

THE MARLPIT

THE COMMUNITY PAPER FOR THE VILLAGES OF COLTISHALL,
HORSTEAD AND GREAT HAUTBOIS

www.themarpit.com



October 2005



October 2005

Monday 10 th	7.30 pm	Royal British Legion, Branch Meeting, Red Lion
Wednesday 12 th	7.30pm	Horstead with Stanninghall Parish Council, Meeting, Hayloft, Tithe Barn
Saturday 15 th	2.00 – 4.00	Jumble Sale, Tunstead Primary School, Market Street, Tunstead
Saturday 15 th	7.30pm	Bingo, Coltishall Village Hall, In aid of Coltishall Bowls Club
Saturday 15 th	7.00pm	The Salvation Army, Musical Concert by Norwich Mile Cross Songster Brigade
Sunday 16 th	11.00am & 3.00pm	The Salvation Army, Corps Anniversary, Led by Major Beth Maddern and Musical Party from Sheringham
Wednesday 19 th	7.30pm	Marlpit Editors’ Meeting
Wednesday 26 th to Friday 28 th	7.30pm	The Jubilee Players Present, ‘Talking Heads’ by Alan Bennett, Tithe Barn, Horstead

November 2005

Monday 7 th	7.30pm	Coltishall Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, Rectory Road, Coltishall
Saturday 12 th	11.30am	Table Top Sale, Horstead Tithe Barn
Wednesday 16 th	7.30pm	Marlpit Editors’ Meeting
Thursday 24 th	7.30pm	Coltishall Community Association, Annual General Meeting, Village Centre, Rectory Road

The Marlpit aims to produce a magazine as an informative communication of local news, events and articles. Articles are published in good faith and are not necessarily the opinion of the Editors. Any item submitted must have a contact name and telephone number for use by the Editors.

Non-Commercial Advertisements for Village Events, Interests & Activities. Advertisements are free of charge for one issue only. They will only be accepted if they fit a maximum of a ½ page and will be re-sized at the Editors’ discretion.

Articles for Sale - Personal and Domestic. Personal advertisements for local residents are free of charge for one issue only.

Front Cover Picture

Hats and Moustaches

Wanted

Deliverers for The Marlpit

Interested? Then please ring our Distribution Manager!!

Without all the people working behind the scenes The Marlpit could not be published!!



RAF Base

We're back after a summer break, fortified, rejuvenated and raring to go.

The prime topic for debate is (or should be) what happens to the RAF Base when it finally closes at the end of 2006. It is certainly no good leaving it until the last minute if you have any ideas as to what should happen. The powers that will decide this are considering the options now and they will not necessarily have the best interest of the local villagers at heart.

Apparently there are now 23 members on the Closure Task Force and the old saying of 'too many cooks' and 'spoil the broth' may well apply here.

If you have opinions as to what should happen then make them known now! Pass them on to the Marlpit and we'll make sure they are sent to the two local MP's on the 'Task Force'.

If you do or say nothing then you can have little room for complaint.

A letter within this Marlpit expresses the preference for retaining the useable houses and theatre block.

Your editor is also of the opinion that the many sporting facilities on the site at RAF Coltishall should somehow be retained for the use of the surrounding villages. These facilities include tennis courts, squash courts, gymnasium, swimming pool, all weather 5-a-side football pitch with spectator seating, 10 pin bowling alley (4 lanes), several football and rugby pitches. All of these would cost a fortune to build from scratch and would be beyond the wildest aspirations of any village but there they are, doing nothing after December 2006.

Surely it must be possible to form a group that can successfully run these facilities.

The Editors

* * * * *

Distribution Manager

The Marlpit needs a new to join the team of Editors. This important post only takes a small amount of time each month.

Ownership of a computer is an advantage, but not essential. For more information please call Catherine, our current Distribution Manager, on 01603 738933, or any Editor.

* * * * *

Brian and Hazel Bell

The Marlpit would like to thank both Brian and Hazel for their 21 years of unstinting hard work stapling, delivering and distributing the Marlpit. They were some of the first people to be involved and have hardly missed an issue. They have decided to retire after recently moving house.

We wish them all the very best for the future.

The Editors

* * * * *

New Deliverers Required

A new Deliverer is required to deliver 28 copies of the magazine in the Station Road area of the village.

We also need a new Bulk Deliverer, to help distribute the magazines, when they arrive back from the printers, to the individual deliverers. This is usually done on the last Thursday of each month, this really needs to be someone with a car.

Please contact Catherine Moorhouse on 01603 738933 if you are interested.

* * * * *

Lost Cat

We have not seen our 'Harvey' since Sunday 28th August. He is a light ginger male cat with no tail.

If you have any information please contact Sue and Michael Blackburn on 737495.

RAF Coltishall Closure

It is now over a year ago since it was announced that RAF Coltishall was to close in 2006. Villagers were invited to a public meeting at which we were assured by Norfolk County Council representatives that every effort would be made to minimise the economical effect of the closure by making early assessments of the most likely viable options and in the fullness of time these would be put out for public consultation. As nothing further has been published in the Marlpit I thought it might be useful for the benefit to its readers to publish the facts to date as I understand them.

After the initial meeting in the Village a 'RAF Coltishall and Neatishead Closure Task Force' was formed. At the last count there were some 23 members. Two MP's, Norman Lamb and Keith Simpson, two members of Coltishall and one member of Scottow Parish Council are Members; the rest are made up of a mix of County Councillors, MOD representatives, East of England Development Agencies and so on.

Until recently I was sent a copy of the minutes of the Task Force meetings but it has now been decided however, that the circulation of these minutes to other than Committee members did not come under the 'Freedom of Information' rules, but, as a matter of principle, they, the committee, did not feel that the minutes should be withheld from the public but they would, in the future, be summarised in a 'Newsletter format' and released to the media and other interested parties. July's newsletter for your information is as follows:

A fair summation I would say. What it does not tell, is the amount it cost to undertake the 'Economic Impact Study'; I believe it was tens of thousands. I also believe that the majority of the 350 houses on the base were sold in the eighties by the then government to Annington Homes for an average price in the region of £28,000 each. Although these houses will be put up for sale at a reasonable market price, they will not be at bargain basement prices and therefore unlikely to be of major benefit to first time buyers (unlike the sell-off of Council Houses). Barrack block housing for 700 is unlikely to be suitable for conversion into flats.

So it seems that the community will now have to wait until at least late this year, or early next, before we will be made aware of the 'preferred options'. I could, of course, have my facts wrong and if so I would appreciate being put right by our various electoral representatives

Somebody did suggest to me the other day that what we are seeing is a long term negotiating strategy by the Company running Norwich Airport and the County Council to move Norwich Airport to Coltishall, and free up building land on the existing site to ensure that new house builds come inline with current Government strategy, and that it would all be tied up with the proposed Northern Bypass. Don't be ridiculous. I said the Council and Airport Management have categorically stated in the press that this could not, would not, happen so it must be right. Their reply cannot be printed here.

I would like to know, via the Marlpit, what Villagers 'Preferred Options' wish list for RAF Coltishall would be. Mine? Well, except for the useable houses, and theatre block, knock the whole lot down and return it to agricultural land and keep any industrial developments, small or large, to true brown field sites in or on the fringes of towns/cities.

Colin Prentice

* * * * *

RAF Coltishall and RAF Neatishead Closure Task Group Newsletter, July 2005

Progress Report:

The Task Group looking at the closures of RAF Coltishall and RAF Neatishead has met to look at ways of minimising the effects of the closure on the local communities and the local economy.

Moves to close RAF Neatishead are well advanced and the RAF and Defence Estates have determined the minimum amount of land that the Ministry of Defence will need to retain. Defence Estates plan to dispose of the remainder of the site at the end of this year. RAF Coltishall will cease flying operations in March 2006 and the main site will close by the end of that year. Defence Estates are working very closely with the local planning authorities to put together re-development options and constraints brief and have provided some useful data in support of this process.

Following Parliamentary time secured by Mid-Norfolk MP Keith Simpson, to discuss the future of RAF Coltishall on 14 June, the MOD stated that they expect to make a decision by early autumn 2005, as to whether there is any other military use for the station. If no alternative military use is found, the site will be

offered to other government departments, who have 40 days to make their decision. The Task Group is hopeful of a decision from the MOD by the end of December 2005.

If neither military nor government departments decide to use the site, it will be put on the market and this process is expected to take circa six months. There will be a small enclave left until October 2007 containing the Jaguar flight simulator which would be too expensive to move for such a short period.

Norfolk County Council has provided two part time project management staff to work with the Task Group and they have been working with outside consultants to identify the likely impact on schools, businesses and the local communities.

An economic impact study has been carried out by Roger Tym & Partners and has concluded:

- Closure of the bases is likely to result in the annual loss of £21 million from the local economy; this is equivalent to the loss of over 400 full-time jobs in the local area
- Closure/drawdown of both bases is likely to have some adverse economic impacts on local businesses within Aylsham and North Walsham. Three quarters of businesses surveyed said that the RAF bases generated some impact on their business, with 90% of these stating that the closure/drawdown will have a further impact in terms of a loss of customers and trade.
- Four permanent businesses on the base will almost certainly be forced to close. However, part-time businesses should be able to seek trade elsewhere
- It is accepted by stakeholders that there needs to be a positive response to assist those that will lose jobs as a result of the closure/drawdown.

In response to this study, the East of England Development Agency (EEDA) held its first meeting under the Response to Redundancy (R2R) programme on 28 June which included representatives from Job Centre Plus, Learning Skills Council, Enterprise Services, Norfolk & Norwich Voluntary Services, Princes Trust, Business Link and district councils.

This group will be setting up job fairs to provide staff at RAF Coltishall with support and ideas for future careers and will be looking for further ways of expanding the skills of these staff. EEDA are also looking at ways of providing training and support to local businesses, thus helping them to remain competitive. The first event will be taking place at RAF Coltishall on 12 October.

County and District planners, together with the RAF and Defence Estates, will be doing the background work on the condition of different parts of the station, traffic surveys and so on, thus assembling base line information over the next three to four months. It will then be reviewed by the Task Group in October and the preferred options put out to public consultation. In addition, Norfolk County Council has also set up a small education team who are working with local schools' governors and headteachers to deal with the effects of the reducing school population.

For Further Information: Cyril Durrant, 01603 782546, Chair of the RAF Coltishall Closure Task Group, David Hayman, 01603 223289, Project Manager, Norfolk County Council.

* * * * *

MAGMA

Speeding Traffic



Well true to our word we have been in contact with the Police about the potential of community members monitoring speeding traffic through the villages. Simple task you might think but because we members live in a world that has changed so much during our life time, finding the correct source was a struggle between old age and reason versus modern communication technology and irrationality.

First task: find who to talk to, obviously a policeman, or policeperson to be PC, and who better, than Coltishall's Community Policeman. Problem; what's his/her name? Where is he/she based? How does the ordinary member of the community contact him/her?

Answer; with difficulty, even the Police HQ don't know if you don't know his/her name or where he/she is based. Yes we now know that the Parish Council knows, but, for heaven's sake, the Police are meant to be a service industry, not a very expensive secret service, only an opinion we MAGMA members hold, of course.

Result; PC Paterson based in Acle is the Community Policeman for the Villages of Coltishall, Horstead and Great Hautbois. Despite our efforts, we never met in person as he is so busy, so we have communicated via email only and to save you, dear reader, from geriatric verbosity, in conclusion we decided to tackle the whole policing problem as we see it via an initial series of questions and answers and these are published below.

Oh yes, and the question regarding speeding traffic? Well it's UP TO YOU NOW to give the man the answers he has asked for, but please do so via this first class publication; PC Paterson will/does receive a copy every month. Our hope is that this will result in a regular Marlpit 'Police Note Book' column.

As we in MAGMA now know, the effort required to edit, produce and distribute the Marlpit adds up to hundreds of 'person hours' every month. The best reward you can give these people is a proactive readership. However, MAGMA believes apathy rules this community, so go on, prove us wrong if you can!

Chairman Mature & Grumpy Men Association

PS. We did try and find out the dates and times that the Mobile Police Van would be visiting Coltishall in October and November for the benefit of readers, but at the time of going to press, the police did not know. Now why does that not surprise us?

1. What is your role as the Community Officer for Coltishall? Why are you stationed in Acle, surely North Walsham or Wroxham would be nearer? If people want to contact you how do they do it?

Coltishall is in Norfolk Constabulary's Eastern Area and forms part of Sector 3 which broadly follows the Broadland Council District area, which means that it is part of an area covering approximately 200 sq miles. The Sector is policed from stations in Acle and Aylsham and is broken down into 51 Parishes with each Parish having a dedicated Parish Officer.

As the Community Officer, or Parish Officer, for Coltishall I act mainly as a point of contact with the Parish Council and Parishioners. I have regular contact with the Parish Clerk and produce a regular report on crime figures and matters of interest which is produced at the Parish Meetings. As a dedicated Parish Officer I also hopefully have a better understanding/knowledge of the local area and its problems than I would if I were to attempt to do this across the entire Sector. I can be contacted either through the Parish Clerk, by phoning the non-emergency number 0845 456 4567 or by e-mail on patersons@norfolk.pnn.police.uk.



2. The general comment you hear in the village today is that you never see a Policeman in Coltishall, other than in a Car; true or false?. However, my understanding is that a community police van visits Coltishall on a regular basis; is this true? If so, what are the scheduled visits and where is it sited? What is its role? Does the scheme have benefits; if so; could you list them?

As you can appreciate from my previous answer, due to the size of the area I police, this can really only be done by car and I am 1 of 4 officers that are normally on duty at any one time within Sector 3 who are called upon to respond to any incident within this area. However, we do have a Mobile Police Office which, at present, visits Coltishall on an 8 weekly schedule. The vehicle currently parks in the car park adjacent to the Salvation Army building, just off the High Street, and, at present, it is sited there for 2 hours 15 minutes. 10.15am to 12.30pm, when visiting.

The visits are advertised and are posted to the Parish Clerks, in order that they can be displayed on village notice boards. That way, most villagers will be aware of the visits. Usually, there are two female Public Enquiry Staff in the vehicle and a Police Officer who will patrol the village on foot. The scheme has obvious benefits and is aimed mainly at 'reassurance', allowing the public access to the police on occasions other than when they have become a victim of crime.

It is the traditional face of policing, one which the public are always saying they want. They feel comfortable approaching and chatting to an officer on foot. All and sundry is discussed in conversations, which, of course, wouldn't be the case if the police attended for a purpose.

3. Speeding traffic through the village, Wroxham and the North Walsham roads in particular, is perceived to be a major problem. Very rarely do you see a speed camera, van or man, in action. How many times a month, on average, does the traffic speed get monitored on either of these roads?

Speed of traffic through Coltishall is not routinely monitored; Eastern Area Road Policing is a relatively

small unit and its speed enforcement activity is, by necessity, related to collision history. All injury collisions reported to the police are recorded on a database. Analysis of the database helps identify collision cluster sites, which, in turn, directs road policing activity through the selection of target patrol routes and cluster site attention.

Eastern Area Road Policing receive a large number of requests for attention at perceived speed locations from parishes across the Eastern Area. These are subject to further investigation through speed enforcement visits following which a decision is taken as to whether further enforcement action is required through a more sustained campaign or, alternatively, whether the site might benefit from an engineering solution. In the latter case referral is made to the Highways Agency or Norfolk County Council as appropriate.

With regard to the mobile speed cameras, I don't believe that the village is, in itself, one of the monitoring sites, although the Safety Camera Partnership, which is a distinct body from the police, can advise accordingly. Both the mobile and static cameras operated by the Partnership are sited where there is a specific collision history within a given time span.

However, as Parish Officer, and separate to the Eastern Area Road Policing Unit, I am trained in the use of an approved hand held radar device and, when not committed on other tasks, spend time, when I can, monitoring the traffic on those roads mentioned. I would, however, appreciate feedback from the Parish on when the problems seem worst and whether or not there are any regular offenders, including time of day and exact location. We rely heavily on letters of speed complaint to enable us to respond to the demand.

4. *There is a keen interest for villages to monitor traffic speed via their own camera, or one on loan from the police, as do other villages in East Anglia. Who do we contact to find out how to proceed with the enquiry?*

The Norfolk Constabulary policy is not to loan these devices, partly due to cost, but also due to the legal issues surrounding speed enforcement. Only a police officer may enforce the legislation on the highway, and only after an approved training course and for a specified distance/time span. In addition, Norfolk Constabulary only operate approved devices, of which there is a small number, that are regularly calibrated and certificated. Officers are also subject to/protected by health and safety at work regulations.

If parishes wish to purchase their own equipment, that is a matter for them. However, it is unlikely that Norfolk Constabulary would ordinarily take action as a consequence of their findings, for example, by contacting 'offenders'.

* * * * *

Thank You

Both Peter and I are so grateful for all the cards, gifts, visits, prayers and support from the many neighbours, friends, church, and organisations during my 5½ months marathon and life threatening illness in hospital. This helped keep up my morale during an extremely difficult and stressful period. It is wonderful to be home where your loving support has continued and my health is improving, albeit very slowly. We can never repay all the kindnesses and support shown to Peter from so many who cared for him and ensured he was well looked after during this anxious time. He much appreciated the friendship given, not to mention the delicious meals provided for him either in our home or with friends. The opportunity to talk about all the problems provided a much needed safety valve. Words seem so inadequate to fully express our feelings and gratitude. Thank you all so much from us both.

Margaret Montgomery 33 Kings Road, Coltishall

* * * * *

Once Again the Mead Gets the Blame!

Our telephones were busy on Saturday night, 20th August, not with bookings, but with complaints about loud music late at night. It seems that whenever the decibel levels rise, we get the blame. Our staff have been insulted and on one occasion even verbally threatened. We can quite understand that the villagers need their sleep or at least some peace, but next time there is a party in the village, either join in or at least ring the correct number.

We have contacted the police and the Environment Health Agency to set the record straight, unfounded complaints like these could affect our livelihood and the jobs of our staff.

Jill & Don Fleming

Coltishall Then and Now



Firstly I have to apologise to Julian for spelling his surname incorrectly in the last Marlpit; I still can't spell it correctly so we'll stick with first names for the time being.

On to last month's pictures; both still have plenty to be discovered about them, but Jean, who used to work at Coltishall Hall, filled in some of the gaps from the one on the front cover. Apparently, the motor engineer's shop used to look after Roys' delivery vans when Mr Lanes worked there; the house above was lived in by Mrs Abel and the shop to the right of the picture was later to become the site of Hunts and then Roys' Bakeries.

Nobody could tell me much about the picture showing the aftermath of the fire, but it was confirmed that the vehicle was the village fire engine and at one time it was kept at Fire Engine Yard which was roughly where The Central Garage now is. I'm still keen to learn more about the Fire Engine, so if anybody has any recollections, please get in touch.

Wesley Nicholls, from Horstead, emailed regarding his Grandfather who was a Butler at Coltishall Hall when the Reverend and Mrs Rogers owned it during the 20's and 30's. His name was Samuel Septimus Biggs, nicknamed 'Steam Ship Biggs'. I have to express my envy at a name like that; a life of adventure would surely accompany its owner. Wesley also mentions that the Hall was used by Italian and German POW's following the Second World War. I received a phone call from somebody else who could remember this and that after the war some of the Italians remained and were referred to as repatriated citizens.

I had a conversation with Jean who told me a good deal about the Hall, mentioning that the Rogers (who left the Playing Field in Rectory road to the village) went to Scotland before the war. During the war, The Royal Army Medical Corps, and possibly REME, commandeered the Hall. During this time, the grounds belonging to the Hall extended much further than they do now and would have contained High House and its neighbour. Jean also thinks her Father must have transported gangs of Italians and Germans to parts of the Village, where they worked on the Land. Following the War, the Harris family owned the Hall and turned it into a 34 bedroom guesthouse; Jean worked there as a Chambermaid, a Kitchen helper, a waitress and, finally, parting customers from their cash. Jean's Mum also worked there at one time. Jean left the Hall in 1968. During 1984, Pioneer Mutual (an Insurance Company) took over the Hall. Following this, the Hall became a Restaurant (see last Marlpit). Following this, the Grays took over the Hall and turned it into an Old Folks' Home; this closed a few years ago. Which just about brings us up to the present time. Jean told me a lot more about the Hall, but having already sailed past the 400 words I aim for, I must move on to this month's pictures.

This month, I have used two pictures featuring people, the one on the front cover was taken outside the White Horse (now Bridge House) in 1913, the one above is of Coltishall ARP during WW2 (provided by Fred Bruce). Can anybody put names to any of the faces or tell me what the event was in the cover picture?

Please keep the information, pictures and letters coming. As usual I can be contacted at 01603 738361 or info@hedgesbandb.co.uk or The Hedges, Tunstead Road Coltishall NR12 7AL.

David Alexander

Growing Up With Ben

Where to go for the Summer Holiday? The intention was to have 2 weeks in France but there never seemed to be any time to arrange the transport / ferry / accommodation or to decide where to go in France. Finally, and in desperation, we opted for 2 weeks in Cyprus in a villa with its own swimming pool. France had to wait. The benefits of flying direct to Cyprus from Norwich Airport far exceeded the thoughts of the drive / ferry / drive to France. The villa was easily arranged via e-mails with an English lady called Heather who was married to a Greek Cypriot who managed a number of villas. We were not even daunted by a late change of villa, especially when the air-conditioning was then included free of charge.

There were 6 in our party - myself, Julie and Ben and my son Gavin, his wife Ali and their daughter Anja. Gavin is a reluctant flier and it took a number of drinks at Norwich Airport to get him on the plane. (More alert readers, who also read the Evening News, may also make the connection between Gavin Douglass and a recent EEN article re 'Barney over the Rubble' . . . but maybe more about that later).

The flight was great, the hire car awaited us at the airport, the directions to the villa were excellent and we arrived with the usual apprehension that you would feel, having booked something over the Internet. No need to worry, Heather was there to welcome us, to make sure that everything was up to standard and to offer a cup of tea and cold drinks for the children. Certainly a good start.

There could be no complaints about the accommodation; the villa was large and well furnished, with a fully equipped kitchen with 2 fridge freezers. The pool? Well the children wasted no time in testing this out and it received a thumbs up.

We were situated in a quiet residential area 3 minutes drive from the village of Tala. It was in Tala, on the first night, that we first met 'the Donkey Man'. We had ordered our meal from a restaurant and were awaiting the food, which, as anyone who has been to Greece knows, can take some time. We sat outside, as the evening temperatures were equivalent to our summer days, and our attention was caught by a small stall with some wine and fruit, and a few chairs in front, with people drinking wine. Gavin and I decided to 'check it out'. It turned out that the guy on the 'stall' used to own the restaurant but then sold it on the condition he was allowed to run this stall from a small room attached to the restaurant. This wine was 'free' . . . 'no charge!' but you were invited to give small donations to his donkey farm (hence our nickname for him, Donkey Man or Don Quixote . . . his real name was not pronounceable . . . well, certainly not after some of his wine). The wine (red) was excellent and we had consumed 2 glasses each and made generous donations to the donkeys when he brought out what is best described as 'schnapps', since it was a clear spirit. You ate a few grapes then tipped this clear liquid back in one. Meanwhile, the children had joined us and they had been given apricots, grapes and cherries. This left the ladies at our dinner table and we had yet to eat. At last our meal was ready and we returned to our restaurant table to eat. This routine, more or less, set the pattern for most of the evenings in Tala.

Now you cannot go abroad without doing at least one 'tourist' trip. However, it was difficult, given the continuous and hot sunshine and the numerous excellent beaches, to raise enthusiasm for such a trip. Eventually we consulted our neighbour from the adjacent villa. She had lived in Cyprus for several years and she assured us that if you were only going to see one tourist attraction on Cyprus then it had to be the 'Mosaics'. Decision made, mosaics it was.

There were howls of protest from Ben and Anja . . . it was too hot to walk about looking at old ruins (I hope they meant the Mosaics). They were right in respect of the temperature. We arrived there at midday, when only mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the sun. Most of the viewing involved walking between buildings but I have to say that the historic Mosaics were well worth seeing - children disagreed of course.

For Ben and Anja far more fun was to be had on the boat trip on the Jolly Roger. This trip took up most of one day leaving from Paphos harbour and involved, as you might expect, pirates. The trip took you to Coral Bay where we anchored and you had the opportunity to swim in the sea from the boat. The sea was truly turquoise in colour and who could resist the swim? There was also a pirate 'plank' from which to walk off into the sea and Ben 'walked the plank' several times. An excellent lunch was served on board after the swim followed by face painting for the children (pirate faces only) and a magic show. Towards the end of the trip there were competitions for the adults including dressing your partner as a mummy, using toilet rolls. Only 4 couples entered this and with a bottle of champagne as the prize we were in with a good chance of winning as we were two of the couples. Despite being a nurse Julie's efforts at bandaging me all over failed miserably (she said I was a bad patient); however, our second string of Gavin and Ali showed greater determination and skill to take the prize (which we all enjoyed later).

What Julie didn't tell me was that in the course of this game I had a piece of the toilet roll sticking out of the back of my shorts, and this piece she failed to remove when the game ended. When we eventually disembarked and walked up and down Paphos Harbour, I was the subject of much amusement, giggling and pointing until somebody took pity on me (not Julie) and told me of the unfortunate 'indiscretion'.

Whilst there were certainly many more 'events' during our holiday, I am mentally reminded by Sid (who puts the magazine together) that space is restricted and I must end with assurances that a 2 week villa holiday in Cyprus is truly excellent.

Ps. Just a quick note. At school the other day, Ben had to compose a story of 26 words using words starting with the letters of the alphabet in the order that they appear in the alphabet. I tried it . . . it's not easy. If you have the time, then please try it and we'll publish the best efforts.

MD

* * * * *

The Ashes

After the most exciting cricket series in living memory, England won back the Ashes. It was a nail-biting series in which both Australia and England played hard, fair and with great sportsmanship. Many theories have been put forward as to why England finally triumphed; better preparation, age of the Aussie team, umpiring decisions, etc. However, it is quite obvious to me, as local cricket correspondent, why the Aussies didn't win. They picked the wrong team! None of this year's tourists should have played because all the best players were left down under.

Here follows the Australian cricket squad that should have retained the Ashes this summer:



Dan Berra - a capital player, left hand opening bat;
Sidney Harbour - right hand opening bat, steady as a rock;
Batting at No 3 and captain for the series - the great Barry Reef;
At No 4 the hard hitting Walter Matilda - it's said he hit a six one-handed at the WACA - he had a guitar in the other hand;
Lee Mantle at No 5 scores most of his runs in the afternoon when a breeze gets up;
No 6 and the wicket keeper is the Wally Swagman who catches, snatches and dispatches batsmen from all sides of the wicket;
Vinnie Bear - all rounder because of his shape and can bat as well as bowl;
Mel Bourne - great swing bowler - makes Merve the Swerve look like a straight man;
Baz Mania - a devil of a bowler from an island south of Melbourne;
Karl Goorlie - bowls the boulder, the fastest delivery ever. It's said that the snickometer registers a catch before the ball leaves Karl's hand - the keeper wears asbestos gloves;
Billy Bong - greatest spin bowler in the world. Only player to perfect the boomerang delivery which goes past the stumps and hits them on the way back - the wicket keeper stands in front of the batsman.

So, Aussie selectors, take note - in about eighteen months - you'd better get it right.

On a sad note, we should apologise to our Aussie friends for the over officious way they were refused entry to the Royal Albert Hall and Hyde Park last Saturday night. However, the last night of the Poms and Pams in the Park went very well.

Richard Your sporting correspondent.

* * * * *

Get Equipped 2005

By the time you read this we will hopefully have collected the 2000 minimum EDP tokens needed for Coltishall Primary School to be eligible for at least a share of the £10,000 being split equally between schools in Norfolk and, possibly, one of five £3,000 prizes. The cash is to be spent on sports equipment.

To those who collected tokens . . . many thanks.

Each school has also to tell, in 200 - 250 words why they think that their school should win. This task has been passed to Chris Jones, head teacher at Coltishall School, to delegate to selected pupils.

We will keep you informed of the School's progress in this competition.

Help!!!

1st Coltishall Guides desperately need a Guide Leader for their village unit. Some Guiding or teen/youth group experience helpful, but not essential.



Unfortunately 1st Coltishall Guides are without a Guide Leader. On a temporary basis, Verity Alexander and Jo McDougal have agreed to continue running the Guide Unit until Christmas. Due to family and business commitments they cannot continue to organise activities and meetings for the girls after that point, but are willing to help whoever would be taking on running the Guide Unit. If no leader is found then the unit will have to be suspended.

So if you would like to see Guiding continue in Coltishall, and you fancy taking on a small village unit, or even if you know of any one, please contact Verity or Jo on the telephone numbers below.

We meet on a Thursday evening from 7.30 until 9.00pm at Coltishall Primary School.

Verity Alexander 01603 738983

Jo McDougal 01692 535853

* * * * *

Play Revue

'My Sister Sadie' by Alan Ackbourn

Performed by the Jubilee Players in the Tithe Barn Horstead Wednesday 20th to Friday 22nd of July 2005.

Is this play a comedy, is it a drama, is it a mystery or science fiction? My conclusion is that it combines all these aspects and, as such, makes it an outstanding Ackbourn play. What's more, it is the first time it has ever been performed by an amateur company in the UK. For that achievement congratulations must go to Gay Lloyd for having the determination to produce it. To do so, she had to contact the author directly to obtain his permission. A theatrical premier in Horstead; well done indeed.

It's certainly not a typical Ackbourn play; there were plenty of laughs but also, throughout, an air of mystery and uncertainty. The combination ensures your concentration throughout.

The production was in the round, the use of a cleverly constructed set and the utilization of both sound and lights, to maximise theatrical effects was impressive.

A brief synopsis for those who missed it is that Luke and his mother Avril eke out an existence tending their run down farm in a remote part of England. They both miss Luke's sister June who was tragically killed in an accident; they would give anything to have her back with them. Late one night a helicopter crashes near by and explodes in a ball of fire; can it be possible that she arises, Phoenix-like, from the ashes? Is she who she appears to be and, if so, why are the army, government and police so determined to find her?

The wistful, and consequently naïve, mother was very convincingly played by Ros Chamberlin.

Brother Luke, and his sister, 'reincarnate' Sadie, were played by the genuine brother and sister pairing of Tom and Sarah Phillips. They gave truly memorable performances that captivated the audience, vacillating as they did between the heights of humour and lows of tragedy.

Another believable pairing, and all the more enjoyable because of it, was that of Brian Lloyd as the upper crust Captain Leonard Lennox and Neil Phillips as the long suffering Sergeant Jipton, great character acting by both of them.

Few of us like interfering government officialdom and Cynthia Gosling did little to change our minds through her convincing portrayal of crash investigator/secret service scientist Dr Thora Grayling.

Lisa, Luke's attractive but feisty girlfriend was excellently portrayed by Anna Wills, a welcome newcomer to the Jubilee Players.

All these actors were supported by an excellent team of 'behind the scenes' personnel without whom there would have been no play for us to enjoy so a very appreciative 'thank you' to them all.

If you missed this play and were 'at home' during the run then you missed a treat and my recommendation to you all is 'don't to miss their next production in October'

CP

Coltishall Parish Council

Extract from Minutes of Meeting held in the Village Hall 5th September 2005



Play Equipment: Work will be undertaken soon to make essential repairs.

Broads Authority: There are no plans to dredge the upstream side of the moorings, despite local concerns about silting.

Police Report: Two reported crimes, one criminal damage to a vehicle, and one arson to a wheelie bin. There were 40 phone calls relating to Coltishall, and two minor traffic accidents. Contact is PC Steve Paterson on 0845 456 4567 or e-mail on patersons@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

Parking: Parking on the footpath in front of the fish and chip shop continues to be a problem, and is a potential accident site. The Police have been asked for assistance.

War Memorial: A request was made for the memorial to be cleaned. However, it is of Portland stone, and the conservation officer at Broadland DC advised that it could be damaged by pressure-washing, and would be better cleaned by hand. It has therefore been decided that councillors will themselves clean it on Saturday 1st October – all offers of help gratefully accepted! It will then be re-pointed.

Footpaths: Overhanging trees on Hautbois Road remain a problem, as is the Station Road footpath. It is hoped that Highways will soon attend to them. A new request is to be made to Highways for a footpath at the top of Rectory Road, as there are concerns about pedestrian safety following the building of new homes in Ling Way.

Village Hall: A new footpath, compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act, is to be constructed to replace the old one.

Next Meeting: Monday, 7th November 2005 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

* * * * *

Coltishall and Horstead WI



Our Annual Garden Party was held on 24th August 2005. The weather was most unkind but the ambiance within the home of Mrs Jean King was simply lovely. She very kindly offered her home for all the WI to enjoy. We were also treated to a cream tea Norfolk Style. How lucky was that? We were unable to enjoy her garden this time but the location is such a delight. We went home very happy and very full! Thank you, Jean, for a 'Garden Party' to remember.

This event always seems to be the end of summer, but we are already organizing next year's calendar and speakers are already booked. If you would like to join this group our meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Church Rooms, Coltishall. We really want new members, especially younger ladies with new ideas to keep the old-uns on their toes!

Chris Hubbard

* * * * *

Coltishall Community Association

Registered Charity Number 295788

The Annual General Meeting of the CCA will be held on Thursday 24th November 2005 at the Village Centre, Rectory Road at 7.30pm.

This will be an important meeting at which the future of the charity, which is responsible for the management of the Village Centre and the Playing Fields, will be discussed. All those who are interested in these community facilities are invited to attend and take part in the discussion.

Ray Thompson Chairman

**Extract from Minutes of Meeting of Horstead with Stanninghall Parish Council
Held in the Tithe Barn on Wednesday 14th September 2005**

Highway Matters - B1150 / B1354 Junction: Following a letter from the Highway's Authority, it was agreed by the council, to once again write to express concern, both at the speed of traffic on Norwich Road and the congestion experienced at the Mill Road entrance to this junction. It was feared the impending development of Randell's site would greatly aggravate this situation in the future.

Highway Matters - Parking - Glebe Way: Notification had been received from Wherry Housing Association to the effect -Residents had not been allocated preferential parking in the 'Horse Shoe Area' in front of Nos. 3 - 19. The Tenancies did not cover or authorise such a practice, and the parking spaces had to operate on a 'first come first serve' basis.

RAF Coltishall: A formal communication had been received concerning the closure of RAF Coltishall, and details of the final run-down. Flying operations will cease in March 2006 and the main site will close by the end of that year. There will be a small enclave left until October 2007 containing the Jaguar Flight Simulator which would be too expensive to move for such a short period.

Street Numbering, Norwich Road: Following the receipt of a petition regarding the numbering of properties on Norwich Road, it was agreed to forward the document to Broadland District Council for consideration of re-introducing the scheme, not implemented a few years ago. It is anticipated there will be full public consultation before any action is taken, but, the introduction of numbers etc., would greatly assist all the public utility services in their operation.

Amenity Skip: This has been arranged for the week ending 1st and 2nd October in the lay-by at Rectory Road, Horstead. Parishioners are requested not to leave rubbish on the ground until the skip arrives or when it is full.

Police Report: From 1st July - 31st August 2005 there had been two reports of criminal damage to vehicles - 3 road traffic collisions with one damage and two slight injury. There had been 27 calls from residents covering various matters or incidents.

To contact PC Patterson, Phone 0845 4564567, Fax 01493 333160. E-mail paterson@norfolk.pnn.police.uk.
See details of seat belt campaign elsewhere in this edition of Marlpit.

Mill: The council noted that the Insurance company had agreed to cover recent damage to the brick pillars at the mill after an original refusal. There had also been two complaints from the public concerning the slippery surface of the portage way in wet weather, and the uneven surface of the meadow, near the 'weed extraction point'. The former had been reported to the Broads Authority for advise and the latter had been reported to the Environment Agency, as the land at this particular point, belongs to them.

Planning Applications:

Application No. 20051226 The Horstead Centre, Rectory Road, Horstead.

Erection of Dayroom for Store / Shower / WC / Activities. The Council agreed to object to the application on the following grounds: The design, shape and position of the proposed building was inappropriate to the area, being in front of the building line of the main centre and adjoining properties. This application now goes to Broadland District Council for consideration.

Broadland District Council had approved:

1. Wroxham Home Farms Agricultural Hard Standing, Frettenham Road.
2. Mr & Mrs J Miller Replacement single storey rear and two storey side extension.
 1, Alexander Villas, Norwich Road

Interviews for the position of Parish Clerk: It was agreed by the council to formally interview the applicants by the end of the month, which would enable the successful person appointed to work for a period with the current clerk who is retiring in April 2006.

TARMAC: The council understands the above appeal will be held on 13th, 14th, and 15th December 2005 in the Tithe Barn, Rectory Road, Horstead. This has yet to be confirmed by H.M. Inspector in writing.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 12th October, Hayloft, Tithe Barn, 7.30pm.

Crime Report

I have produced this report in relation to the crime figures that have occurred within the Parish of Horstead with Stanninghall since my last parish report in July. These figures cover from 1st July 2005 to 31st August 2005 inclusive).

During this period there were 2 reported crimes. 2 reports of Criminal Damage (to vehicles).

We received in total 27 calls from the public (covering various incidents) and attended 3 Road Traffic Collisions (1 Damage only - 2 slight injury).

Please can the Parish also be aware that a month long seatbelt campaign is underway. The county-wide enforcement campaign is aimed at reducing the number of injuries on our roads by reinforcing the importance of wearing seatbelts.



People must remember that they not only face a fine of £30 for not wearing a seatbelt, but run the risk of suffering long term injury. The penalties include life-long disfigurement, loss of limbs, disability and mental scars that may never leave you. All this for not wearing a seatbelt. Everyone needs to ask themselves is it really worth it?

In the first week of the campaign almost 200 fixed penalty notices had been issued throughout the county and 76 people had received verbal warnings.

With children going back to school this month the campaign is a timely reminder for parents to ensure that children are properly restrained in cars. 90% of injuries to children in vehicles could be avoided if child restraints and seat belts were used correctly.

If there are any other issues that local residents feel need to be addressed by Police within the Parish, for example traffic speed or parking, I would as that they express their opinions either to the parish council or direct to me.

Should you wish to contact me I can be reached at Acle Police Station either by phone on 0845 456 4567, by fax on 01493 333160 by e-mail on patersons@norfolk.pnn.police.uk.

Weekend Skip Service for Excess Household Refuse

The Parish Council has arranged for a skip, through Broadland District Council, at Tithe Barn Lay-by, Rectory Road, Horstead. 1st – 2nd October 2005

- Please do not place excess refuse next to the skip.
- Please place all recyclables in the nearest recycling bank.
- It is emphasised the council will only take household refuse.
- It will not take commercial/trade refuse, garden waste, containers of liquid, metal/steel objects and asbestos.



For further locations telephone the Refuse Careline 01603 430534

Real Broads Anglers Follow the Code



Six Handy Hints

1. In boats, always wear a life jacket.
2. Do not drop litter or discard fishing hooks and lines.
3. Do not tow fish in keepnets behind boats.
4. Always wet your hands before handling fish.
5. Never leave baited rods unattended.
6. All rivers and broads are closed to fishing from 15th March to 15th June

News From the Post Office



What a strange summer it's been! Weather forecasters might look back at their records of average temperatures, but my tills tell the story just as well. All I need to do is look at ice cream sales to tell how hot and sunny it's been. 2003 was a great summer, with good sales from May onwards and massive in August. Last year was okay to start with but poor from July onwards. This year, May and July were terrible, June and August were average but, so far, September has been very good. Unfortunately, the only forecast I can give you is that we won't sell much ice cream in December!

So much for the summer - with October here we have to start thinking about Christmas. I'm not a fan of filling the shop with Christmas goods from September onwards and try to resist as long as I can. I actually have to order a lot of Christmas cards and chocolates as early as May, which is always a bit of a shock, and those will start arriving soon, but I promise not to put up Christmas lights until November!

Talking of Christmas, if you want to send large parcels abroad by surface mail, now is the time to do it. Recommended last posting date for Australia, New Zealand, South and Central America, Caribbean, Asia and Africa (except South Africa) is 3rd October. Far East and Middle East: 14th October; Hong Kong, Singapore, South Africa, Canada and USA by 28th October. Of course dates for international airmail and surface mail to Europe are much later (mostly into December), but if you are sending anything over 2kg it will be a lot cheaper using surface mail.

The Post Office are continuing to launch new financial products and have just announced a Post Office Credit Card with a unique feature which lets you transfer certain large purchases to a lower rate of interest. I can't tell you too much about it here, but if you are interested ask us for more details. The Post Office Home Phone service has just announced new lower line rental rates which are cheaper than BT. You still only get one bill and you can keep any other services you get from BT (like call waiting or diversion). Also switching to Post Office Home Phone doesn't affect broadband service if you have it. Ask us for more details of how you might be able to save money.

Finally, I am looking for someone to deliver newspapers around Ling Common in the mornings, Monday to Saturday. News deliverers must be over 13, but the round may also suit someone older who likes to get out for some exercise in the mornings. It takes around 30 minutes most days and we deliver the papers to your doorstep. Please contact me for more details on 737277 or call in at the shop.

Steve Haines Subpostmaster Email: steve@unilake.co.uk

Christmas

Now that the summer is over, we must turn our thoughts to Christmas (oh yes we must, I'm afraid!!).

Feel better about it all by being more conscientious about your gifts, cards and wrapping paper. Unusual and often very reasonably-priced gifts can be obtained from fair trade organisations such as Traidcraft, Oxfam and Friends of the Earth.

It is a fact that in Britain we spend £500million each year on unwanted gifts, so why not do something really inspired and brighten up someone's life with a gift they'll never forget. World Vision and Oxfam have gifts ranging from mosquito nets and fruit trees (£5 each), to family cook sets (£12) and chickens (£20 for four), and even orchards (£120) and shelters (£170). These are sent to people who desperately need them in Third World countries. Your friend/relative gets a personalised card and certificate which is guaranteed to make him or her smile!



Don't forget to buy cards and wrapping paper which is either recycled, recyclable or from managed forests.

D'you start to get the 'feel good factor' already? Yes, this way, we, our poorer friends and neighbours and the poor old Earth can all have a Good Christmas! Here are some links to get you started:

www.traidcraftshop.co.uk Tel: 0870 443 1017

www.worldvision.org.uk Tel: 0845 600 6446

www.getethical.com Tel: 020 7419 7258

www.foe.org.uk (Friends of the Earth) Tel: 020 7490 1555

www.oxfam.org.uk Tel: 0870 333 2700

www.farmafrica.org.uk

www.fairtrade.org.uk Tel: 020 7405 5942

Eco-Warrior

DAISY

I regret that I am unable to take anymore gifts of unwanted clothing etc for the rest of this year. Hopefully, I will be able to continue my collecting for the needy in Romania next spring and I thank you all for your contributions in the last year or so, which must total at least a couple of tons.

Alan Groves

* * * * *



The King is dead - long live the King! We pass from one Alan to another. Fresh from 'My Sister Sadie', which I thoroughly enjoyed, the Players move onto Alan Bennett's 'Talking Heads'. Not all of them I hasten to add or it would be a long evening indeed. Our director, Libby Henshaw, has chosen three of these beautifully written pieces to be performed on the evenings of Wednesday 26th, Thursday 27th and Friday 28th October 2005. 'Soldiering On', 'Her Big Chance' and 'A Chip in the Sugar'. Auditions have been held and the chosen three have been spotted clutching their scripts in awe and heading off to attempt to learn pages of dialogue. My husband glanced through the pages and was heard to mutter 'I'd rather have an enema!' Believe me at times the two are somewhat similar experiences! So before I get lost in the enormity of the task here is some light relief to, hopefully, make you smile. . .

Dear Technical Support

18 months ago I upgraded to Girlfriend 1.0 from DrinkingMates 4.2, which I had used for years without any trouble. However, there are conflicts between these two products and the only solution was to try to run Girlfriend 1.0 with the sound turned off. To make matters worse, Girlfriend 1.0 is incompatible with several other applications, such as LadsNightOut 3.1, Football 4.5 and Playboy 6.9. Successive versions of Girlfriend proved no better.

I tried a shareware programme, Slapper 2.1 but it had many bugs and left a virus in my system, forcing me to shut down completely for several weeks. Eventually, I tried to run Girlfriend 1.2 and Girlfriend 1.0 at the same time only to discover that when the two systems detected each other they caused severe damage to my hardware.

I eventually upgraded to Fiancee 1.0 only to discover that this product soon had to be upgraded to Wife 1.0. While wife 1.0 tends to use up all my available resources, it does come bundled with FreeSexPlus and CleanHouse2005. Shortly after this upgrade, however, I found that Wife 1.0 could be very unstable and costly to run. Any mistakes I made were automatically stored in Wife 1.0's memory and could not be deleted. They then resurfaced months later when I had forgotten about them. Wife 1.0 also has an automatic Diary, Explorer and E-mail filter and can, without warning, launch TurboStrop and Multi-Whinge. These latter products have no Help files, and I have to try to guess what the problem is.

Additional problems are that Wife 1.0 needs updating regularly, requiring ShoeShop Browser for new attachments and Hairstyle Express which needs to be reinstalled every other week. Also, when Wife 1.0 attaches itself to my Saab 93 convertible hard drive, it often crashes. Wife 1.0 also comes with an irritating pop up called Mother-in-Law, which can't be turned off. Recently I've been tempted to install Mistress 2003, but there could be problems. A friend of mine has alerted me to the fact that if Wife 1.0 detects Mistress 2003 it tends to delete all of your money before uninstalling itself. Help requested please.

Wizz Fairhurst 01603 261415

* * * * *

Colt Jags Football Club

The new season is underway and we have teams playing on the cricket field and the football field most Saturdays and Sundays. It would be great if some local support was available to cheer them on when they are playing.

There are now some 70 boys and girls registered with the club but there is still room for any other interested players, particularly in the Under 9 and U11 age group. We will shortly achieve Football Association Charter Standard and we currently have 5 F.A. Level One football coaches.

Report of the Meeting of Coltishall & District Branch Royal British Legion

Held on Monday 12th September 2005 At the Red Lion Public House



The Chairman, Mr Bob Jennings, took the opening and Exaltation. There were 8 members in attendance.

The following events are planned in the County for the rest of this year where everyone is very welcome to attend. Please contact Bob for further details:

15th October - Edith Cavell Service. This will take place at Norwich Cathedral commencing at 11.00am and everyone is welcome.

29th October - Poppy Appeal starts with house to house collections.

30th October - Norfolk County Festival of Remembrance will be held at Cromer Pavilion, Cromer Pier. Tickets are £7.50 with all profits to the Poppy Appeal. The evening will start at 7.00pm prompt. The show will include Michelle Summers, Les Wilson, the Cliftonville Singers and the Marlene School of Dancing. The show will conclude with the parade of Legion Standards and a short service. Parking has been arranged for disabled drivers on the promenade.

11th November - Remembrance Service at Coltishall memorial. All are welcome.

13th November - Remembrance Sunday with a short service at Horstead memorial at 10.30am and service and parade from Coltishall Church at 3.00pm.

The next Branch meeting, in the Red Lion, will be on Monday 10th October. All members or potential members are very welcome.

Now might be a good time to ask for help from the readers of the Marlpit.

Poppy Appeal Collectors: Do you have an hour or two to help those less fortunate than others? Well the Branch needs your help in selling Poppies door to door. If you feel that you can help this wonderful Appeal please ring Bob on 738335

* * * * *

News From the Bell Tower



During the summer months we had several visitors wanting to ring with us at St John's. The first was a Mrs Jackie Straker who came from Stoke Climstand in Cornwall. They apparently only do rounds and call changes down there, so she enjoyed watching us ring various methods. The next visitors were seven ex-Cambridge University gentlemen. Each year about fifty of them meet up at a chosen destination, this year being Norfolk, and ring in as many churches as they can. One came from Guildford and used to ring at West Minster Abbey! Another from Sweden, and one had travelled from Antarctica, where he had been working, so wherever they happen to be, they all meet up once a year to ring together. Needless to say, they could ring just about any method mentioned and were a great help to us on our practise night.

Our coffee morning in aid of the Bell Tower Fund, on Saturday 3rd September, raised £222.22p (we added the two pence to make it 'All the Two's') and we would like to thank all the helpers who made this possible. The stalls really looked great and were packed to capacity, as well as all the raffle prizes. Many thanks once more for all your support; we couldn't have done it without you.

Whilst reading 'The Ringing World' I came across this letter and thought I must pass it on to you. Quote: Recently a lady gave a talk to a branch of the Women's Institute on The English Art of Bell-ringing. The questions and comments after the talk started with one lady saying that her father had once rung bells, but he had given it up when he got married in order to concentrate on raising a family. In the next seven years this proved fruitless, so he resumed bell-ringing. In the next four years, he and his wife produced four children!!

Are we missing some advertising point here? Could the recruiting of new bell ringers not mention that the activity has aphrodisiac properties! Now don't forget we practise on Monday evenings between 7.30 and 9.00p.m. If there is any budding talent out there, do come along and see us.

Audrey Secretary

Coltishall Commons Committee September 2005

The commons have continued to improve over the summer months; they are all looking really good now. Clearly, all the work put in earlier in the year has been well worth while. Since the last report, all the rubbish that was blowing around on the Lower Common has been gathered up and a large bag-full removed. Mention was made of an old boat that had been left in the dyke; this has now broken-up so can be dealt with accordingly.

Since the last meeting, there have been a few items reported that need attention. These all relate to the Lower Common and are all receiving immediate attention. Although the Common has dried out, and the grass has recovered, one area remains quite soft. There is still some concern about the effectiveness of the drainage pipe that was put in after the Key-heading repairs. An eye will be kept on its effectiveness throughout the winter months. On the subject of Key-heading and mooring rights along the Common, the lease for the Broads Authority is due for renewal. Members of the committee were handed draft copies of a new lease for them to read and consider before being discussed at the next meeting, scheduled for Thursday, 6th October 2005.



One post has been knocked out adjacent to the Ice Cream van; repairs will be put in hand straight away. Now that the Common has dried out, and in view of the concern over the drainage, the line of posts is to be extended to meet the ones at the other end of the common. This will protect the area from unauthorised vehicular traffic; there will be one removable post at each end for access.

There have been a couple of reports about the potholes in the main car park. An order has been placed for Hoggin and ¾ gravel so those repairs can be carried out straight away. This type of work will always be ongoing on this area but a suggestion was put forward to use a 'scrubber' to level and compact the car park. At this point in time it is not clear if this would provide a better solution or not, but further advice and estimates for the probable cost will be obtained for consideration.

The trees at each end of the Common need attention, some branches are overhanging the footpath and one tree has split. Advice will be taken from a tree expert about the best way to manage the trees in the long term; once that information is to hand, then the necessary work will be carried out.

The landlord of the Rising Sun has asked for permission to lay a cable across part of the Common so that he can install a security light around his pub sign. This will, off course, be given due consideration once the specific requirements are known.

The final point regarding the Lower Common concerns dog mess. Some of this has found its way into the green rubbish bin and conversely some general rubbish has been put into the dog bin. This makes it rather unpleasant for those who have to deal with the bins.

The grazing area on the Upper Common has been 'topped' and was thought to look a lot better for it. Now the committee is keen to see this work carried out each year. Some more work around the Sub-station is planned before the area becomes overgrown again. The dead trees are to be removed and the area opened up further with the aim to extend the grassed area to under the trees. Again, this work will be put in had as soon as possible.

Ling Common has been cut twice now and the wild life there continues to flourish. The committee felt that some of the trees there need attention. Once work on the Upper Common is satisfactory, then advice and estimates will be sought from the same contractor for this work. The committee aim to steadily improve this area over time and recognise that there is much that can be done here.

* * * * *

Thank You For Your Support

Coltishall and Horstead Pre-School would like to thank everyone who made donations towards the children's summer picnic. We would especially like to thank Hewitts Family Butchers, Top of the Crop Greengrocer and Coltishall Post Office for their support. The Pre-School is a registered charity which needs additional income from fundraising events to help it to stay open and to provide the children with both academic and playtime tools. Any support given to the Pre-School is always gratefully received.



The Jubilee Players Present

'Talking Heads' by Alan Bennett

'A Chip in the Sugar', 'Her Big Chance', 'Soldiering On'

Originally written and recorded for television in 1987, these three classic pieces remind us of what is so brilliant about Bennett's writing. His dramatic characters portray the trivial minutiae of life and relationships through humour, pathos and sadness, often raising familiar echoes in our own lives.

Graham Blyth repeats his much praised performance of Graham, a middle aged loner, still living with his mother, in 'A Chip in the Sugar'. Wizz Fairhurst brings great energy and humour to the character of Lesley, a bit part actress, and Cynthia Gosling sensitively portrays the stoicism and underlying sadness of the newly recently widowed Muriel.

Tithe Barn, Horstead

Wednesday 26th to Friday 28th October 2005

All Tickets £4.50

Box Office 01603 737665

Bar open 7.00pm Performance starts 7.30pm

* * * * *

Spin Into Action At The Big C Anniversary Holkham Cycle Ride

The Big C invite you to get on your bike and join them on the 2nd October for their special Anniversary Holkham Cycle Ride commemorating 20 years of the Big C cycling at Holkham as well as 25 years of the charity itself.

Now in it's 20th Year, the Holkham Cycle Ride, which is set in the magnificent grounds of the Holkham Hall Estate, attracts riders of all ages and abilities to cycle through the beautiful grounds taking in wonderful views of the hall, lake and estate. And with the charity also celebrating its 25th Anniversary, what better year to spin into action to show your support for this popular local cancer charity.

Taking place by kind permission of the Earl of Leicester the event follows a 6 mile circuit with entrants being allowed to complete as many laps as they wish! The event is suitable for all abilities and fitness levels and they always have a diverse range of entrants. So why not join them this year and bring your friends, families and colleagues too; you may even wish to compete for one of the annual trophies which are awarded to the Team, Individual and Youth who have raised the most money! A great opportunity for building team spirit!

Even if you don't have a bicycle or can't easily transport one, there are bikes available to pre-book from Bike Riders of North Walsham and the Bike Shed in Sheringham.

Entry and information forms are available online at www.thebigappeal.co.uk/holkhamcyclerride.html. Or you can call the Big C on 01603 751695 or e-mail hannah.chroston@thebigappeal.co.uk for an entry form or more information.

Hannah Chroston Fundraising Officer

* * * * *

Half Term Fun at Wroxham Library

Mermaids and Monsters Storytime

For 8s and under

Wroxham Library, Friday 28th October 10.30 – 11.15 am

Fun stories Colouring Puzzles

Juice and biscuits 20p

All welcome. Children aged 8 and under must be accompanied by an adult
Parents and carers collecting children must tell children to stay until collected

Can't surf? Won't surf? Let us show you how!

Free Internet Taster Session at Wroxham Library

Wednesday 12th October, 6.00 – 8.00pm

No experience necessary. Please contact Wroxham Library 01603 782560



Start a New Interest this Autumn or Renew an Old One

Join Chris Hutchins drawing class on Thursday evenings in Hoveton Village Hall

Suitable for all standards of art ability including beginners

For more information contact Chris on 01603 784221 daytime or 01603 784319 evenings
or call in at Norfolk Sketches Gallery at Wroxham Barns

Bingo

Saturday 15th October 7.30pm sharp

Coltishall Village Hall

In aid of Coltishall Bowls Club

Tea and coffee will be available in the interval



Jumble Sale

Saturday 15th October 2005, 2.00 - 4.00pm

Tunstead Primary School, Market Street, Tunstead

Entrance 20p. Refreshments available



Table Top Sale

Horstead Tithe Barn

Saturday 12th November from 11.30am

Please ring Glen and Pauline Gould
738704 after 6.00pm or weekends to book a table
Refreshments available



Winter Wonderland

A Floral Art Demonstration

By David Wright & Judy Barham

Friday 2nd December 2005

Buxton Primary School 7.30 pm

Tickets £5 including refreshments

From Larch Cottage Florist 01603 738349

Proceeds to Breast & Testicular Cancer Charities

What's On at The Railway Tavern in October

Saturday 1st - Barry Lee

Friday 7th - Starlight Karaoke

Saturday 8th - Live Band - The Elevators (click for website)

Friday 14th - Fick N Finn

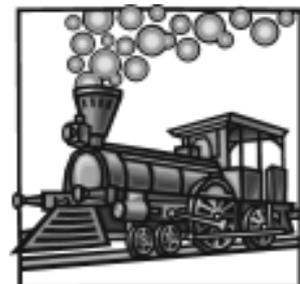
Saturday 15th - Take Chatt

Friday 21st - Harlequin Karaoke

Saturday 22nd - Live - Purple Ronnie - Ron Sayer

Friday 28th - Starlight Karaoke

Saturday 29th - Live Band - Melanies Red Fleece (click for website)



The Attic Hair Studio Coltishall

Require Full / Part Time Hair Stylist

Our busy clientele seeks a fourth person to join our friendly, bubbly salon
All enquiries to: Mrs K L Goodyear or Mrs D Chamberlin on 01603 736777



House For Sale, Coltishall

Barn Conversion, 4 beds 1 ensuite, large garden
Stable End, Wroxham Road, Coltishall £365,000 (01603 738933)

For Sale

Sharp Portable Electric Typewriter. Complete with spare ribbon and lift-off tape. £15. (737548

Domestic Help wanted for Horstead

2 – 3 hours per week. Good rate of pay. (737871 any time.

Domestic Help Required

2 to 3 hours a week. Doctor's house in Coltishall. Good rate of pay. (738567

Domestic Help Wanted in Coltishall

3 hours per week. Please (738578 evenings.

For Sale

Navy Leather 3 Seater, Armchair, Footstool, Mahogany wood trim, 3 years old, £2,500 new
£750 ono. (738704 after 6.00pm or weekends to view

Reliable Dog Walker Required

Can you help? Telephone anytime 737262.

The Attic Hair Studio Coltishall

Why not treat yourselves to a colour?

Book for Full Head, Highlights or Foil Colours and receive 10% discount when booked with Donna between
1st October and 1st November 2005 and on showing this advertisement.

For bookings with Donna call 01603 736777

Book early to avoid disappointment

Coltishall Parish Council

Allotment Plots Available to rent

If anyone is interested, please contact
Mrs R Thrussell - (01603 737644

Dogs are not allowed on the allotment land including
the area laid down to grass and the Apple Orchard

No dumping of rubbish on any of the allotment area

Allotment site bonfires - please be considerate to the people who live nearby

The Council wish to remind property owners that it is their responsibility
to cut back any vegetation (trees, hedges or nettles) that overgrows footpaths

Please keep using the re-cycling bins near the Village Hall, Rectory Road, Coltishall as all funds
received go towards improving and maintaining the village facilities.





Parishes of Coltishall with Great Hautbois and Horstead

Sunday Services

2nd October	19th Sunday after Trinity	
8.00am	Holy Communion, All Saints, Horstead	Exodus 20.1-4,7-9,12-20
10.00am	Family Service, St. John the Baptist, Coltishall	Psalm 19(or 19.7-14) Philippians 3. 4b-14 Matthew 21.33-end
5th October		
10.00am	Midweek Holy Communion, St. John the Baptist, Coltishall	
9th October	20th Sunday after Trinity	
9.30am	Morning Prayer, All Saints, Horstead	Exodus 32. 1-14
10.00am	Sunday School, Church Room, Coltishall	Psalm 106. 1-6(19-23)
11.00am	Holy Communion / Harvest Festival St John the Baptist, Coltishall	Philippians 4.1-9 Matthew 22. 1-14
16th October	21st Sunday after Trinity	
9.30am	Harvest Festival Holy Communion, All Saints, Horstead	Exodus 33. 12-end
10.00am	Sunday School, Church Room, Coltishall	Psalm 99
11.00am	Morning Prayer, St John the Baptist, Coltishall	1 Thessalonians 1
6.30pm	Compline with Healing, Holy Trinity, Gt. Hautbois	Matthew 22.15-22
23rd October	Last Sunday after Trinity	
9.30am	Morning Prayer, All Saints, Horstead	Deuteronomy 34
10.00am	Sunday School, Church Room, Coltishall	Psalm 90.1-6,(13-17)
11.00am	Holy Communion, St John the Baptist, Coltishall	1 Thessalonians 2.1-8 Matthew 22. 34-end
30th October	4th Sunday before Advent	
9.30am	Morning Prayer, All Saints, Horstead	Micah 3.5-end
10.00am	Sunday School, Church Room, Coltishall	Psalm 43(or107.1-8)
11.00am	Morning Prayer, St John the Baptist	1 Thessalonians 2.9-13 Matthew 24. 1-14

The above are correct to the best of my knowledge as The Marlpit goes to print. Please check services at Coltishall for Sunday 2nd October. (Harvest Festival) and also Sunday 30th October. Please accept my apologies for any incorrect information. Please check Church notice boards or contact the Churchwardens.

Sylvia Coward



The Friends of Coltishall Church

Our Cake Stalls on the Common made £105.10 on 29th July and £157.35 in August. Thank you to all our loyal customers, kind displayers of notices and generous donors of mouth-watering 'goodies'. Together with the £114.27 from our coffee morning on 8th July, the welcome total of £376.72 has been a great boost to the Project Fund, detailed news of which will soon be announced. Watch this space!

We are delighted to announce that on Saturday 29th October in Coltishall Church, a choral concert will be given by the Norwich Singers – Director of Music, Mr Michael Cudby. Tickets will be £5.00 each and include wine and refreshments.

Further details will be advertised and notices will go up in the village and surrounding area during the month of October.

In the meantime, please make a note of the date in your diaries.



September was our Annual Appeal month when we were collecting from door to door to fund the social work of the Salvation Army in the British Isles. Thank you to those of you who have given I will hopefully let you know the result in the next Marlpit. Should you have an envelope that has not been collected please telephone 737495.

We are celebrating our Anniversary on the weekend of 15th and 16th October. We will be having a Musical Concert given to us by Norwich Mile Cross Songster Brigade on Saturday 15th, commencing at 7.00pm Admission £1.50. Sunday 16th our meetings will be led by Major Beth Maddern and a musical party from Sheringham. You may recall that Beth was our officer about 13 years ago. Come and share with us in our celebrations.

The Cameo Club (open to all ages) in October will take place Mondays 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st commencing at 2.30pm. Enquiries contact Anne Beaver - 737326.

Mini-Market with Light Refreshments (good quality clothing, bric-a-brac, etc) will be held on Tuesdays, 4th and 18th October from 9.30am till 11.30am. (Tel: 01603 737326).

Coffee Morning will be held on Tuesdays, 11th and 25th October from 9.30am till 11.30am. Why not come along and enjoy a cup of coffee (or tea!) and a chat?

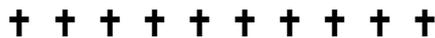
Luncheon Club will take place every Wednesday in October at 12.30pm. If you know anyone who would benefit from attending this Luncheon Club (transport can be arranged) or if you would like to attend yourself, please contact Envoy on 737152.

Ecumenical Songs of Praise in October will be held on Sunday the 30th at 6.30pm - this is open to anyone and you would be made very welcome. Come along and sing your favourite hymn.

Ladies Fellowship in October will take place on Monday 24th when Jessica Parrott will present 'Family of Dolls and Victoriana Quiz'. This should be a very interesting evening and you are welcome to come along and share with us. Our meetings are very friendly and informal and are open to any lady - you do not have to belong to the Salvation Army to attend. (Tel: Sue Blackburn - 737495 for more information).

Please Note - our Christmas Fayre will be held on Saturday 19th November from 11.00am – 2.00pm.

Sue Blackburn



Salvation Army Diary

October

Monday	3 rd	Cameo Club at 2.30pm
Tuesday	4 th	Minimarket with Light Refreshments 9.30am - 11.30am
Wednesday	5 th	Luncheon Club at 12.30pm
Monday	10 th	Cameo Club at 2.30pm
Tuesday	11 th	Coffee Morning 9.30am - 11.30am
Wednesday	12 th	Luncheon Club at 12.30pm
Saturday	15 th	Concert by Norwich Mile Cross Songster Brigade 7pm - £1.50
Monday	17 th	Cameo Club at 2.30pm
Tuesday	18 th	Minimarket with Light Refreshments 9.30am - 11.30am
Wednesday	19 th	Luncheon Club at 12.30pm
Monday	24 th	Cameo Club at 2.30pm
Monday	24 th	Ladies Fellowship at 8pm - Family of Dolls & Victoriana Quiz Presented by Jessica Parrott
Tuesday	25 th	Coffee Morning 9.30am - 11.30 am
Wednesday	26 th	Luncheon Club at 12.30pm
Monday	31 st	Cameo Club at 2.30pm

November

Saturday	19 th	Christmas Fayre 11.00am - 2.00pm
----------	------------------	----------------------------------

Salvation Army Services

October

Sunday 2nd Meetings at 11.00am and 3.00pm
Sunday 9th Meetings at 11.00am and 3.00pm
Sunday 16th Corps Anniversary Meetings at 11.00am and 3.00pm led by
Major Beth Maddern and Salvationists from Sheringham
Sunday 23rd Meetings at 11.00am and 3.00pm
Sunday 30th Meetings at 11.00am
Ecumenical Songs of Praise at 6.30pm

† † † † † † † † † †



Floodlighting for St John the Baptist, Coltishall

Week Commencing	In Memoriam	Sponsor
17 th September	Wonderful memories of my darling husband Harry 21 st September	Pippa Docwra
23 rd October	Mabel Morse	Margaret

If you would like to sponsor the floodlighting in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate an occasion such as a wedding, a wedding anniversary, a birth, a special birthday, a baptism or anything else, please contact Jill Blackburn - Telephone 737442.

† † † † † † † † † †

News from All Saints Horstead

English Heritage Grant Application: It was with much regret that we heard in August that our application to English Heritage for a grant for urgent repairs to the church roof was unsuccessful. The PCC is looking for ways to fund the most urgent repairs so as to prevent damage to the organ. Many thanks to Daphne and Nora for the most successful Quiz evening in aid of the church roof.

Harvest Festival: This will be on Sunday 16th October at 9.30am

Licensing of Reverend Christopher Engelsen: This will be on Thursday 3rd November at 7.30pm in Horstead Church.

Christmas Cards / Notelets: Our cards of the church in the snow are on sale again this year, five for £3. Available after church on Sunday or from Sylvia on 737915.

* * * * *

More Crunch Questions

Tom Chapman, Pastor of Surrey Chapel in Norwich, will provide some answers to these important questions in a series of meetings to be held in the Salvation Army Hall in Coltishall (by kind permission).

How can you rely on the Bible?	Thursday 13 th October
How can you say there's only one way?	Thursday 3 rd November
Whatever happened to Christmas?	Thursday 8 th December

Meetings will commence at 8.00pm. All are welcome - refreshments will be provided. Enquiries to Norwich 738602



A Letter From The Coordinator Horstead Church Roof Fund

Dear Friends

We would like to thank all Horstead Parishioners who donated to the house to house collection; it was a marvellous collection.

The Quiz held in the Tithe Barn was very well attended and over sixty people took part. The Quiz Masters were Carol and Charles White who did an excellent job, especially as it was their first Quiz. We made just about £500 after expenses.



Many thanks to the sponsors of the Quiz, Jefferies Farm Shop and Norwich City Football Club who donated a signed Norwich City Football. Eileen Bruce was the winner of the ball. Grateful thanks to Janot and Sylvia who helped prepare and serve the refreshments.

The balance in the Horstead Roof account is £4,191.34 plus the gift aid which will take us over the £5,000.

Reference the house to house collection, a sincere thank you to Nora, Sue, Pippa, Elspeth, Janot and Dianne who helped to collect, as my legs were of little use at that time.

Once again a big thank you to all who helped.

D E Knights

† † † † † † † † † †

Coltishall Parish Church of St John the Baptist The Renewal of the Thatched Roof

Many of you will have read in the Eastern Daily Press some months ago that Saint John's Church is to benefit from a substantial grant from the English Heritage Lottery Fund.

Likewise, you may have noticed during the last six weeks or so that scaffolders and thatchers have appeared to have been doing some work on the Church roof.

The Church Wardens and the Parochial Church Council would like to take this opportunity to bring their Parishioners and the many supporters of the Church up to date with the details of what exactly is going on.

The Heritage Lottery Grant has been awarded in two stages:

Stage One: to provide funding for exploratory work to determine the condition of the underlying roof structures in addition to assessing the re- thatching operation itself.

Stage Two: to assist in funding to make good any defects discovered in the Stage One exploration and also to assist in the funding of the re-thatching of the roof.

The work seen to have been done by the scaffolders and the thatchers during the last six weeks was to provide the Church Architect and his Consulting Engineers with access to undertake the Stage One exploration of the roof and all its sub-structures.

Unfortunately, at this present point in time, we still await the Engineers' Reports as to the exact condition of the hidden features of the roof and therefore we do not currently know precisely what extra work is required in addition to the actual re-thatching of the roof.

We were hoping to present the full picture of the necessary repairs and replacements, together with full costings, in this edition of the Marlpit, but as things stand at the moment, subject to nothing of an alarming nature having been discovered by the Structural Engineers, it seems that the Church has to raise a sum of at least £40,000 to £50,000 to augment the English Heritage Lottery Grant.

Hopefully, we will very shortly be in a much more knowledgeable position and therefore able to publish the full picture in the next Marlpit.

Mrs M Riley, Mr B Jordan Church Wardens, The Coltishall Parochial Church Council

† † † † † † † † † †

The Salvation Army

Musical Concert by Norwich Mile Cross Songster Brigade
Saturday 15th October at 7.00pm Admission - £1.50

All Saints Church Roof and Repair Fund

A huge THANK YOU to the residents of Horstead for your generous support. The total money raised to date is £4,191.34p and this includes £500 Raised at our recent Quiz Evening! Many of you signed the Gift Aid form so we will be also claiming a significant sum from HM Revenue. Our initial application for a Grant was not successful but apparently first applications rarely are and we will continue to apply.

In the meantime, we press on with the appeal but we thought you might like a rest during October, so we have postponed the proposed Dance until the Spring; further details later. See 'On the Ball Horstead' for details of the Norwich City Football Raffle which will take place during November.

A Wedding Celebrating for all those married in Horstead Church will take place around Valentine's; we hope to include full details in the November Marlpit. The PCC, Horstead Congregation, the Fund Raising Organisers and all concerned with All Saints, are overwhelmed by the generosity of Horstead people and after our new priest, the Revd Chris Engelson, has settled in with us, we will organise a special service in Horstead Church as a thank you to all donors.

† † † † † † † † † †

On the Ball Horstead

Come on - Let's be havin ya! A football donated and signed by the Norwich City First Team scored the excellent result of £238 in a raffle drawn during our recent Quiz in aid of All Saints Church Roof Appeal.

Eileen Bruce was the lucky winner and she generously put the ball back into play to help increase our fundraising.

Now everyone has a chance to win this ball signed by the Norwich players. So - Let's be havin ya! The Recruiting Sergeant have kindly agreed that the ball can be raffled during the month of November and the winning ticket will be drawn in December at Carrow Road.



On the Ball Horstead - look out for Raffle tickets in The Recruiting Sergeant during November.

† † † † † † † † † †

Quiz Night Fever!

Our Quiz Night in aid of All Saints Church Horstead Roof Appeal, generously sponsored by Jefferies Farm shop, proved to be a great evening with difficult questions - intelligent participants, competitive teams and a strict quiz master. Quiz Master and Scorer duo Carol and Charles White appeared to be old hands at the unenviable task of controlling the Quiz but admitted this was their first time!

A Buffet Supper and lots of pudding increased brain power for the second half and the outright winners were Rowan House who were presented with eight bottles of wine by Mr Jefferies.

The signed City football was a popular attraction and details of how it scored and the winner are given in a separate item.

A big thank you to all who participated and helped us raise a total of £500.

† † † † † † † † † †

The Salvation Army

Corps Anniversary

Sunday 16th October at 11.00am and 3.00pm

Led by Major Beth Maddern
and

Musical Party from Sheringham

All Are Welcome