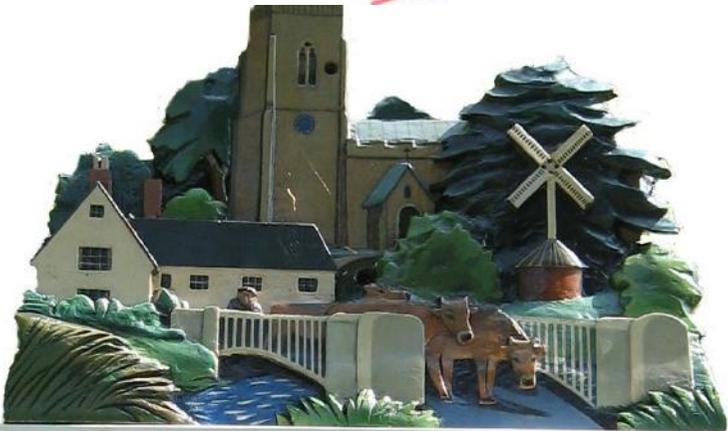


PIGFEON POST



New Village Web Site

STARSTON

www.starstonvillage.co.uk

19

80

May 2016 Issue 202



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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

Friday 6th May 7.00 pm

Jubilee Hall Celebration - see Page 17

Monday 16th May 7.30 pm

Parish Council AGM and Village Meeting - Jubilee Hall

Saturday 11th June Starts 3.00 pm

Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration - Glebe Meadow

Monday 4th July 7.30 pm

Parish Council Meeting - Jubilee Hall

Saturday 6th August 6.00 pm

St. Margaret's church fete - venue unknown

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 June edition:
Thursday 12th May**

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

Harleston and Waveney Art Trail

Until Tuesday 17th May

Monday – Saturday during normal opening times. An exhibition from professional artists who live and work in the picturesque Waveney Valley.

Cafe open from 9.30 am – 3.30 pm Monday – Friday serving refreshments and lunches.

Pennoyers

Dawn Chorus Walk and Breakfast. Sunday 1st May, 4.00 am

Celebration of International Dawn Chorus Day with a walk around Pulham countryside led by local bird expert Sid Batty. Introduction to the mysteries of birdsong during a 3-4 mile walk. All walkers will be rewarded by a hearty cooked breakfast on return to the Pennoyer Centre. £12.50 Adults / £6.50 Children under 12.

Booking essential 01379 676660

CPR Demonstration - Starston Jubilee Hall

Waveney Valley Community Responders will be holding a CPR and other lifesaving demonstrations for the local community in Starston Jubilee Hall on Saturday 30th April at 10.00 am. All ages welcome, especially families and children. Admission is free. See page 18 for details.

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. Entries close on 14th May. 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.

EDP Community Vouchers Update

Thank you to everyone who is collecting EDP vouchers on behalf of Starston. Please do keep collecting – collection boxes are in the BT box on The Street and in the church. Sadly we have not been successful with our grant applications towards the 2016 Starston Teddy Bears' Picnic so if any business or individual would like to contribute to this year's community picnic, please can they contact Dee Palmer - 852318



Welcome

Joy Brooks has recently moved into Oakdene on Railway Hill.
Welcome to Starston, Joy.



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Our New Website - Note from the Editors

At last, after many hours of work, the new village web site for Starston is up and running at www.starstonvillage.co.uk

The main innovation is the **Front Page Notices** section on the Home Page, where anybody can post up to date information, which will often be more helpful than waiting a month until the next edition of Pigeon Post. This Notices page will be especially useful to share instant problems (burst water mains, road closures, trees down across a road etc.), to tell people about last minute events, or simply to post a reminder of events about to happen.

In other words this is a shared village notice board which is instant and available to everyone. We hope you will use it and find it useful.

Another innovation is the **Footpaths** page. Here you can report any problems you encounter on the paths around the village. Again anyone can use this section.

To post a News Story or a Footpath Report you need to register and set up a User Name and Password. Registering is not difficult and you only have to do it once. After that, just log in with User Name and Password and you can post the information you want to share. If you need any help with this, just ask.

The new site also has all the information that was on the previous site - sections for all the organisations in the village, a picture gallery, articles about the history of Starston and so on. The Pigeon Post team has set up this new site and will monitor it regularly in case of unwanted or offensive posts. However, we are not responsible for keeping the main sections of the site up to date. Each area of village activity - Parish Council, Jubilee Hall, Glebe Meadow, Church and Pigeon Post - has appointed someone from their group to be responsible for keeping these sections up to date.

Before the site went 'live' a number of people in the village were asked to 'test drive' it to try and iron out any bugs. (Thank you to those of you who contributed – this was extremely helpful). We found some, but undoubtedly missed some, so please let us know if you find anything that does not work or is not easy to understand. Let us know, too, if you would like any other pages or features. No rash promises, but we'll do what we can!

Please look at the new site, not just once but regularly, to keep in touch with what is happening in Starston. We now have a way of sharing information in real time, so please use it and tell your friends.

If you would like to be involved with maintaining or improving the site please do get in touch.

The Pigeon Post Website Team.



Charity Walks

Paws in the Park - all proceeds to All Hallows Healthcare Trust

Come along on Sunday 15th May and enjoy a 2, 5, or 7 mile walk on the private picturesque Ditchingham Estate by kind permission of the Earl Ferrers. Gates open between 10.30 am and 11.30 am to begin the walk. £5 per adult, children and dogs free.



Bring your camera and binoculars and enjoy the beautiful scenery which includes a lake, stream and woodland providing a fantastic opportunity to view wildlife. If you are not a dog owner - don't panic everyone is welcome. The meeting point for the walk is Beaters Retreat, Hall Farm, off Belsey Bridge Road, Ditchingham, Norfolk NR35 2JX.

Beaters Retreat provides plenty of free parking, refreshments, stalls and toilet facilities, an ideal venue for such an event. For further information please visit: www.ditchinghamestate.com

Harleston Lions Club - for the East Anglia's Children's Hospices



Come along on Sunday 5th June to enjoy a beautiful walk on Gawdy Hall Estates and the surrounding Waveney Valley.

Minimum entry donation £5 or by Sponsorship Form available from Lion Val Tolhurst. Phone 01379 -852592 or ask at Kitchen Sense or email: valsuetolhurst@gmail.com

The walk will take approximately three/four hours over uneven terrain with gentle hills and several stiles – stout walking boots and stick recommended. Route is not suitable for pushchairs.

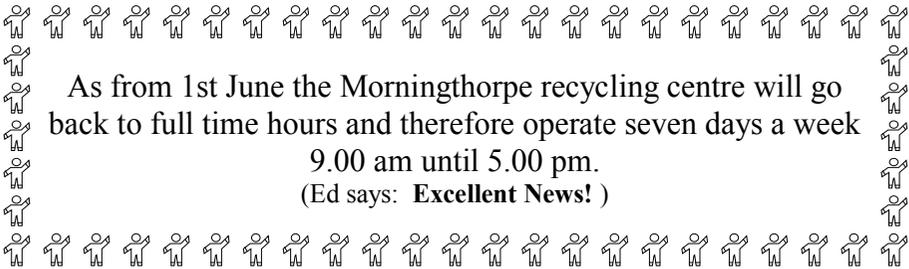
Well behaved dogs welcome but must be kept on a lead at all times.

We will meet at 10.00 am at the East Lodge Entrance off Church Lane, Redenhall, IP20 9NY.

We supply bottled water and biscuits for the walk - bring a picnic to enjoy in the gardens later.



County Council News



As from 1st June the Morningthorpe recycling centre will go back to full time hours and therefore operate seven days a week
 9.00 am until 5.00 pm.
 (Ed says: **Excellent News!**)

Potholes: Norfolk County Council has successfully bid for funding for pothole repairs from the Department of Transport. NCC will receive just over £1.6m from the fund which will be on top of the £1.2m agreed at this year’s budget meeting, with a further £1.5m allocated for small highway related projects. To report a pothole or highway defect please go to the Council’s website www.norfolk.gov.uk or contact me, give me the details and I will report it to highways.

Cycling: NCC needs your help to shape the future of cycling and walking in the county. We are inviting residents to share their thoughts on our draft Norfolk Cycling and Walking Action Plan. The plan will be used with district councils, businesses, voluntary and community organisations to improve walking and cycling networks across Norfolk, including bidding for Government funding.

Etc. Talking about cycling, further details are available for the Women’s Tour of Britain race that is coming through the town of Harleston and the villages of Starston, Pulham St Mary, Pulham Market and Tivetshall on Wednesday 15th June. The race will start in Southwold at 10.15 am and is expected to come through the centre of Harleston at around 12.15 pm and then off through the villages. All details of the race can be found at www.womenstour.co.uk

Martin Wilby, martin.wilby@norfolk.gov.uk , Tel: 01379 741504

Park Radio Progress

<p>Plans to bring Park Radio back on-air full-time in South Norfolk and Mid Suffolk have taken a big step forward. The locally-based community radio station has been given a boost, having received planning consent from South Norfolk Council for its proposed transmitters at Diss and Harleston. The relay transmitter for the Harleston area will be sited in Fuller Road on the town's industrial estate .</p>



Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration



Yes, the date is fast approaching, and preparations for our village celebration on Saturday 11th June are well underway. There will be activities and fun for all the family from 3.00 pm to 9.00 pm on the Glebe Meadow.



The running order for the day, starting at 3.00 pm, is as follows:

- ◆ 90 firings of church bells, one for each year of the Queen's life
- ◆ Children's outdoor activities
- ◆ All-age service on the Glebe 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 (eg home made quiche, sausage rolls, cheese straws etc) to contribute to the afternoon tea party. Hot and cold drinks will be provided with afternoon tea. If you would like to help with the organisation of this village event, please contact any of the following people:-

- ◆ Preparing Glebe Meadow (safety hazard fencing, mowing etc) – Peter Grimble, petergrimble@gmail.com
- ◆ Set up and take down of marquees – Bryan Hanner, joy.hanner42@icloud.com
- ◆ Setting out chairs and tables & hanging out bunting on the day – John Formston, jformston07@talktalk.net
- ◆ Outdoor children's activities – Ann Leitch, a_leitch@live.co.uk
- ◆ All-age church service on Glebe Meadow – Rev Norman Steer, randn@steerfamily.plus.com
- ◆ Refreshments and afternoon tea – Stella Rice, ricestar@aol.com
- ◆ Team games – Chris Sparrow, chris.sparrow2211@hotmail.com

John Formston, Bryan Hanner, Ann Leitch



Another Bake Off Opportunity

Your delicious cakes are needed for the 90th Birthday Afternoon Tea Celebration of Her Majesty on 11th June. Everyone joined in and enjoyed the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations so it was thought another ‘Bake Off Competition’ would add to the fun. Entries should be at the Jubilee Hall by 2.00 pm for judging. All that is needed will be your name, address and telephone number on a piece of paper to be placed underneath your entry. Each entry will be grouped and numbered and, so that everyone has a chance, there will be three categories:

- Group A - 11 years of age and under
- Group B - 12 - 16 years of age
- Group C - 17 years and over

You can make whatever type of decorated cake, or cakes, you like. There will also be an overall ‘Champion’ winner. Stella Rice has very kindly agreed to be in charge of the catering for the tea but Starston does food very well so if you could bring along a plate of savouries it will no doubt help to make sure that all tastes are catered for.

Ruth Cawcutt

Harleston Players – Auditions for ‘Oliver’

On Monday 16th and Thursday 19th May Harleston Players will be holding auditions for our autumn production, Lionel Bart’s fantastic musical *Oliver*, at the Jays Green Community Centre in Harleston, with children (aged 9-14) asked to arrive at 6.00 pm, to be collected at 7.30 pm. Adult (15+) auditions will be from 7.30 pm till 10.00 pm. The auditions will involve readings from the script and some singing (but not solo, unless you want to audition for a solo-singing role). If you’ve never acted before, this is an ideal opportunity to have a try. We’ll need a large cast and always love to see new faces. Harleston



Players prides itself on being a friendly group, open to everyone regardless of experience; all you need is energy, commitment (once

you’re in the cast, you will need to attend two rehearsals a week for several months), and a desire to make new friends and have lots of fun.

Performance dates for the show are 21st, 22nd, 27th, 28th and 29th October. Rehearsals will be on Monday and Thursday evenings from 18th July. For those in the cast there is a production cast fee of £15 for Friends of Harleston Players, or £20 for non-Friends. Being a Friend entitles you to free tickets to our three main productions each year, as well as the chance to join us on theatre trips and other social activities. The annual Friends’ fee is £24 (£18 for concessions). For more information, please contact the producers, Juliet Lloyd: (julietlloyd100@gmail.com) or Mike Davison (mudracemike@yahoo.co.uk).

See us at www.harlestonplayers.co.uk



Memories of Steam

Earlier this year the Flying Scotsman came home to the National Rail Museum in York, bringing in thousands, keen to marvel at this magnificent example of British engineering. It stood proud, overshadowing Rocket, first of the many. For some this was a bit of a history lesson, for others it would evoke many memories.

Until I was three my parents and I lived with my grandparents - not unusual in post-war Britain, there simply weren't enough houses. My first memory of my grandfather was of this kindly man, who often left the house before I woke, arriving home on his squeaky bicycle; his bright blue eyes peeping out from his sooty face. When he took his cap off there was a line above his eyebrows where the soot ended, his forehead seemed very white in contrast to the soot. He would take up residence at the kitchen sink (there was no bathroom in the terraced house) and emerge a while later looking uncommonly clean. Of course diesel eventually replaced steam, but he took it in his stride (and arrived home a bit cleaner).

He never learnt to drive a car; I found that very strange, although of course it wasn't unusual in the 1950's. I just felt it rather odd that he could drive this huge machine, but not a small one. His personal transport was his trusty bicycle, complete with wooden box attached behind his seat, and his hurricane lamp swinging from the handlebars. He would cycle home from Thorpe Station to what is now known as the Golden Triangle. I can't recall it being very golden then! That box often arrived home full of horseradish roots, dug up from beside some distant track, which he scrubbed and grated (whilst wearing his gas mask to avoid the effects, which are similar to peeling onions) and made into horseradish sauce.

Later we moved into the country, by a railway line. It was quiet, most of the time, until we heard a particular whistle. Whatever we were doing stopped, and my sister and I ran down to the bottom of the garden to wave. There was one memorable occasion when our guests for Sunday lunch were left, abruptly, at the table, wondering where the fire was! And as I crossed the level crossing each day on my way to school I always hoped he would come past.

Growing up there are always things you don't understand..... Dr Beeching redundant. As a child the only doctors you know are the ones that make you better.

So the back and forth to London during the Blitz, the Commendation for Bravery for rescuing cattle from burning wagons, his time driving the Oliver Cromwell, last of the big steam trains, suddenly seemed to him worthless episodes in his story.

Sue Moore



Starston Youth Club



The visit to Crane's Watering Farm in April was really enjoyed by both children and the accompanying adults, despite the pouring rain. We had the delight of feeding the calves, one of which had been born the previous day, and seeing ALL the Jersey cows in the new big barn. We learnt from Tanya Colman that the cows are

in the top 1% of Jersey herds in the UK – hence what a privilege to be shown round by Sue and Ralph Moore and Helen. In addition to seeing the livestock, the boys had a great time climbing up into the cockpit of the big tractors and turning on the lights. The tractors had wheels taller than all the children and quite a few of the adults present!

Our next event is joining in the Queen's 90th birthday celebration on Saturday 11th June from 3.00 pm on the Glebe Meadow. The Youth Club's table tennis table and soft play ball pit, complete with slide and steps, will be available all afternoon in a marquee.

Dates for the autumn programme and contact details for the organisers are available on the new village website.

Ann Leitch, Jen Roope, Jane Thompson, Nicola Wilson



The Flying Scotsman in the National Rail Museum in York



Archbishop Sancroft - 50th Anniversary

Archbishop Sancroft Church of England High School in Harleston celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. To mark this special occasion Head Teacher, Richard Cranmer, along with the Governing body, would like to invite past staff, ex pupils and past governors to join them on the evening of Friday 24th June from 6.30 – 9.00 pm at the school. Reminisce about your time at ASHS, take a tour of our school as it is today, enjoy a drink with old friends and colleagues and take a trip down memory lane in our exhibition of ASHS over the years.



In this age of modern technology we hope social media will enable us to reach many people who have spent time at ASHS, but recognising not all of us are technology savvy we have enlisted the help of the Pigeon Post to reach those who prefer more traditional methods. Please pass details of this event to anyone with links to our school. We look forward to welcoming you back to ASHS and invite you to join our ASHS alumni as we look back over half a century and find out, with great interest, what career paths our students went on to take. Our current motto is 'ASHS to anywhere', where did you go after your time at Archbishop Sancroft? We would love to know.

Please get in touch and let us know you will be joining us. Partners/spouses are very welcome too. If you have old photos you could lend us or memories you can share, we would love to include these in our exhibition. Email us at:

alumni@ashs.org.uk or telephone 01379 852561 and ask for Richard Cranmer, Rob Connelly or Emma Johnson.

Harleston Choral Society

The Harleston Choral Society will be running a St John Passion workshop on Saturday 21st May from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm in the Village Hall, St James South Elmham. FREE to everyone, visitors welcome. Music, tea and coffee will be provided, but bring your own lunch.

We'll be singing the Passion, with professional soloists and orchestra, at our summer concert on Saturday 18th June.

More information on the HCS website **www.harlestonchoralsoc.org.uk** or from Jo Curry on 01986 875494, **jo.curry@sky.com**



Harleston & Waveney Art Trail – Open Studios



This year the Harleston & Waveney Art Trail Open Studios takes place over the last two weekends of May, 21st – 22nd and 28th – 30th including Bank Holiday Monday. We continue to offer a wide variety; paintings, drawings, textiles, mosaics, prints and three dimensional pieces together with a warm welcome from all our artists. This year we have introduced two additional opportunities for studio visits, plus a new location at The River Waveney Trust Centre, Earsham where Ben Wardle, RWT’s ‘Artist in Residence’ is our 2016 guest artist invited to take part in Open Studio.



Christina Greathead, Secretary, HWAT

Your nearest studios are Christina Greathead in Starston near the Church and Caryl Challis who is located at the other end of Hallwong Lane on the Gawdy Hall Estate. There are also Kath Wallace, Nicky Stainton and Alan Frewin in Harleston. Full details of all artists and their studio opening times are in the brochure - available in Harleston, Bungay, local businesses and venues, and also on our website: www.hwat.org.uk

Christian Aid Week – Starston and The Pulhams



Christian Aid week is from 15th to 21st May

During the week: House to house collections in Starston and Pulham Market.

Wednesday 18th May: Frugal lunch 12.15 - 1.30 pm at the Methodist Chapel, Pulham Market. Come and enjoy delicious soup and bread roll.

Thursday 19th May: Coffee morning 10.00 am - 12.00 noon at North Grange House, North Green Road, Pulham St Mary. All welcome.

This year the Christian Aid appeal is supporting projects to help victims of flooding in Bangladesh.



Jubilee Hall Story Part 4 - The Gymkhana Years

If you've been reading the story so far you will have seen the very extensive list of fund raising events undertaken to ensure we got our village hall. Not least of these were the Gymkhanas, held annually on the Rectory Meadow, between The Old Rectory and Grove Hill House, with access from Railway Hill.

In fact the first gymkhana happened very quickly, in the summer of 1974, and was held in Needham. Norton Moore offered the use of land, and Gill Reeve (who now helps with the Starston Dog Show) and Sally Bell from Withersdale organised the gymkhana, with Starston residents running stalls, parking cars and providing refreshments. A profit of £92 was made.

The following year saw the move to the Rectory Meadow, with entrance to the event being 20p; children got in for free. The cost of entering a gymkhana class was a further 15p. More villagers were now involved and a bigger profit, £215 was made. Mrs Milburn also opened the gardens at Grove Hill House on this occasion, which boosted funds. The gymkhana grew year-on-year, and a large number of Starston residents became involved. Following the 1975 event Ralph Moore was elected Show Director with a number of Section Leaders to help him oversee the gymkhana in future years. Some of you may recall some of them:

- * A Roper and A Harris: Gate, Parking, Signs
- * R Wood: Treasurer on the day
- * Mrs Harris: Registrations, Central Office
- * Mrs Taylor and Mrs Self: Cross Country Office
- * D Griffin: Cross Country Event Judge
- * R Taylor and P Blake: Gymkhana Judges
- * C Webb: Chief Steward
- * D Payne: Assistant Steward
- * A Lunn: Catering
- * W Mann: 6 pole Jumping
- * Mrs Evan and Mrs Golby: Side Shows
- * Mrs Moore: Raffle
- * Mrs Riches: Press
- * Mr Price: Schedules

Of course each of these Section Leaders had a number of assistants and, as well as the names above, others organised pony rides and ran the bar. The bar was obviously very worthwhile because in 1977 it ran dry!

I'm sure you can now see that this was not really a 'one day' event. A great deal of time and effort was put in by a lot of people throughout the year, not least the Men's Working Party, which in early 1976 took over the barn at Cranes →



Jubilee Hall Celebration

On Friday 6th May at 7.00 pm we are holding the 'official' opening of the restored Jubilee Hall. Everyone who loves the Jubilee Hall is welcome, whether you have helped fund the restoration, carried out work on the building, used the Hall as a hirer or resident, volunteered in the Hall or Glebe Meadow, or just love the Hall as a key part of our community.

It will be a 'cheese and wine plus nibbles' evening, with appropriate refreshments for children, and is intended to celebrate the completion of the major works to the roof, walls, doors and windows, wiring and car parking, and to thank those who have helped along the way.

It would greatly help the organising of the catering to know if you plan to attend, so please confirm with Bryan or Peter if you have not already done so.

We look forward to seeing you on 6th May. Many thanks.

Peter Grimble 852819
Bryan Hanner 853200

—————→ Watering Farm in order to construct jumps for future events.

Needless to say things didn't always run smoothly. There were occasional suggestions that people were not 'pulling their weight', and the various PA systems used over the years didn't always pull theirs either (in 1978 the PA system on the ice cream van was used and proved very successful). But by-and-large things worked well and profits increased to £635 in 1978. The last gymkhana in 1981 topped £700.

The sums raised may not seem very much by today's standards, but they were considered very good 35 – 40 years ago and certainly helped towards the purchase of the hall.

Sue & Ralph Moore

Editor's PS: *I remember having a very minor helping role at at least one of those – great fun! There must have been some lovely photographs taken – does anyone still have any? Do get in touch if you have, and would like to let us print them and put them on the new website. We promise to take good care of any prints entrusted to us.*
Christina



Learn How To Save A Life

Waveney Valley Community Responders will be holding a CPR and other lifesaving demonstrations for the local community in Starston Jubilee Hall on Saturday 30th April from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm – drop in when you can. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is a lifesaving technique useful in many emergencies, including heart attack or near drowning, in which someone's breathing or heartbeat has stopped.

Admission is free but any donations are welcome. All ages welcome, especially families and children. You are never too young or too old to learn how to save a life. Come and meet your Community First Responder team and see what we do.

Many Communities now have a defibrillator available for the public to use in an emergency but...

- * Would you know how to keep someone alive until it can be fetched?
- * Would you be too scared to use it or too uncertain to try and do CPR?
- * Would you know if someone was actually having a heart attack?

Effective CPR can make the difference between life and death and every second counts so why not pop in sometime during the day and...

- * Learn how you can save a life.
- * Learn what a heart attack can look and feel like.
- * Learn how to do effective CPR.
- * Learn how to use a defibrillator.
- * Have a practice on the training manikins.
- * Meet your local Community First Responders.

Community First Responders volunteer for the ambulance service and attend emergency calls in the area where they live or work. Their aim is to reach a potential life threatening emergency in the first vital minutes before the ambulance crew arrives.

Anyone can become a Community First Responder but you must:

- * Be physically fit
- * Be aged between 18 and 70
- * Agree to a disclosure and barring service check (DBS). This was previously known as criminal records bureau disclosure or CRB.
- * Agree to undertake training, which is provided by the service.
- * Have a full driving licence and access to a road worthy car.

Our thanks to Starston Jubilee Hall for the use of their premises for this event. We are always looking for more volunteers so if you would like to get involved, please contact us via email at: norfolkresponder@eastamb.nhs.uk or phone 08456 013733.

Shaun Button, Group Co-ordinator Waveney Valley Responders



Waveney Food Bank

There is now a box in the Jubilee Hall for contributions to the Waveney Food Bank. The Starston Stitchers meet in the Hall on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 10.00 am to about 2.00 pm, so please drop your items in then, or any other time the Hall is open. We'd love you to join us for a cup of tea, or even some stitching, too!

Prayer Shawls and Care Blankets: some of the Starston Stitchers are busy knitting or crocheting Care Blankets and Prayer Shawls, all in beautiful colours. If you would like to get involved, or know someone who would appreciate a Shawl or Blanket, please contact Linda Savage on 01379 423007.



Changes to Waste and Recycling Bin Collection



In June, waste and recycling bin collection days in this area will be changing. Although these changes will not affect every household, it is likely that the days of collection for the majority of residents will change. Please look out for more information that will be delivered to you during April and May for full details.



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Notes From A Starston Garden

Blow, winds, and crack your cheeks! rage! blow!

One could be forgiven for thinking that, once again, the weather gods have been listening to old Lear. We've had eleven named storms this winter – that is storms where the forecast wind strength merits yellow, amber or red warnings. We've been relatively lucky in our part of the country with little structural damage and few trees down – though a fine old horse chestnut on The Street was ripped apart over the Easter weekend and Railway Hill was blocked by a fallen tree in November. But, for me at any rate, those chilly, curling, spiteful little winds have taken the edge off gardening. I've taken no pleasure in clearing the beds or pruning the dogwoods while March did its best to live up to its reputation.

For the rain it raineth every day

That's what it felt like sometimes this winter. And yet, and yet. Come March my free-draining soil was bone dry to several inches below the surface. I follow the advice. I incorporate loads of organic matter to increase the soil's water-retaining capability. I mulch when the surface is wet to avoid water loss by evaporation. And yet, and yet. I could be watering as often this summer as I did last year.

The third day comes a frost, a killing frost

Well we've not exactly had many of those this winter. Come to think of it there haven't been any. The upside is that I have loads of ladybirds in my garden, so maybe I won't have so many aphids to deal with. Now that April is galloping away under me as I write and *the darling buds of May* are in view the risk of any frost diminishes. But May frosts are not unknown, so do I, or don't I, risk setting out my courgettes and beans in the middle of the month? Tough call.

*The uncertain glory of an April day
Which now shows all the beauty of the sun
And by and by a cloud takes all away*

That really says it all about the last few months – one or two warm, sunny days, even in January when I saw bumble bees on the wing, followed by a week of grey, dispiriting cheerlessness.

So what will *summer's lease* bring us in 2016? If the last few years are anything to go by I think we need to be ready for anything. Whatever happens we'll grumble and get by. Some plants will relish conditions, others will sulk. That's horticulture.

Dee The Gardener



Parish Council News

Although activities within SNC and NCC appear to be quite busy, this month there is very little information that may be of use to Starston residents. Two items, however, may be of interest.

The UK Power Networks are setting up a Priority Services Register (PSR) for those who may need more support in the event of a power cut. Every resident over the age of 60 would be eligible to join the register. So are those residents with a disability, who are blind or visually impaired, who are chronically sick, dependent on medical equipment, or have young babies. Further information can be found on their website:

www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk/

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) will be undertaking a review of the District Ward Boundaries for South Norfolk Council. It is understood that there are variances of up to 10% in some parts of the district. Consultations between SNC and the Boundary Commission begin at the end of June, and the process will be running throughout this year. It is intended that residents are informed of the process and have an opportunity to contribute. SNC will soon be assembling a website to provide information. If anyone is interested, please do contact me and ask.

*Sonja Burnett
Clerk to the Council*

New Village Web Site



Explore our new web site, add your own news and information on the Home Page and let people know what's happening in and around the village. Why not look at it regularly to keep up to date with Starston news and activities?

www.starstonvillage.co.uk

Dee The Gardener's Topical Tip

When you plant up your containers with summer bedding incorporate a controlled release fertiliser into the compost. It'll save trouble making up liquid feeds later in the summer when there are a lot of other things to be doing. And have a regular schedule to *root away the noisome weeds*, as Shakespeare would put it.



Pentecost

In an upper room somewhere in Jerusalem a group of people are gathered wondering what on earth happens next. Their leader has disappeared into a cloud, and has promised to send them some great power. But what power? How will it come? What sort of power will it be? Suddenly they hear the sound like a mighty wind, as if a hurricane were raging outside. The whole place shook, and it seemed as if fire came through the roof and rested on each of them. Were they afraid? Yes, probably. Were they burned to a crisp? Well, no. The fire didn't burn them up, but it did fill them with courage. They rushed out into the street. There a crowd gathered around them, and asked, "What is it? What on earth is happening? Is this God coming to take revenge because his son was killed?"

And Peter answered them: "They killed Jesus because they were afraid of him. They thought he was going to take away their power, and cause a riot. They killed him, but he came back from the dead, spoke to us, comforted us, and now he's gone to his Father in Heaven."

They killed him, but he loved them anyway. They killed him, and we still kill him every time we hurt somebody, or hate somebody, or want to have power over somebody, every time we lash out because we are afraid. But it doesn't have to be like that. God loves us; every minute of every day he loves us. We don't have to earn that love, in fact we can't earn that love. God already loves us. He's there every second of our lives, comforting us when we are upset, giving us courage when we are frightened, giving us strength when we are hurting so badly we think we can't bear it any more.

Turn around, open your eyes, look and see. Whatever mess we're in, heaven is just a heartbeat away. Whatever bad things we've done, they're over. Hear the Good News. God loves us now, just as we are. Do you think heaven is only there after you die? Jesus is not a God of the dead, he's here for us now. He's for life in all its glory. He's here for fun and laughter and joy. But most of all he's here for love. Turn round, open your eyes and ears, to see and hear the sounds of love.

When we truly love, it comes like a mighty wind and transforms our lives. When we truly love, it comes like fire and inspires us to give everything we have for the sake of love. In these troubled times, may we know the awesome power of love, and use it to change our world today.

Yours in the service of Christ,

Gale



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Local Films in May

Pennovers Film (Pulham St Mary)

Title: Bridge Of Spies (12a)

Date: Friday 20th May **Time:** 8.00 pm (Bar opens at 7.15)

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

Set at the time of the Cold War's maximum tension between Russia and the USA, 'Bridge of Spies' tells the story of spies on both sides and, if they get caught, the length that governments go to safeguard their secrets.

Booking advisable - phone 01379 676660. Ices available.

Harleston Film (Masonic Rooms, Thoroughfare, Harleston)

Title: Bridge Of Spies (12a)

Date: Thursday 26th May **Time:** 7.30 pm (Doors open at 7.00 pm)

Cost: £4.00

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 .

Book with Harleston Information Plus on 01379 851917

Alburgh Film (Alburgh Village Hall)

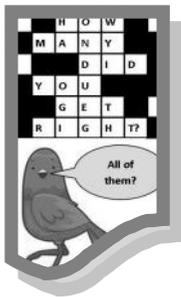
Title: The Dressmaker (12a)

Date: Friday 20th May **Time:** 7.30 pm (Doors & bar open at 6.45 pm)

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

The story of femme fatale Tilly Dunnage who returns to her small home town in rural Australia to right the wrongs of the past.

Answers to the April Crossword



ACROSS

1. Denture
5. Famed
8. Threshing
9. Son
10. Host
12. Flirting
14. Porter
15. Unveil
17. Sentinel
18. Used
21. Ill
22. Anarchist
24. Noddy
25. Earlier

DOWN

1. Dutch
2. Nor
3. Ursa
4. Edible
5. Figurine
6. Mistiness
7. Donegal
11. Strangled
13. Seminary
14. Passion
16. Behave
19. Deter
20. Scar
21. ICI

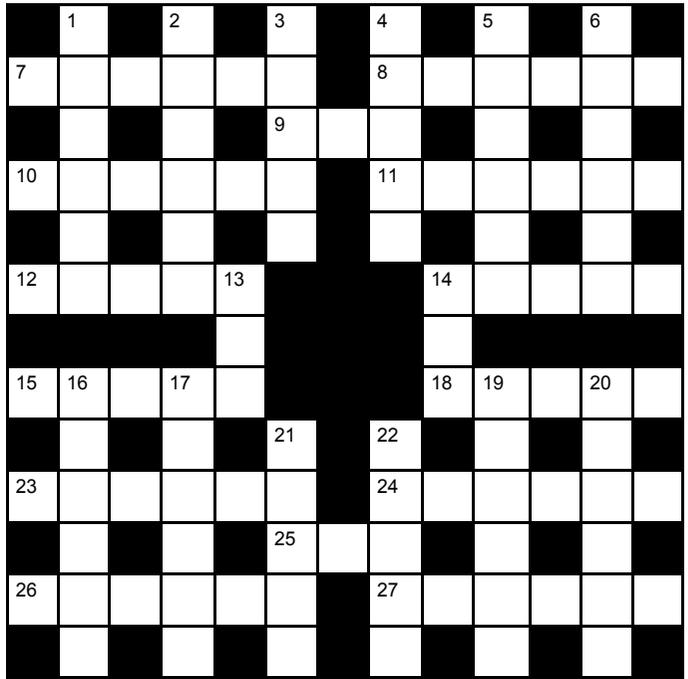


May Crossword - Homophonia by Darv

A puzzle from the land of Homophonia – they do things differently there! The cryptic element of each clue gives an answer that is a homophone of the definition but **which** is **witch**?

Here is one answer to help you get started:

12 Across:
Sheer (shear)



CLUES ACROSS

7. After good religious instruction temptress dons armour (6)
8. Reorganising others is off-putting (6)
9. Question for you and me about unknown quantity (3)
10. In good health, a state composer (6)
11. A wig he sported when not at home (6)
12. Shepherd needs no degree to fleece his flock (5)
14. Partly remember the start of one's life (5)
15. Change shape to disconcert (5)
18. e.g. three-o'clock for your old fashioned setter (5)
23. Not a day to confuse the king without energy (6)
24. A plan of action for a firm bum (6)
25. Pay out a little for a sheep (3)
26. The ongoing story of the church is factual (6)
27. Not so much space for a classroom activity (6)

CLUES DOWN

1. A second rate fish for decoration (6)
2. Footballer embraces fulsome support for the feet (6)
3. The amount of work done by Shylock leading the Spanish (5)
4. He leaves the bone for a bet (5)
5. Offer bribe to agree ceasefire briefly (6)
6. After the onset of winter, crew bide their time (6)
13. Not quite true to say this is a sauce (3)
14. Telecoms company about turns on place to store wine (3)
16. A shed for Mr Pierrepoint perhaps (6)
17. Team are short-sighted (6)
19. An artist got up in tights; the object of Richard's desires? (6)
20. Must sell shortly with no threat of force (6)
21. Eye-sore the French used to climb the fence (5)
22. South coast university lures learner, primarily a head-case (5)



Benefice Services in May

	1st Easter 6	8th Easter 7	15th Pentecost	22nd Trinity Sunday	29th Trinity 1
Dickleburgh	9.30am PC	9.30am PC	9.30am BCP Communion 10.00am CC	9.30am Matins	
Pulham Market	9.30am HC 6.30pm Celebration	8.00am HC 10.45am Memorial Hall	9.30am HC	9.30am SW	
Pulham St Mary	8.00am HC 9.30am Messy Church	9.30am HC	9.30am BCP Matins	9.30am HC	
Rushall	11.00am BCP Matins	11.00am HC	11.00am SW	11.00am SW	10.00am Benefice Communion
Starston	11.00am BCP Communion	11.00am BCP Matins	11.00am BCP Communion	11.00am Great and Small	
Theleveton	11.00am HC	11.00am BCP Matins	With Dickleburgh	11.00am SW	

Thursday 5th - Ascension Day - 7.30pm Holy Communion - Theleveton

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

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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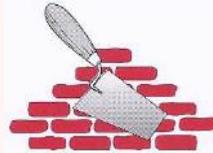

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