

PIGFEON POST



STARSTON

www.starstonvillage.co.uk

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March 2016 Issue 290



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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

Advertising

For advertising rates please contact

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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

Monday 29th February *7.30 pm*

Parish Council Meeting - Jubilee Hall

Saturday 9th April *Time t.b.a.*

Starston Youth Club - Farm Visit - Contact Ann Leitch

Monday 16th May *7.30 pm*

Parish Council AGM and Village Meeting - Jubilee Hall

Saturday 11th June *Time t.b.a.*

Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration

Monday 4th July *7.30 pm*

Parish Council Meeting - Jubilee Hall

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

Ring Joy or Bryan Hanner 853200 or 853509



- 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 April edition:
Saturday 12th March**

Pigeon Post and Information about Starston can also be found on-line
www.starstonvillage.co.uk

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



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Around and About the Village

Pennoyers Events:

Mother's Day Vintage Afternoon Tea

Saturday 5th March from 1.30 - 4.00 pm
Treat your lovely Mum (or someone else's) to a relaxing and delicious afternoon tea to celebrate Mothers' Day. Enjoy a selection of finger sandwiches, home-made cream scones and cakes, served on vintage mismatched china and accompanied by a big pot of tea for two.
£13.00 per head. Booking essential.

Spring Craft Fair

Saturday 12th March 10.30 am - 3.00 pm
There will be plenty of inspiration for Easter gift shopping at our Spring Craft Fair. Over 20 talented local artisans and crafters, including some new faces, will be joining us, together with popular favourites. All items are local and hand-made and will include jewellery, stained glass, textiles, aromatherapy, ceramics, handmade cards, candles, and furniture. Our licensed café will be open all day serving specialty teas and coffee, home-made cakes and light lunches. Free entry.

Gabriel's Garden Easter Floral Workshop

Saturday 19th March.
Contact Pennoyers for details.

Saskia Griffiths-Moore

Saturday 19th March 7.30 pm.
In collaboration with Diss Corn Hall on Tour Pennoyers presents singer-songwriter Saskia Griffiths-Moore.
Book now at Pennoyers or via Diss Corn Hall: <http://bit.ly/1MofL8n>.
Tickets: £8.00.

**For details of any event
call 01379 676660**

Ceilidh at Brockdish Village Hall

Saturday April 16th 7.30 pm. Bring your own drinks. Admission £8, under 12's free - includes refreshments. There will also be a raffle. All proceeds to Billingford Windmill restoration. Space limited so you need to pre-book. Contact 01379 853967.

Lions Spring Charity Walk

This year the Harleston Lions' Spring Charity Walk will take place on Sunday 5th June at Gawdy Hall Estates. The chosen charity this year is East Anglian Childrens Hospisces (EACH). The walk will start at 10.00 am from the Gawdy Hall Estates walled gardens and will finish with a picnic at same. We are endeavouring to bring some changes to this year's route and details of this, sponsorship forms, and how to take part will be announced when things are a little more finalised.

Easter In Harleston

On Easter Saturday, 26th March, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm there will be an Easter Craft, Food and Gardens Market on Market Place and Exchange Street. There will be stalls selling gorgeous hand-made and craft items, plants, garden furniture and delicious locally-produced food and drink to eat out or take home.

At 3.00 pm there will be an Easter Bonnet Parade around the centre of town with Easter Egg awards for children and adults taking part. As a preliminary to this event, Creativity (formerly Sparkle & Flair) in Old Market Place will be running a 2-hour Easter Bonnet making session at 10.30 am on Saturday 19th March. Cost £2.50 per person. Book a place with Jill on 855491.



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Notes from the Editor

Not much space left for the Editor this month which is probably no bad thing. Shows there are lots of interesting articles and information competing for space in Pigeon Post.

Quite often some of those articles concern plays, films, music, art exhibitions and the like. When we first moved up here from Surrey we wondered if we would miss these things but not a bit of it. The arts and cultural scene in East Anglia is amazing. Long may it last. As Winston Churchill purportedly once said when responding to a plan to cut money for the arts: *“Then what are we fighting for?”*

For me the arts, in the very broadest sense of that word, bring colour to what would otherwise just be existence.

Michael

Starston Youth Club

We got off to a flying start in January, with 5 children and 5 adults enjoying a cinema event together. Peppa Pig, Ben and Holly and Wall-e were enjoyed by all, as were the home made refreshments.

Our next club meeting is to be held on Saturday 20th February 2.00 - 4.00 pm when we will be making Mother's Day cards. Pre-school children are encouraged to come along for 2.00 pm with a parent. Refreshments are available for all children and adults between the end of the pre-school club and the start of the primary school club at 3.00 pm. We are flexible on ages, so if you think your pre-school age child would prefer to be with the older children, or vice versa, that is fine with us!

A donation of £2 per child per club attendance is appreciated to cover the costs of arts and craft materials and refreshments.

The full 2016 programme will be available on the new village website when it goes live, so do keep looking at the website so you can put the dates in your diary, particularly the farm visit on Saturday 9th April to Crane's Watering Farm to see calves being fed.

Any queries, please contact any of us on the organizing group: Lucy Banks, Jen Roope, Ann Leitch, Jane and George Thompson, Nicola and Ella Wilson

And finally, a very big thank you to everyone who collected EDP Community Chest tokens in January. We managed to hit the 500 tokens target, and have submitted an application for an outdoor table tennis table. If our application is successful, table tennis will be enjoyed by both Starston Youth Club children (who requested it) and the whole community as it will be stored at the Jubilee Hall.



Breeze Redwine in Los Angeles

Last year 13-year old Breeze Redwine from Starston won the pre-teen category at the UK-wide Teenstar singing competition. She has now been invited to go to Long Beach, California, in July to take part in the World Championships of Performing Arts (WCPA). Breeze's dream is to become a professional singer and this intensive coaching and learning experience with world class promoters in attendance could be instrumental in her future career.

The WCPA event attracts contestants from 50 countries and Breeze is very excited at the prospect of going, especially after going through two auditions to be selected. She has not yet decided on the specific songs she will sing but she has chosen three categories, pop, country and an original song.

Breeze, who goes to Archbishop Sancroft High School, is on a music development programme at Charthouse Music, which involves her travelling to London twice a month. She is also in the process of releasing her own single, called ***Dreams***, a song she wrote with the help of her vocal coach Lisa Redford. Lisa has been helping Breeze learn about being an artist and a song writer and has encouraged her to write down what she's feeling.



Breeze's mum, Jackie, said that after her Teenstar win the teenager was approached by music companies but Jackie feels her daughter is still too young. The WCPA event is a huge opportunity but because of Breeze's age, Jackie has to go with her to America so the family need to find £5,500 sponsorship money to cover flights, accommodation and subsistence. Breeze is already planning some fundraising concerts and the family is now seeking other grants or sponsorship as they need to have raised the money by the end of April.

The feedback from the judging panel at Teenstar was very positive:
"Breeze – A haunting original, so great to see you writing songs at such a young age. This shows so much potential and will only get better! An excellent original song. Really like the story behind the song. You were ace!"

We hope you make it to Los Angeles, Breeze, and we wish you well.



Glebe Meadow Update

What a response! Thanks to all the 20 volunteers who helped in Glebe Meadow on Saturday 30th January. They trimmed hedges, cleared the banks of the Beck, mulched the old bales, pollarded the willow and removed all the debris to the bonfire in a constant run of barrows and trailers. And had time to socialise and enjoy Sue's rock cakes! The meadow has never been in better shape. This shows what a supportive community we have in Starston and how much everyone values Glebe Meadow.



In late January, we pruned the Jubilee Orchard apples, pears and quince, leaving the prunus varieties until the summer. It has also become essential to tackle the mole infestations in the top-end where events are held, and where molehills are hazardous and obstruct mowing. A picnic table and bench have been purchased and will be in place at Easter.

Many people inquire about the bees. They have been active during this mild winter and still have plenty of food stored. Bees keep returning to the hives with stacks of orange pollen - even in January - indicating that eggs are being laid and young bees reared. We would love to know what pollen source they are favouring. Early spring flowers, catkins etc? Please let us know if you see honey bees out foraging in the winter. The Bee Group welcomes interest at all levels (please let me know if you'd like to be involved in some way) and we hope to have 3 colonies to pollinate the orchard in 2016.

Peter Grimble - 852819



Andy plays Pooh Sticks for Grown Ups



Jon - a Glebe barrow boy



The Starston Plod

The January Plod saw over fifteen of us out walking in the sunshine, plus one dog! Sarah, Robert and Gerry Fearnley said “We very much enjoyed our plod through the beautiful park land and forest at Knettishall. The weather was very kind to us. We saw some countryside that we would not have known otherwise and then finished off with a very nice meal at the Angel at Larling”.

The next ‘Plod’ will be on Sunday 13th March. The walk will be a shorter one at around 4 miles, leaving from East Ruston at 11.00 am. As it will take over an hour to drive there, I suggest that folks travel there directly, rather than rendez-vous at the Jubilee Hall. The reason to travel this far is that the walk will be along the North Walsham and Dilham Canal (see <http://nwdct.org>), which I have been advised is the only canal with lock(s) in Norfolk.

The plan is again to have lunch after the walk, which will be at The Butchers Arms pub, Oak Lane, East Ruston, Norfolk, NR12 9JG. To book lunch and for details on the start location for the walk, please contact Michael on mikeb.48@gmail.com.

The Plod on the 8th May will be a local one in Wymondham. Details available in the April Pigeon Post.

Ann Leitch

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Starston Abroad



Rosy Barker (The Street, Starston)
on Melbourne beach at the start of her
Year in Australia.



Man being winched off ship in Gandsfjord, Stavanger in Norway,
right opposite the window of **Brian and Christina Greathead's** flat.



Parish Council News

Although this month we are between meetings, here is some information you might find useful. There are more details on the village website under Parish Council News.

Planning. For a fee of £40.00, residents wishing to apply for planning are able to discuss their application with a planning officer at South Norfolk Council in advance. This would enable the applicant to understand how planning policies and other requirements might affect their proposals.

South Norfolk Corporate Plan 2016 - 2020. SNC has recently outlined more clearly their areas for consideration in the years to come. Particular points and challenges that may be of interest to Starston residents are:-

- ◆ Economic growth, productivity and prosperity: working towards high superfast broadband coverage; addressing high unemployment rates the highest being in the 16-19 year age group; a commitment to seeing a footfall increase in market towns such as Harleston; and for the Long Stratton by-pass to be built.
- ◆ Health, wellbeing and early help: Dealing with the forecast that 7% of the population will be over 80 years old by 2021.
- ◆ Place, community and environment: Achieving 16,500 new homes by 2026, of which 1,500 would be affordable houses.

Superfast Broadband: 58 of the 153 Starston households, which is over one third of the village, will not have access to superfast broadband. Consequently, the Parish Council and the Jubilee Hall are exploring whether we can set up a community superfast broadband Wi-fi hotspot at the Jubilee Hall. This would be accessible from both the car park and within the building. We will keep you informed of progress on this.

There is a 6 page guide for those who want to get a better broadband service, including eligibility criteria for applying for a grant for satellite broadband connection. This is on the Parish Council section of the village website. In addition, District Cllr Clayton Hudson is exploring the cost of a remote node to the Starston BT cabinet, which would extend superfast broadband connection. As a community, we can then consider whether funding this should be one of the Parish Council's priorities for CIL monies expenditure (community infrastructure levy), as the cost of this is not included in the Better Broadband for Norfolk budget.

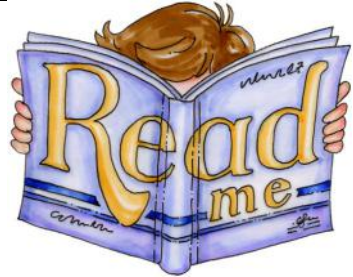
The South Norfolk Litter Pick will be going ahead sometime in April, information to be on the village website.

Sonja Burnett, Clerk to the Council



Pigeon Post Short Story Competition

Last month we announced the winners of the Pigeon Post Short Story Competition and this month, as promised, we are publishing the story which won 2nd prize, *August 1940* by Simon Cook



Several people have said they had intended to write a story for this competition but somehow never got round to it, so start thinking now as we plan to run it again next autumn.

But don't just think - write. As a professional writer I know how easy it is to think about writing, to talk about writing, to say you'll start tomorrow but, as we all know, tomorrow never comes. Start writing now. Don't try and make it perfect - I always throw away 50% of a first draft but at that stage I don't know which 50% it will be.

And don't wait for the next competition. Get some practice in by writing something for Pigeon Post - a special experience, a visit, something you saw or did on holiday, a hobby. Anything that will interest others. Get those writing muscles going and you'll be in fine fettle for writing a short story this autumn.

Let me know if I can help in any way.

Michael

August 1940 by Simon Cook is printed over the page →

Charley's Aunt - RoughCast Theatre Company

This spring RoughCast bring you one of the funniest and most entertaining farces of all time. Charley's Aunt centres on two Oxford undergraduates in search of a chaperone for a visit from their girlfriends to whom they hope to propose. Jack and Charley manage to persuade fellow undergraduate Fancourt "Babbs" Babberley to impersonate Charley's millionairess aunt from Brazil ("where the nuts come from") in this hilarious tale of young love and preposterous deception.

Performances from March 11th - 26th. Venues include Wingfield Barns, Hoxne, The Cut at Halesworth and the Fisher Theatre in Bungay.

Details on the website www.roughcast.co.uk.
Tickets £9/£7 from venues or Tel 01379 586745



August 1940

by Simon Cook

Strange, but once in the air the nerves went away. It was the sitting around that got you.

‘Skip we’ve been sitting here for ninety minutes and...’

‘I’m aware of that. One of the qualities required in a pilot of a twin engine bomber is that he can tell the time. But thank you Nav.’

‘It’ll be a last minute weather report.’

‘And as navigator you’ll be the first to know.’

‘I hate daylight jobs’.

‘You hate any job.’

‘Only the ones where we could get shot to pieces.’

‘Which considering we’re in the middle of a great big war, is most of them.’

‘Yes, but daylight over enemy territory.’

‘Look we know damn well most if not all the enemy fighters are in the South East. Did we see any on the last job...no? Exactly. The beauty of these jobs is we can do as we please. Be a bloody nuisance, that’s what the old man said. I quote: “Bomb stuff. Shoot things. Throw your boots at an enemy greenhouse if it makes you happy.”’

Moments later. ‘Weather’s good skip. Let’s go! Flare! There’s the flare!’

‘Oh yes, that would be that bright starry thing just dropping behind the latrine block. Pity it didn’t drop in it. Engine one, engine two.’

The whole plane shook as two thousand horsepower began to turn the props. Flames four or five feet long spat forth from the exhaust stubs, then a few puffs of white smoke as the engines settled into kickover. As was our habit, the skipper and I checked Lizzie’s dials together.

‘Oil pressure good.’

‘Fuel pumps good.’

‘Fuel good.’

‘Etc. etc.’

‘Well, I would say the old girl’s ready for flight.’



...August 1940 cont'd...

The very moment we became airborne the cacophony ceased as several thousand rivets flew in perfect formation.

‘What’s the plan skip?’

‘Well, I thought we could drop something nice and explosive on the pretty town we saw on our last trip. After that, we could visit those old airship sheds. Remember those? Then head for home, back for breakfast...easy.’

What was pretty much what we did and machine gunned a tram, just for a bit of target practice, as one does. A couple of bombs failed to go off but overall, we made a pretty damn good job of being a nuisance. Then things went wrong...quickly. We were banking away, ready to head for our ‘home’ in Belgium, when we saw our nemesis.

‘Fighters skip. Two portside gaining fast.’

‘What are they damn you? We could outrun them!’

‘Spit. No no, Hurricanes!’

Seconds later bullets tore through Lizzie’s fuselage. The next enemy ‘plane attacked from our starboard. I watched in horror as machine gun fire ripped into the wing and shattered cockpit glass. Whether by luck or judgement, the RAF pilot had hit a fuel tank which promptly burst into vicious white flames. We began to lose height. The skipper’s face and forehead had been gashed by flying glass.

‘Jump you lot. That’s an order. 1,500 metres, that’s all you have. Jump! The enemy have done their job. I’ll land Lizzie in a field. Maybe we’ll meet in a POW camp. Now go!’

Kurt and Hans dropped through the belly of our stricken Dornier. I followed, opening my ‘chute straight away. Even as I felt I could hear the roar of the burning fuel. My comrades were carried away by air currents to land God know where. Lizzie headed for a grand looking house. I imagined the skipper struggling with the controls to avoid it but his heroic act was to no avail. The ‘good’ wing clipped the top of a large tree, as Lizzie and the skip plunged into a field. I could hear voices below but not in the English I had learned at school. The word ‘Hun’ I could recognise but not much else.

I hit English soil quite hard. I lay still for a moment making sure that I hadn’t broken anything. I released my parachute clasp and stood up. My captors were a young lad armed with an old rifle and a woman I presumed to be his mother armed with a pitchfork. Quite frankly, I was more scared then than when the RAF shot us to pieces.



...August 1940 cont'd...

Despite the fierce expressions of my 'welcoming' party, once within the farmhouse I was treated kindly. I drank tea whilst my numerous cuts and bruises were tended to. The rifle became too heavy for the boy, much to my relief. He armed himself with a bread knife. Presently, a policeman arrived and handcuffed me, not before enjoying a cup of tea himself.

'Well done Neville. Here, put these on the prisoner would you?'

I held out my hands so that the young fellow could handcuff me.

'Right ho Jerry lad, off to Harleston nick with you.'

As we left the farmhouse I saw the farmer's wife place a large fruitcake in a tin and give it to the constable.

'Best cake in Norfolk. Behave yourself and you just might get a slice.'

During my incarceration as a POW, just one letter. It informed me that my skipper had died saving the lives of civilians and was given a Christian burial not far from where he crashed, in St. Margaret's churchyard, Starston.

He lies there still.

Next month we'll print 2 more of the story competition entries.

Starston 100 Club

A draw was made at the recent Tapas evening and the lucky winners were:

- 1st prize £60 Dianne Libbey
- 2nd prize £50 Dave and Pat Miller
- 3rd prize £30 Margaret Wheel
- 4th prize £25 Peter Cawcutt
- 5th prize £20 Anna Nursey
- 6th prize £15 Stuart and Debbie Griffin

Thank you, members, for your continued support. Our next ambition is to purchase an industrial dish washer, primarily for hygiene purposes. We are looking probably at a second-hand, re-conditioned one as they are expensive but will complete a washing cycle in 5 minutes or so. If anyone has any good contacts I would be pleased to hear from you.

John Formston



Farmers Kitchen

The Denny family has been farming in Alburgh for three generations. A great deal has changed in agriculture over this time and since Andrew took over the pig herd in 2000, diversification has been a constant talking point around the family breakfast table, usually coming back to: “We should open a farm shop”.

In 2013 Andrew and I started a farm shop online, selling meat from the farm. The customer base grew but to take it to the next level we started looking for premises. Then, last summer an opportunity arose to lease the former Dove restaurant and so began Farmers Kitchen – farm shop and eatery.

We are proud to have our shelves stocked with fabulous local produce – honey, preserves, ice cream and beer, all made in Alburgh, and of course our delicious pork. The eatery serves hearty breakfasts, using our own bacon and sausages, with lighter bites available. There are sandwiches and cooked lunches freshly prepared on site and weekly “specials”, fresh coffee and homemade cakes.



We have recently added afternoon teas, which at the moment need to be booked in advance, but hopefully will soon be available every day. We have monthly special events planned and are very excited for the future of the business.

We would like to thank all those who have supported us so far and look forward to many new faces coming through our doors.

Kelly Denny

St Margaret's Church, Starston

Sunday 3rd April at 12 noon in St Margaret's Church

The Annual Vestry Meeting will be held, followed by the Annual Meeting of the Parochial Church Council. These meetings are to deal with the election of churchwardens, officers and members of the Parochial Church Council. The church belongs to the village and it is an opportunity to find out what has happened during 2015, and to discuss future ideas and proposals for the church.

If you need any further information please contact Ruth Cawcutt, PCC Secretary.
Email: rcawcutt1@btinternet.com or telephone 852087.



Do You Take the EDP? If so, Starston needs your help

The Eastern Daily Press, in association with the Norfolk Community Foundation, has launched its Community Chest, a campaign to give away £100,000 in 2016.

The idea is that any community group can apply for money to help with a particular project. Whether it's a community event, improvement of village facilities, a youth club, equipment for a village hall. Amounts from £250 to £2500 will be available in monthly giveaways through the whole year.

In order to apply for one of these grants then all we need to do, as a village, is collect the tokens printed daily in the EDP, a different colour for each month. Once we have collected 500 tokens, we can put in our application. However the tokens have to be collected in the month when the application form goes in. Once the month has ended a new application period starts and we need to start collecting again.

So far, we have commitments from 15 households and 2 businesses to collect EDP vouchers for Starston. If you take the EDP every day then that is at least 6 tokens a week so you could contribute over 24 tokens in a month, as some days the voucher counts as 5 tokens instead of the usual 1 token.

Thanks to Pennoyers who partnered with Starston by giving us their "spare" January tokens, we have submitted a grant application for a table tennis table for the Starston Youth Club. Going forward, we need at least another 5 households or businesses (eg hairdresser, solicitor's office, coffee shop) for us to reach the target of 500 tokens. So long as the tokens are from the month in which the application is going in they can come from anywhere, so if you have friends, family, pilates class, swimming group or your place of work who are not collecting them for their own community, please ask if you can get hold of their tokens as well. If you have not already done so, please let Michael Bartlett or Ann Leitch know how many vouchers you may be able to collect each week, so we know approximately how many we can expect each month.

Any community is always in need of money for projects but some suggestions for Starston in 2016 include:

- ◆ Queen's 90th birthday celebration 11th June
- ◆ Starston Teddy Bear's Picnic 21st August
- ◆ Starston Youth Club – table tennis, table football equipment; toddler soft play items
- ◆ Contribution towards kitchen and toilet facilities for the church.



So can you help? If you take the EDP please start saving your tokens now. There is an "EDP Community Chest" coupon collection box in the BT phone box on The Street so as you collect the coupons please leave them there. This is a real chance to gain some money to help Starston. Please help if you can.




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An Engagement With Death

On the evening of Friday 5th February there was an engagement party for the Banfield family in the Jubilee Hall which ended with the death of the prospective bridegroom. Shock! Horror! But Don't Panic. There were no blue lights flashing along the Harleston Road as this was simply another very funny production from the *Made2Measure* theatre company.

There were 20 of us there, enjoying drinks and nibbles supplied by Debbie and Stuart, as this pastiche of a 1950's murder mystery took place in front of and around us. Starting with the party, the action then moved back in time to show us the events that led to the murder and how any one of the other characters had a motive for doing it. The ponderous policeman conducted an investigation which didn't help us, the audience, at all but in the interval we had a chance to examine the exhibits and then write down who we thought the guilty party might be. We later found that 4 of the audience had got it right.

This was a very funny play, helped by the fact that all the cast played more than one part, sometimes changing hats or coats in front of us. The mistress of the house, Julia Banfield, was actually played by 5 different people, each using the Mrs Banfield lace-trimmed hat when it was their turn to be Julia.

A most enjoyable evening, which as well as providing great entertainment, also made a profit of around £50 for the Jubilee Hall funds.





Notes From A Starston Garden

It is my greatest challenge, the thing that frightens me, the thing I poke at, terrified that I'll get it wrong. Yes, faced with a straggly shrub, a rose that has rambled too far or an exuberant apple tree I tremble. The pictures in the "how to prune" articles in magazines never bear any resemblance to the rose or forsythia or fruit tree that I want to tackle. The result is that I circle them distrustfully, occasionally making a foray to lop off a branch here or snip off a shoot there.

So I decided to go and learn from experts how it's done. This winter I have been on two pruning courses - one at Peter Beales at Attleborough, getting the low down on pruning roses, the other a splendid hands-on session in the orchard of the Crown Nursery in Ufford. I wouldn't say I am now an expert but I have learned the basics, working with real plants, and, above all, I feel more confident. Now where are my secateurs?

Dee The Gardener

County Council News

The latest Harleston business breakfast was held at the Archbishop Sancroft School where it was good to have a catch-up and update about the many recent successes of the school and the positive plans for the future. Good news for Pulham School - they have received planning permission for a new classroom, toilet and outside play area which should be in place for the next school year starting in September.

On Wednesday 15th June the first leg of the Aviva Women's Tour of Britain Cycle race is starting at Southwold and coming along the Waveney Valley. The race is scheduled to travel through the town centre of Harleston and then through the villages of Starston, Pulham St. Mary, Pulham Market and Tivetshall on its way to Attleborough and finishing in Norwich. There are bound to be many events planned for the day along the route so look out for more details nearer the time.

Norfolk County Council has agreed an increase of council tax of 3.99% for the financial year 2016/17. Two percent of this is to be ring fenced for Adult Services and 1.99% will help to support front line services. There will be no library or fire station closures and there will be a £1.5m fund for small highways projects, to re-open our recycling centres and to fully support the Historic Environment Service.

South Norfolk Retailer Awards: You can vote for your favourite Retailer in any of South Norfolk's four market towns. This is the second year for these awards which celebrates the qualities that make our market towns stand out as unique and valued shopping destinations. Voting forms will be in the local shops or you can visit South Norfolk's website to vote.

Martin Wilby



Starston Community Speed-Watch

Speed-Watch is a vital weapon manned by people living in Starston to monitor the speed of traffic passing through our village. For those of you who don't know how it works and what it does, here is some information.



Does it do any good? Yes, it does. When the teams are out there is a calming effect on the traffic with speeds dramatically reduced. Inevitably there are a handful of idiots who have no thought for others and ignore us. They seem to have no idea of the danger caused by speeding through the community.

What happens if we see someone exceeding the speed limit? We record the registration number and make of the vehicle, together with the speed it was doing. That information is passed to the Speed-Watch office in Norwich where it is logged on their computer. If the driver is caught offending again that counts as two strikes against him or her. A third recorded offence means they will be contacted by the authorities or receive a visit from a police officer and they will then be monitored by the police in the future and may face prosecution.

One last point, if you are the person logged for speeding please don't hurl abuse at the team. If you were driving at the legal speed limit, or under, then you would not have been logged in the first place.

Frederic Coates - 851949
Starston Community Speed-Watch Coordinator

Safer Neighbourhood Team

POLICE CONNECT is a service that can keep you up to date with crime information, appeals, meetings, events and safety advice. This information can be sent to you by e-mail, text or phone call. If you are interested in this service please contact us and we will send you a form for you to complete. If there is any information you would like to see from us on a regular basis please let us know and we will aim to include it.

Don't forget, report anything suspicious on 101 but always dial 999 in an emergency.

Jim and Pete

Other Police News

The Metropolitan Police Service has produced the 'Little Book of Big Scams', which gives information on how you can protect yourself from many of the most frequent scams. This can also be accessed via the Safety Advice section of the website:

<http://www.norfolk.police.uk/safetyadvice/onlinesafety/avoidingscams.aspx>



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Local Films in March

Pennovers Film (Pulham St Mary)

Title: Spectre (12a)

Date: Friday 18th March **Time:** 8.00 pm (Bar opens at 7.15)

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

This time Bond takes on a global criminal organisation after meeting the beautiful widow of the man he has just killed!

Booking advisable - phone 01379 676660. Ices available.

Harleston Film (Masonic Rooms, Thoroughfare, Harleston)

Title: The Lady In The Van (12a)

Date: Thursday 31st March **Time:** 7.30 pm (Doors open at 7.00 pm)

Cost: £4.00

This charming and hilarious British film is based on Alan Bennett's real experiences with the lady who lived in a van on his driveway.

Book with Harleston Information Plus on 01379 851917

Alburgh Film (Alburgh Village Hall)

Title: Spectre (12a)

Date: Friday 18th March **Time:** 7.30 pm (Doors & bar open at 6.45 pm)

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

A cryptic message from the past sends James Bond on a rogue mission to meet Lucia, the beautiful and forbidden widow of an infamous criminal.

Answers to the February Crossword



ACROSS

5. Blob
8. Candidate
9. Aria
10. Standpipe
12. Access
14. Detach
16. Defend
18. Redcap
20. Pantomime
22. Eyed
23. Recording
24. Etna

DOWN

1. Canticle
2. Eden
3. Adapts
4. Stupid
6. Lark
7. Blanch
11. Stud
13. Ever
15. Coalmine
16. Delete
17. Drawer
18. Ration
19. Bean
21. Made



March Crossword by Zennor

1		2		3			4	5		6		7
						8						
9								10				
11						12						
	13	14						15				
16												17
18				19				20		21		
22						23						
24								25				

CLUES ACROSS

1. Wheel with a grooved rim (6)
4. Abscond or slip away (6)
9. France has one but so has Cornwall (in name at least) (7)
10. Cute kittens on Facebook go this way (5)
11. A stiff and arrogant gait which can offer support (5)
12. A rose or a mountaineer (7)
13. Cavorting with bells, maybe on a car bonnet (6,5)
18. Formal title without any real authority (7)
20. A reddish brown colour reminiscent of old photos (5)
22. A stealthy search for prey (5)
23. The occasion of a saintly feast (4,3)
24. He guards the ladies but with no personal hope (6)
25. To be adjacent to (6)

CLUES DOWN

1. To read carefully (6)
2. Lady Chatterley had one (5)
3. A person with the right to vote (7)
5. An author's concluding words (5)
6. A form of exercise once promoted by Jane Fonda (7)
7. Insignificant or meagre (6)
8. A simple device for opening a door from the other side (11)
14. No longer useable perhaps because of excessive wear (7)
15. Taken for granted (7)
16. A diet to hold sheets of paper together (6)
17. Indian fig tree (6)
19. If this was plural you could gather them in the spring (5)
21. Spanish Pete (5)



Benefice Services in March

	6th Mothering Sunday	13th Lent 5	20th Palm Sunday	Holy Week	27th Easter Day
Dickle- burgh	9.30am MSS Service	9.30am PC	9.30am BCP Communion 10.00am Café Church	Thurs 24th 7.30pm Maundy Communion	9.30am Easter Communion
Pulham Market	9.30am MSS 6.30pm Celebration	8.00am HC 10.45am Memorial Hall	9.30am HC	Friday 25th 10.30am Walk of Witness	9.30am Easter Communion
Pulham St Mary	8.00am BCP Com. 9.30am Messy Mothers Day	9.30am HC	9.30am BCP Matins	Friday 25th 11.30am Service on the Green	9.30am Easter Communion
Rushall	11.00am MSS	11.00am HC	11.00am SW		11.00am Easter Communion
Starston	11.00am MSS	11.00am BCP Matins	11.00am BCP Communion	Friday 25th 2.00pm The Last Hour	11.00am All Age Communion
Thelveton	11.00am MSS	11.00am BCP Matins	With Dickleburgh		11.00am Easter Communion



Easter Sunday in Starston

All age Communion Service at 11.00 am where
the Great and Small and the regular
congregations will come together to celebrate
Easter Sunday.

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt and
refreshments in the church following the service.

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



Starston Parish Council

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

Local Councillors

Martin Wilby	County	01379 741504	martin.wilby@norfolk.gov.uk
Clayton Hudson	District	01379 676259	chudson@s-norfolk.gov.uk

Community Services

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



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