

# PIGFEON POST



Jubilee  
Hall  
Celebration  
Edition

[www.starstonvillage.co.uk](http://www.starstonvillage.co.uk)



June  
2016 Issue 293



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*The Production Team*

|                                    |   |   |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
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Whilst the editorial team do not necessarily agree with the opinions expressed by contributors, they believe that the magazine is available for local people to air their views. Letters to the Editor must be signed. The Editor reserves the right to alter or amend any copy received. Items for inclusion in the next issue **MUST** reach the Co-ordinating Editor by the 12th of the preceding month, (usually earlier in December). Space in the magazine will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Photos and pictures are welcome and will be used wherever possible. Please send copy by e-mail to: [editor@pigeonpost.org.uk](mailto:editor@pigeonpost.org.uk)

### Advertising

For advertising rates please contact

**Liz Stacey:** Tel: 01379 853427 **Email:** elizabethstacey99@hotmail.com  
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### Distribution

Pigeon Post is delivered free to every home in Starston.

It can also be sent by email in PDF format.

To request a PDF version please contact the Co-ordinating Editor

If you know of any new residents in the village please tell **Norman Steer (854245)**  
 or **Michael Bartlett (852318)** so that we can welcome them in Pigeon Post.

# ***Village Diary***

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*Saturday 11th June* *Starts 3.00 pm*

*Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration - Glebe Meadow*

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*Monday 4th July* *7.30 pm*

*Parish Council Meeting - Jubilee Hall*

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*Sunday 21st August* *2.00 - 5.00 pm*

*Teddy Bears' Picnic - Glebe Meadow*

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*Monday 5th September* *7.30 pm*

*Parish Council Meeting - Jubilee Hall*

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## ***Starston Events***

*A full list of events in Starston is now available in the  
Village Calendar on the new website:*

*[www.starstonvillage.co.uk](http://www.starstonvillage.co.uk)*

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*Want to book the Jubilee Hall? At Any Time*

*Ring Joy or Bryan Hanner 853200 or 853509*

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- Let us know of anything happening in the village for this Diary page
- Smart phone bar codes above: left Village Web, right Facebook Page
- Personal adverts and events are free so long as they are not for personal profit

**Copy Date for July edition:  
Sunday 12th June**

Pigeon Post and Information about Starston can also be found on-line  
[www.starstonvillage.co.uk](http://www.starstonvillage.co.uk)

Or like us on Facebook <http://facebook.com/starstonvillagenorfolk>



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## ***Around and About the Village***

### **Welcome**

Sarah and Mark have recently moved into Wood Lane. Welcome to Starston.



### **Pennoyers Vintage & Retro Fair**

Saturday 4th June, 10.30 am - 3.00 pm  
The return of our hugely popular Vintage and Retro Fair, packed full of vintage clothing, handbags, retro home-ware, jewellery, gifts, ceramics, glass, furniture and silverware. Our licensed café will be open all day selling afternoon teas, coffee, cakes and more. Free Entry.

### **Armed Forces Collection**

A collection for ex- and serving armed forces personnel and their dependants will be held by kind permission of Budgens on their car park, Saturday 18th June from 10.00 am - 2.00 pm by the Royal Air Forces Association.

### **Pennoyers:**

#### **Hannah Aldridge with Lilly Hiatt**

Saturday 18th June 7.30 pm

We are delighted that the wonderful Hannah Aldridge will return to The Pennoyer Centre this summer. This time the Americana singer/songwriter from Muscle Shoals, Alabama, will be joined by special guest Lilly Hiatt, a newcomer to us from Nashville. For those lucky enough to see Hannah last year, you'll know this will be a sell-out gig not to be missed. Tickets £12.00, on sale from the Centre and online via Eventbrite:

[www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)

### **Dance and Americana Day - Horham Red Feather Club**

On Saturday 2nd July there is a 1950s dance from 7.30 pm 'til late with band Big Swifty and top London DJ Pat Da Kat making their Horham debuts. Tickets are £10.

On Sunday 3rd July we have Americana Day from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm. This is a fun family day celebrating all things American. The free event, which includes admission to the 95th Bomb Group museum, will offer living history groups, trade stalls and classic American cars, hot rods and military vehicles on display.

### **13th Annual Ladies Tractor Road Run**

This year's tractor run in aid of Cancer Research UK (Breast Cancer Appeal) will take place on Sunday 3rd July. The run begins at 11.30 from Thorpe Abbots Airfield. Everyone is invited to bring a picnic lunch to Gawdy Hall Meadow by kind permission of Gawdy Hall Estates Ltd.



Photo: Lilly Seattle



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## **Notes from the Editor**

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We have a bumper edition of Pigeon Post this month. We celebrate the formal re-opening of the Jubilee Hall following its massive refurbishment (Pages 16 and 17) and we launch the Pigeon Post Photo Competition, looking for photos that show some aspect of Starston (Page 9).

Also, in the month when the Wimbledon Tennis Championships begin, we have an article from the Pigeon Post archives about 3 Starston tennis players in 1993 (Page 12). There is also a summary of a report prepared for the Parish Council about the history of the struggle to control speeding in Starston (Page 10). As we only have room for a summary in the magazine, the full report is published on the village web site.

And speaking of the web site, it is good to see that so many people have already registered to use it and several of you have begun posting information on the front page. If you haven't already

registered, then please do so, then when you have something you really want to share with the village you can post it straightaway.

Thinking back to the Jubilee Hall event at the beginning of May it was good to see so many people there. A chance to chat to friends and neighbours we hadn't seen recently and yet another occasion when we felt the warmth of the community spirit in Starston.

At one stage I was talking to 2 people who have only recently moved into the village and they were saying how friendly they found it. Dee and I have now been in Starston for nearly 10 years but we feel the same. Within 3 months of moving into the village we knew more people in Starston than we had met in Guildford in 22 years. Now we can't imagine ever living anywhere else.

*Michael*

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## **Starston Safer Neighbourhood Team**

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There has been an increase of trailers being stolen in the county, with Ifor Williams trailers being the most sought after. If you are the owner of a trailer we would recommend:

- *Overtly marking your trailer to make it less desirable and more difficult to sell on.*
- *Store your trailer more securely – behind a vehicle to make it difficult to remove or in a barn.*

If you require any further crime prevention advice please contact us. Report anything suspicious on 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency

*Jim and Pete*



## Starston Events

### Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration

**Saturday 11th June on the Glebe Meadow from 3.00 pm**

- ◆ 90 firings of church bells, one for each year of the Queen's life
- ◆ Children's outdoor activities including table tennis
- ◆ All age church service on the Meadow, to celebrate the Queen's life
- ◆ Sit down afternoon tea party
- ◆ All age team games – North vs South of the Beck
- ◆ Bring your own BBQ and drinks
- ◆ Live music and dancing

Please can every household bring a plate of savouries to contribute to the afternoon tea party. If you can help in any way please contact:



**John Formston, Bryan Hanner or Ann Leitch**



### Youth Club Dates

**Saturday 11th June** from 3.00 pm on Glebe Meadow  
Queen's 90th birthday celebrations. All ages.

**Saturday 23rd July** 2.00 - 4.00 pm Starston Jubilee Hall (primary school age, 50p tuck shop available) and Hillside, The Street, (pre-school children)

For details see the Youth Club page on the Starston village website  
[www.starstonvillage.co.uk](http://www.starstonvillage.co.uk)

We look forward to seeing you!

### Teddy Bears' Picnic

**Sunday 21st August: 2.00 - 5.00 on the Glebe Meadow**

The Teddies are back for their annual picnic. Bears and their humans (of all ages) are invited to come and join the fun – bouncy castle, face painting, crafts, ice creams, tea and cake and a live show! Entry to the Meadow and most activities will be absolutely free. Do come along.







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## ***Pigeon Post Photo Competition***

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Following our successful short story competition at the end of last year, Pigeon Post has now decided to run a photo competition. We are looking for photographs which show some aspect of life in Starston, indoors or out. The competition is open to anyone who reads Pigeon Post, but submitted photographs have to have been taken in Starston any time after 1st June 2016.

There are two age categories:

**Junior:** Up to 16 years old on 1st June. **Senior:** Over 16 years old on 1st June 2016

There will be 2 prizes in each category. **£25** for the winner and **£15** for the runner-up. There will also be a separate Village Prize - **£20** in each category.

The Rules are as follows:

- Photographs must show some aspect of life in Starston, indoors or out
- Only one photograph per person is permitted
- Entries must be printed photographs with a maximum size of 10" x 8". All entries will be put up in the Jubilee Hall for the village judging, so bear that in mind when deciding on the print size
- A title is required for each picture
- Anyone who has ever sold a photograph for money is not eligible to enter
- Entrants must complete an entry form giving their name, age category and picture title
- Photo editing, such as cropping of an image or adjusting brightness etc., is permitted but no composite pictures will be allowed. Any entry which consists of a combination of more than one original picture will be disqualified
- Photographs may be taken digitally or on film. In addition to the printed entry we may also require a copy of the original digital image or the negative
- The winning photos will be printed in Pigeon Post. Other entries may also be but that will depend on space available. By entering the competition you give permission for publication in Pigeon Post and/or on the village web site
- The closing date for entries is 31st August 2016

The photographs will be judged by Frances Crickmore from Flixton. Frances is a wildlife photographer whose work regularly appears in the EDP.

Village Prize. Before the main winners are announced we will hold an exhibition of all submitted photos in the Jubilee Hall where people from Starston can look at the photos and vote on "the people's favourite", one in each category. Only entries from people living in Starston will be eligible for the Village Prize.

Photographs, together with an Entry Form, should be sent to Michael Bartlett, by Post (or hand delivered) to: The Red Cottage, The Street, Starston, IP20 9NN. Entry forms can be downloaded from the Pigeon Post page on the village web site or obtained from **Michael Bartlett** or **Sue Moore**.



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## ***Starston Traffic Problems - the History***

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Traffic – especially the speed of it – has been a perennial problem in Starston. Other issues have been contentious but have been resolved one way or another and the dust has settled. But concerns about traffic are always with us.

The Parish Council recently asked me to do a short report to brief councillors on the history of Starston's traffic problems. In preparing that report I drew on Parish Council minutes, the *Pigeon Post* archive and an account written by one of the residents who tackled the issue in the 1990s. For my own convenience my trawl through these documents started with the Council minutes in 1991 when the hand written records gave way to printed.

At that time the national speed limit of 60 mph applied to all roads in Starston and the road from the Pulhams through Starston to Harleston was a B-road. The Parish Council repeatedly lobbied the County Council's Highways Department for traffic calming measures to reduce the speed of vehicles and the large number of accidents that were occurring. Highways refused to implement a 30 mph limit through the village, claiming that they were merely following government guidelines and, on one occasion, that such a limit could not be applied to roads without street lights!

At the end of 1994 a group of concerned residents decided that enough was enough and came together to form the Ad Hoc Traffic Group. They did traffic surveys and logged the many accidents; they canvassed village opinion and held public meetings; they got press coverage and enlisted the active support of our then District Councillor and County Councillor. Meanwhile the Parish Council also continued its lobbying for traffic calming measures.

Eventually the County Council agreed a package of measures which were implemented in the later part of the 1990s. These measures included the closure, or part closure, of Bunns Lane and Hallwong Lane to motor vehicles and the laying of black simulated cobbles on the road on the north side of the bridge across The Beck, to encourage vehicles to approach it straight on.

The Ad Hoc Traffic Group and the Parish Council continued to lobby for a 30 mph speed limit on The Street and elsewhere in the village. Then in 1998 the B-road through Starston from the Pulhams was reclassified as a C-road and shortly afterwards the County Council announced, for no reason that I could discover, that the stretch of road on either side of the bridge was to have a 20 mph speed limit. The road surface would be red, there would be no white lines in the middle and "village gateway" signs would be erected – all visual indications to draw drivers' attention to the limit.

This scheme, finally implemented in full in 2001, was hailed as pioneering and received much national, as well as local, coverage. However all other roads in →




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## **Starston Traffic Problems - Today**

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*Since the original traffic measures were eventually finally implemented in 2001 we have lost the red road covering that was meant to indicate a lower speed area along The Street. Apparently it is too expensive to renew. However, we now have a village Speed-Watch team and we recently published data they collected which showed that in one month alone, more than 73% of 39,000 cars were exceeding the speed limit.*

*This was the Speed-Watch team report for the Annual Village Meeting in May.*

Starston, along with most other rural communities, has the means to monitor traffic speed at strategic points throughout the village and a handheld facility to record speeds at points of particular concern. So what is the objective of collecting data and what can it be used for? Obviously it can be passed to the police who can then decide whether to come along and penalize speeding drivers or not. Alternatively, as a community, we can use it as the basis of reflection on the effects of our own road use.

Statistics produced by the Department of Transport for 2014 suggests that although there are more accidents in urban areas, 59% of fatalities occur on rural roads and can be attributed to the higher speeds and the more winding nature of such roads compared to those in urban areas.

These statistics reinforce the purpose of Community Speed-Watch and for me it really highlights the responsibilities we each have as road users. Reality suggests the condition of the roads, the needs of other road users and the unexpected, set the standard for safe driving and with an overall regard for maximum speed limits

So for me there are some basic rules: consider the needs of other road users, expect the unexpected, allow enough space to react safely, getting there in one piece is more important than overtaking the car in front. We should remember that the statistics only represent incidents that are reported to and recorded by the police. I am looking forward to the data from SAM2, now he has been refurbished, and I hope the data produced and interpreted will have a new relevance to us all in Starston.

*Frederic Coates  
Community Speed-Watch Co-ordinator*

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➔ and through the village retained the 60 mph limit. The Traffic Group continued to lobby but it wasn't until 2006, five years later, that 30 mph limits were finally in place on parts of Church Hill, Railway Hill and the Rushall Road.

The history of traffic calming measures in Starston shows what tenacity, commitment and hard work can achieve, but, as we all know, a legal framework is one thing – enforcement is quite another.

*Dee Palmer  
(with apologies to long standing residents who knew all this anyway)*




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 From the Pigeon Post


 ARCHIVE
 

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### Tennis Trio – July 1993

Three Starston residents, Rebecca Taylor, Liz Stacey and Peter Grimble, have been in action at Harleston Lawn Tennis Club which held a Lawn Tennis Association/VW Ratings Tournament sponsored by Don Lear of Diss over 9 days in June. These tournaments for singles tennis players are held throughout the country and abroad and Harleston's tournament acted as the county qualifying event, the section winners representing Norfolk in the Nationals competition later in the year.



None of our gallant Starston competitors reached a final, but 10 year old Rebecca Taylor, beat two other local youngsters, Andrea Watson of Denton and Syleham's Amanda Greenacre, before losing to an older, stronger opponent, Chloe Dunnet from Norwich in the quarter finals of her event. Liz Stacey, the Tournament Secretary, lost to an eventual finalist and Peter Grimble, the Tournament Referee, succumbed to the top men's group winner, Warren Sawyer from Gorleston.

Finals were held in glorious sunshine on Harleston's grass courts, providing a unique garden party atmosphere complete with strawberries and cream. Among the many spectators were guests from Norfolk L.T.A. including the President, Anna Mutimer (formerly from Pulham St. Mary).

Peter Grimble and Liz Stacey must be thanked for all their work in running the Harleston Tennis Tournament. Peter's enthusiasm and dedication to tennis is shown by him giving freely of his time for the benefit of others. It is especially appreciated by the juniors.

### Harleston Choral Society's Summer Concert

This year's concert is on Saturday 18th June at 7.30 pm in St John's Church, Harleston. Come and join us for our performance of Bach's St John Passion, with professional soloists and orchestra. Tickets £10 (accompanied children free) from choir members, Harleston Information Plus and on the door on the night. Further information on the HCS website [www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk](http://www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk) or from Jo Curry on 01986 875494, [jo.curry@sky.com](mailto:jo.curry@sky.com)



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## **Starston 100 Club**

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A draw was made at the St Georges Day Dinner and the lucky winners were as follows:

- \* 1st Prize £60 Robert Kemp
- \* 2nd prize £50 Roger Warnes
- \* 3rd prize £30 Anita Weatherley
- \* 4th prize £25 Robert Wood
- \* 5th prize £20 David Page & Jane German
- \* 6th prize £15 John Akast

I would remind members that a new subscription year has started and I would be grateful if you would pay up promptly. We need to finalise the purchase of an industrial dishwasher, ideally before the Queen's 90th Birthday party.

*John Formston*

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## **Pulham Players**

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Following the success of the Pulham Players Comedy Feast last year, we have another fine selection on the menu - an evening of two one act plays with a two course meal in-between. The two plays are *Iron Magnolias* by Barry L Hillman and *Little Grimley presents...Strictly Sex Factor (On Ice)* by David Tristram.

The fun begins at 7.30 pm at Pulham Market Memorial Hall on Thursday 2nd June to Saturday 4th June. Ticket prices are £7 for the Thursday performance which does not include the meal, and £15 for the Friday and Saturday performances.

To book your tickets please call Sandra on 01379 676769 or contact our website at [www.pulhamplayers.com](http://www.pulhamplayers.com)

### **Harleston Patient Participation Group**

The PPG is holding an Awareness Evening on Monday 6th June from 6.00 pm – 7.30 pm at Bullock Fair Surgery. You are welcome to join us for an informal chat and light refreshments at this drop-in event. We represent you and will be able to discuss some of our recent achievements including Annual Patients Survey Results, Health Promotion Events, and Appointment System Development.



## Women's Tour Cycle Race

On Wednesday 15th June Starston will see professional women cyclists racing through the village on the first stage of the Aviva Women's Tour Cycle Race. This stage starts at 10.00 am in Southwold and their route takes them through Halesworth, Lowestoft, Beccles, Bungay, Harleston and Starston, then on to The Pulhams, Buckenham, Attleborough and Mulbarton before finishing outside the Guildhall in Norwich.

It is estimated that the cyclists will be coming through Starston at approximately 12.21 - their expected time at Harleston is around 12.15. This is the first time that the Aviva Women's Tour has visited either Norwich or Norfolk, although the men's Tour of Britain has been to the region before.

Ben Jones, Director of Active Norfolk, said: "We are really excited to be welcoming the Aviva Women's Tour to Norfolk for the first time this year. With increasing participation of women and girls high on our agenda, this will be an inspirational day and will encourage the people of Norfolk to get out on their bikes this summer".

The Aviva Women's Tour was created in 2014 and is the first ever international stage race for women in the UK. It attracts elite riders from around the world, who compete over five days in stages in different parts of the country.

You can find out more details on [www.womenstour.co.uk](http://www.womenstour.co.uk)



Picture used by kind permission of Archant Community Media





## DEPARTURES

by Eileen Ryan

**Saturday 9th July**

United Reformed Church, Mendham Lane, Harleston.  
Performances 12.00 noon and 3.00 pm.

*A Made2Measure Theatre Company Production*

It's never too late to fall in love. But when retired local schoolteacher, Milly Naylor, decides to marry, she finds herself as nervous as any young bride. Meanwhile, the Minister is anxiously awaiting the arrival of his first-born and the groom is having problems in Starston churchyard. There is nothing for it but to catch a bus to Starston, where a jumble sale is in preparation in the village hall - and you have to come along too !

Set in the early 1970s, this light-hearted family drama includes a ride to Starston on a vintage bus.

**All tickets £8.**

Tickets available from Eileen Ryan on  
[anyoldryan@gmail.com](mailto:anyoldryan@gmail.com) or 07985 149854

(If you have queries concerning mobility access, please contact Eileen as above. Not suitable for under-twelves)





## *Jubilee Hall Celebration ...*



On Friday 6th May around 70 people gathered at the Jubilee Hall to celebrate its official re-opening after major repair and renovation work had been completed. The work took nearly a year and the result is a comprehensive restoration of the roof, walls, doors, windows and electrical system. The total cost of around £22,000 was largely funded by grants from South Norfolk Council Community Action Fund, Big Lottery Fund – Awards4All, The Adnams Charity and The Paul Bassham Trust.



Bryan Hanner, Chairman of the Jubilee Hall Trustees, welcomed everyone.



Peter Grimble managed the project, co-ordinating everyone - contractors and volunteers - who came together to work on the hall.



## *... the Official Re-opening*



Ann Leitch, Chairman of the Parish Council, helped the Jubilee Hall Trustees identify grants to enable the work to be done.



Derek Griffin performed the official re-opening by cutting the tape across the car park entrance. Derek was the first Chairman of the Committee which was formed back in 1973 to enquire into the possibility of building a village hall in Starston, resulting in the conversion of the cow-shed into the Jubilee Hall in 1977.

A 'Thank You' list of all Funders, Contractors and Volunteers now hangs in the lobby of the Jubilee Hall.







**Open Farm Sunday**  
**5th June, Shotford Hall Farm,**  
**Harleston, IP20 9QT**  
**1.00 pm to 5.00 pm. Free Entry.**

Visit our mixed farm to discover where and how your food is produced and used and how farmers look after the environment. Ever wondered what it's like in the seat of a tractor or what technology is involved? How are animals reared and cared for? Come and find out and get close to the machinery, touch the animals and meet the people actively involved in farming. Enjoy a tractor and trailer tour, take a leisurely riverside walk or get busy in the children's activity barn. Refreshments available. For more information, contact Tim Lewis on 07767 708106.



**Crazy Croquet &  
 Afternoon Tea**

**in aid of St Mary's Church  
 Rushall**

**Saturday 2nd July 3.00-6.00 pm**

Crossingford Barn, Doctors Lane,  
 Pulham St Mary IP21 4RJ  
 £5.50 including Afternoon Tea  
 Contact 676372 for details



The Parish Council would like to thank Verona McWhinney for making 80 metres of bunting and giving it to the village for our various community events.

Thank you, Verona



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## **Parish Council News**

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### **Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer**

Parish Councils are statutory bodies, forming the first tier of local government. Parish Council activities fall into three main categories: representing the local community; delivering services to meet local need; striving to improve quality of life and social wellbeing. Their existing powers were recently strengthened by provisions contained in the Localism Act 2011. For more information see:

***<http://www.nalc.gov.uk/about-local-councils>***.

I am delighted to advise you that Sonja Burnett will be continuing as Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer. Having served the parish for nearly two years, she has travelled a steep learning curve as there are a range of legal and financial requirements on Parish Councils in pursuing their role of improving community wellbeing and providing better services at a local level.

***Ann Leitch, Chairman***

.....

### **On-line Reporting of Problems**

There is a range of excellent on-line reporting facilities on the South Norfolk Council website – see ***<http://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/transport/817.asp>***.

There is also helpful information available, for example about noise pollution such as barking dogs ***<http://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/environment/805.asp>***.

If you see a problem and don't feel able to resolve it by taking action yourself, for example picking up odd items of litter or talking directly to your neighbour about a noise issue, then please report it online. If the matter is a footpaths, highways or trees issue, please let me or the relevant Parish Councillor have the reference number and details, so we are aware that it has been reported and can follow it up.

**Highways** – please advise Cllr John Akast or Sonja Burnett

Potholes: ***<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/road-maintenance/potholes>***

Fly-tipping reporting: ***<http://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/transport/810.asp>***

**Footpaths** – please advise Cllr John Formston or Sonja Burnett

Problems with footpaths: ***<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/out-and-about-in-norfolk/public-rights-of-way/about-public-rights-of-way>***

Dog fouling: ***<http://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/transport/1683.asp>***

Litter reporting: ***<http://forms.south-norfolk.gov.uk/pub/StreetCleaning.ofml>***

Remember, the sooner problems are reported to South Norfolk (SNC) or Norfolk County Council, the sooner they can get dealt with! Also, we have noted that all footpath issues reported via the SNC on-line system have been included in SNC programmed work, as it is on their computer system. ➔





## County Council News

Following the recent Annual General Meeting at Norfolk County Council there has been a change of administration. The leader of the now Conservative-led council is Cliff Jordon. Under this administration I have been elected to serve as the Chairman of EDT (Environment, Development, Transport) so I look forward to this position and the challenges ahead.

A record number of Norfolk's young people have voted to elect nine new Members of a Youth Parliament representing each of the county's political constituencies. A total of 39,938 of Norfolk's 11 – 18 year olds cast their vote by text on their mobile phones. This represents a 51% turnout. The MYP for South Norfolk is Bethayne Webb who attends Diss High School.

One of my longtime hobbies is stock judging with Diss Stockmens Club and during the spring we visit four separate farms to judge Pigs, Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle and Sheep. For our dairy cattle this year we visited N W Moore & Sons at Cranes Watering Farm, Starston, to judge their Jersey Cows where we saw some of the very best in the country and were treated to a tour of the 155 milking cows and the 120 followers. We are very fortunate to be asked onto local farms where we are always made very welcome and a special thanks to all the Moore family and their staff.

My next surgery will be at HIP on Saturday 9th July at 10.00 am

*Martin Wilby*  
*[martin.wilby@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:martin.wilby@norfolk.gov.uk)*  
*01379 741504*

### **Alburgh & Denton Parent and Toddler Group.**

A friendly group, for children from birth to 4 years, meets every Tuesday during term time from 9.30 am - 11.15 am in Alburgh Village Hall. £2 per family.

➔ In Cllr Martin Wilby's report in May Pigeon Post, he advised that Norfolk County Council has developed a Norfolk Cycling and Walking Action Plan. There is also a Norfolk Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2007- 2017. One of the objectives is "to develop a well-signed, maintained and easily accessible network of routes that facilitate countryside access". Both of these documents can be found on the Norfolk County Council website. Against this strategic context, Cllr John Formston and Cllr Ann Leitch are working with Jody Thurston, Highways Inspector, and Andy Hutcheson, Countryside Manager, to see how we can improve our network of public footpaths across the village. If you have concerns about Public Rights of Ways (PRoWs), please use the online reporting facility on the South Norfolk website, raise matters on the village website or speak directly with Cllr John Formston or myself.

*Sonja Burnett, Parish Clerk*



## ***The Really Useful Information Event***

**Join us to find out about the help that is available to remain independent at home, for yourself, or to support family, friends and neighbours.**

Harleston Information Plus has arranged for over 20 organisations to be at the Swan Hotel carvery from 1.30 pm - 4.00 pm on Monday 6th June.

These include:

Norfolk and Suffolk Carers, the NHS Wellbeing Service, Arthritis Care, Alzheimer's Society Norfolk, Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind, Borderhoppa, Jackamans Solicitors, Citizens Advice, South Norfolk Council (handyman service, housing and benefit issues) Saffron's Contact Care Lifelines, Dementia Friendly Harleston, the Harleston Lunch Club, Stitch and Chatter, Beactive mobility shop and many more.

There will also be optional free talks about setting up Powers of Attorney, Dementia Awareness and the NHS Wellbeing Service. These sessions can be booked in advance at the information centre. This is a free event, with refreshments to celebrate National Carers' Week. All are welcome. Please do come along to make the most of the opportunity.

For more information please call or visit the information centre, 8 Exchange St, Harleston 01379 851917.

*Julie Helsby - Community Support Manager*

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## Summer of Swifts

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A project that took root in Harleston last November, to support and nurture its diminishing population of migratory swifts as they return to historical nesting sites to rear their young, is rolling out the first phase of its programme. The programme, organised by Harleston's Future, comprises display of a huge decorated swift cut-outs mobile, town-wide flag displays and nesting box production.

It was early August last year that the town's swift colonies left on their long migration to spend the whole of winter, continuously on the wing, in the warmer climate of many African lands. We saw the welcome return of these remarkable birds to this area in May to reclaim their traditional homes – but the population is in trouble, and many nesting pairs will find their nest spaces (for example under eaves and tiles) blocked, and with new building development (domestic and commercial) providing no viable alternatives.



Phase 1 of Swift Action Harleston, with crucial support from South Norfolk Council Communities and Market Towns Initiative, and through extensive voluntary input, has been to raise awareness of the plight of swifts and to develop a programme to make and install new nest boxes for the birds to set up home and raise their families. These boxes are being constructed and installed in phases with the first pilot batch in place at Harleston Primary School, Archbishop Sancroft High School and Malthouse Court retirement complex. More will follow in the coming weeks and months. The aim is to have 100 new nest sites available by 2017.

The RSPB says: "Swifts spend their life almost entirely on the wing and even feed, sleep and mate in flight. They feed exclusively on insects and only come to land when nesting. Swifts are unobtrusive when nesting and make perfect, quiet neighbours. Swifts use roof spaces in buildings where they construct a simple nest, entering and leaving quietly through a narrow hole and leave few, if any, droppings below the entrance. The swift is one of the last summer migrants to arrive in the UK, and the first to leave for the long return migration. It is estimated that swifts fly an average daily total of 800km (nearly 500 miles) – or about 2 million km (more than 1.24 million miles) in a lifetime!

They never perch on wires like swallows but if you look up in the sky in summer, you might see excited screaming parties of them careering madly at high speed around rooftops and houses, often low, especially towards dusk."

If you can help by providing suitable places for swifts to nest, then please do so.




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## **Archbishop Sancroft Celebrates 50 Years**

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Please join us to celebrate our 50th anniversary  
 Friday 24th June from 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm in 'The Quad' at ASHS

Meet up with friends, share memories, look at old photos and have a tour of the school. The PTA will also be running a BBQ and bar, with proceeds going towards additional resources for the school.

We are inviting former students, staff, governors and friends of the school.

Please spread the word and RSVP by Friday 17th June  
 to [alumni@ashs.org.uk](mailto:alumni@ashs.org.uk) or 01379 852561

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## **Harleston U3A**

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The Waveney Valley Study Group, with over fifty members, is by far Harleston U3A's biggest group. With the advent of warmer weather their events programme is in full swing. Planned outings include a visit to Beccles Museum with a History Walk, an evening in Earsham at the Waveney Valley Trust, a river cruise on the Waveney Princess and a trip on the Big Dog Ferry with lunch at Geldeston Lock.

The topics currently being researched by members are World War Two airfields in our region and coaching inns. The material is usually presented to the W.V.S.G. first and then to the whole of U3A at one of our regular monthly meetings. These are held at the Swan Hotel at 2.00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month.

If you are interested in joining in the fun, telephone our membership secretary Kim on 01986 788149 or log on to our website.

### **Floral Celebration of Shakespeare's World and Works**

All Saints Church, Mendham is the setting for a fabulous flower festival celebrating the 400th Anniversary of Shakespeare's death. The festival entitled: '*William Shakespeare – His World and Works*' runs from Saturday 2nd July until Sunday 3rd July. It will open to the public from 10.00 am – 4.00 pm each day. A team of local talented flower arrangers will create the exhibits. There will also be contributions from local schools and youth groups.

Light refreshments will be available over the weekend in a marquee, set up in the church grounds. All proceeds will go to the Church Building Fund. Admission £2.50 (payable on the door)



## Arnold Wesker - Playwright

*Sir Arnold Wesker, who died in April at the age of 83, was the author of 50 plays, 4 volumes of short stories, 2 volumes of essays, a children's book, extensive journalism, poetry and other writings. He was knighted in the 2006 New Year's Honours list. Two of his earliest plays, **Roots** and **The Kitchen**, were set in Norfolk where he had family with whom he stayed in close touch. One of those family members was Keith Keeble from Starston.*

“Arnold was 13 years older than me and was an inspiration to me all his life. He was a generous man, generous with his time and his patience. I first became aware of him when I was 10 years old. The occasion was the wedding of Arnold and Dusty and I was playing football with two of my cousins when my badly aimed kick sent the football straight into the wedding cake, sending it flying on to the floor where it shattered into pieces. I was certain I would get slaughtered but when Arnold saw it he simply said: ‘Saves having to cut it up,’ and that was that.

In the days before his first play was performed Arnold would do anything to learn his craft, exploring how different professionals worked. Often he would take me with him so I met Benjamin Britten, the film producer Daryl F Zanuck, Peter O’Toole and many others. I was fascinated by what Arnold was doing. He knew he wanted to write plays but he also knew that he had a lot to learn. And as he was learning, he was helping me at the same time. He would always take the time to explain things to me and when, as a young man, I decided I wanted to start my own business it was Arnold who took the trouble to introduce me to various people who knew about business management to give me the administrative skills that I needed.

The first serious play I ever saw was Arnold’s first major success, *Chicken Soup With Barley* which was staged by the Royal Court in London. Many years later, with a lot more plays under the belt, Arnold came to Harleston and spent a day with students at Archbishop Sancroft school, introducing them to the realities of the theatre. As I said, he was always generous with his time.

Arnold gave the toast on the occasion of Janet’s and my 25th wedding anniversary in 1997, a great privilege for both of us. He always said: ‘If in doubt, always have a go.’ He helped me a lot in many ways but more than that, he opened my eyes to a much wider range of possibilities than I would have found on my own.



**Arnold and Janet**

I can truly say that I have had a gifted life because of Arnold Wesker.”




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**Harleston Lions Charity Walk in aid of  
East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH)  
Sunday 5th June**

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The walk has now been finalised and (weather permitting) will start in the walled gardens of Gawdy Hall Estates (check-in 10.00 am at latest). From there we will head off around fields and meadows to Redenhall where we will cross the A143 and go through the church grounds and head into the Waveney Valley on the Angles Way down to



Mendham. We shall continue on the Angles Way past Target Hill and then we will turn off to pass Wortwell Mill then on round the lakes eventually coming out close to Wortwell Bell. After journeying back through Wortwell we shall cross the A143 and head back towards Gawdy Hall (going very close to Tunbeck Road) around the fields to Stoney Lane then heading back to Gawdy Hall. (In the region of eight miles)

Please note that it is quite hilly and there are quite a few stiles to cross on this journey and with warm weather now with us the undergrowth (particularly stinging nettles) will grow rapidly so we suggest stout walking boots and well protected legs. Please dress according to the weather. Bottled water will be supplied and more will be available en route (courtesy of Budgens of Harleston), also there will be simple biscuit type snacks on offer around the course (courtesy of Kitchen Sense).

Please bring a picnic to enjoy in the beautiful walled gardens of Gawdy Hall Estates after your exercise - you will have earned it. (Any of your friends are welcome to join us there - approximately 13.00 onwards - a good reason to get them to sponsor you.) Harleston Lions would like to express their thanks to Gawdy Hall Estates for the free use of their facilities and gardens, plus their help in preparing for this event.

For further details or sponsorship forms please contact Lion Val Tolhurst on 01379 852592 or at Kitchen Sense or email [valsuetolhurst@gmail.com](mailto:valsuetolhurst@gmail.com)

**Prayer Shawls and Comfort Blankets.**

Following on from last month's item in Pigeon Post, these shawls and blankets are intended to bring comfort in times of loss or distress. They are a simple reminder that you need not be alone and there are those that care. At the moment there are just two of us knitting and crocheting furiously to build up a stock for Norman. If anyone has some spare time and yarn and would like to get involved, your help would be most welcome. Please contact Rev Norman Steer (854245) for further information or if you know of someone who would like one.





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## Local Films in June

### Pennovers Film (Pulham St Mary)

**Title:** Brooklyn (12a)

**Date:** Friday 17th June      **Time:** 8.00 pm (Bar opens at 7.15)

**Cost:** £5.00 in advance, £5.50 on the door.

An Irish immigrant in 1950s New York falls for a tough Italian plumber but faces temptation from another man when she returns to her homeland for a visit.

Booking advisable - phone 01379 676660. Ices available.

### Harleston Film (Masonic Rooms, Thoroughfare, Harleston)

**Title:** The Dressmaker (12a)

**Date:** Thursday 23rd June      **Time:** 7.30 pm (Doors open at 7.00 pm)

**Cost:** £4.00

The Dressmaker is a hilarious and poignant Australian film about a sophisticated dressmaker coming home to see her elderly mother and unearth what caused her exile at a young age.

Book with Harleston Information Plus on 01379 851917

### Alburgh Film (Alburgh Village Hall)

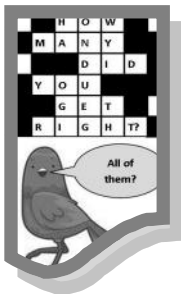
**Title:** Bridge Of Spies (12a)

**Date:** Friday 17th June      **Time:** 7.30 pm (Doors & bar open at 6.45 pm)

**Cost:** £4.00 - pay on the door. Fish and chips available.

Tom Hanks stars as the American attorney tasked with negotiating the release of a U-2 spy plane pilot who was shot down over Russia at the height of the Cold War

## Answers to the May Crossword (With homophones in brackets)



### ACROSS

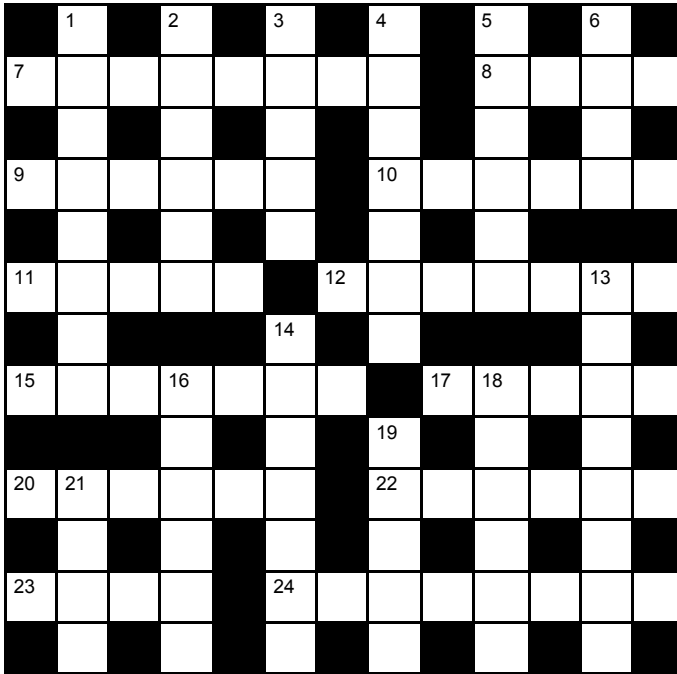
7. Grieve [Greave]
8. Throes [Throws]
9. Wye [Why]
10. Handle [Handel]
11. Aweigh [Away]
12. Shear [Shear]
14. Berth [Birth]
15. Phase [Faze]
18. Thyme [Time]
23. Knight [Night]
24. Coarse [Course]
25. You [Ewe]
26. Cereal [Serial]
27. Lessen [Lesson]

### DOWN

1. Broach [Brooch]
2. Peddle [Pedal]
3. Jewel [Joule]
4. Steak [Stake]
5. Greece [Grease]
6. Weight [Wait]
13. Rue [Roux]
14. But [Butt]
16. Hanger [Hangar]
17. Sighed [Side]
19. Hoarse [Horse]
20. Mussel [Muscle]
21. Style [Stile]
22. Scull [Skull]



**June Crossword by Nona**



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 7. Japanese ritual suicide (4-4)
- 8. False (4)
- 9. Edible Oriental shoots (6)
- 10. Hopeful (6)
- 11. Capital of Western Australia (5)
- 12. Go berserk (3,4)
- 15. Liked by many (7)
- 17. Scorch (5)
- 20. Small suitcase (6)
- 22. Of cattle (6)
- 23. Dressed animal skin (4)
- 24. Inoculate (8)

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Mexican pepper (8)
- 2. Chess opening (6)
- 3. Underage person (5)
- 4. Alcoholic drink (7)
- 5. Pressure line on a weather map (6)
- 6. Pageant (4)
- 13. Put in order (8)
- 14. Dish of melted cheese on toast (7)
- 16. Combines (6)
- 18. Create (6)
- 19. Thermonuclear weapon (1-4)
- 21. Similar, like (4)



## **Benefice Services in June**

|                       | <b>5th<br/>Trinity 2</b>                  | <b>12th<br/>Trinity 3</b>             | <b>19th<br/>Trinity 4</b>   | <b>26th<br/>Trinity 5</b>     |  |
|-----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| <b>Dickleburgh</b>    | 9.30am<br>PC                              | 9.30am<br>PC                          | 9.30am BCP<br>Communion     | 9.30am<br>PC                  |  |
| <b>Pulham Market</b>  | 9.30am<br>HC<br>6.30pm<br>Celebration     | 8.00am HC<br>10.45am<br>Memorial Hall | 9.30am<br>HC                | 9.30am<br>SW                  |  |
| <b>Pulham St Mary</b> | 8.00am<br>HC<br>9.30am<br>Messy<br>Church | 9.30am<br>PC                          | 9.30am<br>BCP Matins        | 9.30am<br>HC                  |  |
| <b>Rushall</b>        | 11.00am<br>BCP Matins                     | 11.00am<br>HC                         | 11.00am<br>SW               | 11.00am<br>SW                 |  |
| <b>Starston</b>       | 11.00am<br>HC                             | 11.00am<br>BCP<br>Matins              | 11.00am<br>BCP<br>Communion | 11.00am<br>Great and<br>Small |  |
| <b>Thelveton</b>      | 11.00am<br>HC                             | 11.00am<br>BCP Matins                 | With<br>Dickleburgh         | 11.00am<br>SW                 |  |

### Key To Services

**HC:** Holy Communion      **PC:** Parish Communion

**BCP:** Book of Common Prayer    **SW:** Sunday Worship

**CC:** Café Church



**Starston PCC Secretary:** Ruth Cawcutt.

Tel: 01379 852087 Email: [rcawcutt1@btinternet.com](mailto:rcawcutt1@btinternet.com)

**Web Site for Information on all Services:**    <http://www.thebenefice.org.uk/>



## **Starston Parish Council**

|  |                             |                     |  |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Ann Leitch   | Chairman                    | 01379 423387        | <a href="mailto:a_leitch@live.co.uk">a_leitch@live.co.uk</a>           |
| John Akast   | Highways                    | 01379 852877        | Not available  |
| Bobbie Formston  | Tree Warden                 | 01379 853042        | Not available  |
| John Formston  | Footpaths                   | 01379 853042        | <a href="mailto:jformston07@talktalk.net">jformston07@talktalk.net</a> |
| Tom Banks  |                             | 07765 561310        | <a href="mailto:tjhbanks@hotmail.com">tjhbanks@hotmail.com</a>         |
| Sam Carter   |                             | Not available       | <a href="mailto:sam@samuelcarter.com">sam@samuelcarter.com</a>         |
| Helen Gale   |                             | Not available       | <a href="mailto:helengale00@hotmail.com">helengale00@hotmail.com</a>   |
| <b>Sonja Burnett</b>   | <b>Clerk to the Council</b> | <b>01379 309347</b> |  |
| To contact Starston Parish Council: <a href="mailto:starstonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk">starstonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk</a> |                             |                     |  |
| <u>Starston Village Web Site: <a href="http://www.starstonvillage.co.uk">www.starstonvillage.co.uk</a></u>                   |                             |                     |  |

## **Local Councillors**

|                |          |              |  |
|----------------|----------|--------------|--|
| Martin Wilby   | County   | 01379 741504 | <a href="mailto:martin.wilby@norfolk.gov.uk">martin.wilby@norfolk.gov.uk</a> |
| Clayton Hudson | District | 01379 676259 | <a href="mailto:chudson@s-norfolk.gov.uk">chudson@s-norfolk.gov.uk</a>       |

## **Community Services**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Local Buses</b> - from Starston to Harleston and Starston to Long Stratton and Norwich     | For information<br>Ring: <b>0871 200 22 33</b>  |
| <b>Border Hoppa</b> - dial-a-ride service   | For information<br>Ring: <b>01379 854800</b>  |
| <b>Police</b> - (non-emergency)   | Ring: <b>101</b>  |
| <b>Safer Neighbourhood Team</b>   | Email: <a href="mailto:sntharleston@norfolk.pnn.police.uk">sntharleston@norfolk.pnn.police.uk</a>           |
| <b>NHS Emergency &amp; Urgent Care Services</b><br>(Including Emergency out of hours chemist) | Ring: <b>111</b><br>when it's less urgent than 999  |
| <b>Refuse Collection and Queries</b>  | Ring: <b>01508 533830</b>   |
| <b>Harleston Information Plus</b>   | Ring: <b>01379 851917</b><br><a href="mailto:hip@harleston-norfolk.org.uk">hip@harleston-norfolk.org.uk</a> |



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