See you in 2022!



THEY THINK IT'S ALL OVER

The end of the cricket season always seems to creep up on players - and then, suddenly, it's all over. The final game was played on 26th September, the very last Sunday of the month (the latest final game in my memory). As so many games had been lost to unfriendly weather in August and early September, there was an underlying feeling of having been cheated of due cricketing time in the sun. But could Stansfield at least end the season on a cheerful, winning note?

Visitors for the final hurrah were our friends from Old Newton, who play most of their cricket at regional league level. Newton won the toss and chose to bat, in a 36 overs a-side contest. Sam Blows opened the bowling, partnered by debutant Satish Rayadurgam' another most welcome recruit from among the ranks of junior doctors at Ipswich Hospital, thanks to the persuasive ways of the good Dr Blows!

It was rather a case of 'doctor heal thyself', as Blows was a little out-of-sorts with his first two overs, the first costing 5 runs and the second a further 9, with no reward. Meanwhile, Satish was showing

runs. At the other, road end Satishe impressed, posting figures of 5 overs (including 1 maiden) for just 8 runs, and his quick and accurate arm dismissed Durham, run out. After 11 overs, the visitors' score was 35-3. Satish gave way to Akshaye Pratipati and he struck almost immediately, bowling Pennell for 4 with his fourth ball. Salmon followed in like fashion for 4 in Akshaye's fourth over (4 overs, 1 maiden, 2 wicket's for 7 runs). In between, Fred Guiry succeeded Blows and he sent obdurate opener Marsh back to the pavilion for a doughty

hoped) the last 'bring your own tea' was consumed. But SCC players know, from bitter past experience, that there's many a slip twixt teacup and lip in both respects

Wishing to make a game of it, Stone mixed up the batting order but the visitors bowlers did their bit to make it difficult for the hosts. After 10 overs, Stansfield had lost half their wickets (including Stone and Guiry for 0 and 5 respectively) for 39 runs - but were within 19 of their target.



**One of SCC's 'Doctors on Call'
– Satish Rayadurgam'**

his colleague how it should be done. His first two overs yielding just 1 run. Sam evidently looked and learned, for in his next three overs he accounted for Pettifor for 1 run, followed by Hines for 0, both bowled. Blows' final respectable figures were 6 overs, 1 maiden, 2 wickets for 22



SCC Stars of the Future – Louis Blows and Ollie Clayton Practise for the 2032 Season

20, bowled. At the close of the 18th over, Old Newton were 47-6. Enter Ed Lewis, equipped with a smart gizmo (courtesy of Blows) to keep his specs in place while bowling. Eureka - he could see! In just two overs he had accounted for two further wicket's for 3 runs. The writing was more than on the wall: Sharp took another wicket in his two overs for 6 runs; Clayton needed only 4 balls to remove the final batter for just 1 run. Newton all out for 57. Stansfield tails were up as (it is to be

In an emergency, call a doctor! Two, in this case. Akshaye and Satish powered SCC over the line, with Aks top-scoring, undefeated, with 24 runs, including two 6's and two 4's, with Satishe chipping-in with 4.

Stansfield had finished the season with a win by 5 wickets, a comfortable margin in the end. Both sides removed to the Hawkedon Queen's to mark the passing of another season in convivial and time-honoured fashion.

See you in 2022!

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Stansfield, Suffolk

Stradishall Cricket 1950's?



Photo of Stradishall Cricket team, I would guess early 1950's.

Terrance Hurst at the front, with John Prigg, George King, Arthur King and Roy Cutts behind him.

Back row includes Albert Hurst, Dennis Kiddy, Fred Cutts, Jack Cook and others.

Any ideas?

Many thanks, **Martin Hurst**

Any ideas to parish.pump@gmail.com