

PIGFEON POST



Photo Competition Results



November 2016 Issue 298



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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

Saturday 5th November *3.00 pm - 5.00 pm*

Starston Youth Club Guy Fawkes Day - Hillside

Monday 21st November *7.30 pm*

Parish Council Meeting - Jubilee Hall

Saturday 26th November *7.30 pm*

Black Ice - Made2Measure Christmas Show - Jubilee Hall

Saturday 17th December *2.00 pm - 4.00 pm*

Youth Club Christmas Party - Jubilee Hall

Future Events in the Village

A list of all future events can be found on the website

Want to book the Jubilee Hall? At Any Time

Ring Joy or Bryan Hanner 853200 or 07484 721758



- 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 December edition:
Saturday 12th November**

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

Photography Exhibition - Pennoyers

Monday 24th October - Friday 11th November

This exhibition of Michael Cant's photography will comprise 20 photographs, all monochrome. Michael's work includes such things as churches, objects/buildings that have been abandoned, nature, the coast and general landscape. These ruggedly beautiful shots are real head-turners.

Pennoyers Christmas Craft Fair

This year the Christmas Craft Fair will be held on Saturday 5th November from 10.30 am to 3.00 pm.

Diss Jazz Club

The first meeting of the Diss Jazz Club took place at the Park Hotel, Diss in October and featured Derek Nash, the jazz saxophonist, backed by the house trio led by Chris Ingham. The next meeting is on 17th November when the Club will present Embraceable Ella – Joanna Eden again with the Chris Ingham Trio.



Pennoyers Annual Beer Festival

The 6th Annual Beer Festival at Pennoyers will run from Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th December. See page 19.

Alburgh Village Hall

On Saturday 19th November Alburgh village hall is having a Craft Fayre starting at 10.00 am. There will be around 30 stalls with a variety of items including Handmade Chocs, Cards, Jams and Chutneys, Wood Turner, Decorations, Ladies Men's and Children's Clothes, Beauty Products, Books, Face Painting and a Lucky Dip. We also have refreshments and a raffle.

Diss Corn Hall at Brockdish

At 7.30 pm on Saturday 19th November Diss Corn Hall on tour with Broad Horizons Theatre presents *The Little Bit the Boys Admire - The Marie Lloyd Story* at Brockdish Village Hall IP21 4JY. Tickets cost £10 (concessions £9). To book call the Box Office on 01379 652241

Festival of Christmas Customs and Traditions

This festival will be held at St Andrew's Church Weybread, on 26th and 27th November from 10.00 am – 4.00 pm. There will be craft stalls and refreshments in Weybread Hall Farm Barn near to the church. More details from Paula 01379 852110, Sue 01379 586434 or sueofnunnery@btinternet.com

Harleston at Christmas

For details of the Christmas Market and Lights Switch-On see page 26.





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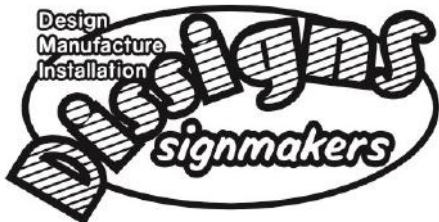
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Notes From The Editor

Pigeon Post seems to be knee deep in competitions at the moment. We have just finished the Photo Competition and the results are announced on Page 15. We are also well into the writing period for our Short Story Competition which closes on 30th November – see below. I hope there are plenty of aspiring writers busily working out there.

The photo competition was interesting. There was a limit of one photo per person for the main competition but we relaxed that for the village voting, allowing up to three pictures. This meant that some of the pictures on display in the Jubilee Hall for the village voting had not been included in the main competition. We may re-think these rules if we hold the competition again next year.

The village voting event was run in conjunction with a Macmillan Cancer Support fund raising event and was a great success. There was tea and cake, a local produce stall and a Tombola. We had around 70 people in the Jubilee Hall during the afternoon, 49 Starston people voted for their favourite photo and a total of £428.60 was raised for Macmillan. I think that's pretty good.

I must stress that all the cash prizes for the photo competition and last year's short story competition were funded by Pigeon Post directly, as this year's short story competition will be. Pigeon Post is entirely self-funding but if we are to continue with competitions in the future then we will have to look for sponsors for the prizes.

Michael

Short Story Competition - Reminder

Just a reminder that the closing date for entries to the Pigeon Post Short Story Competition is 30th November. The rules and entry form are available on the Pigeon Post section of the village website or in hard copy from Michael Bartlett or Sue Moore.

Do have a go. It really is quite fun and with a maximum of 1000 words it is achievable even if you have not written a story before. The key thing is to get an idea and then find a good opening to grab the attention of the reader. Your idea might be a total invention, or it might be the re-telling of something that actually happened to you, or you might take something that happened to you or someone you know as a starting point and then develop it into a different outcome.

One of the joys of fiction is that it allows you to make life work as you think it should work, not how it actually does. You can write conversations you wish you had had and make them turn out the way you would like them to. As someone once said:

“We write down made-up stories to tell the truths we wish we could say out loud.”



Notes From A Travelling Starston Gardener

The Lost Gardens of Heligan have been found! The evidence was the serried ranks of parked cars and the hordes of visitors one cool Tuesday at the end of September. When my partner in crime and I first went there were very few visitors, but that was more than twenty years ago when the Gardens were just waking from their long sleep. We remembered that visit so clearly that, to be honest, we felt like turning tail, so that we would be left with the quiet magic of those memories. But we had an American friend with us and she so much wanted to see the Gardens that we couldn't disappoint her, so we braved the crowds. I'm glad we stayed.

When we were last there the glasshouses had only just been rebuilt - exact replicas of the ones in the photos of Heligan's Edwardian heyday. Like their predecessors they would be used to grow melons and peaches we were told. And it was hoped to cultivate pineapples in the reconstructed pineapple pit. Twenty years on, the trained peach trees were bearing fruit, melons were hanging in nets and there were indeed pineapples. And now the walled vegetable garden was also in full production and, even this late in the season, the sheltered flower garden was looking very fine.



Last time we were at Heligan a walk down into the Hidden Valley was an adventurous scramble on muddy tracks. Today a hard surface path, steep in places, winds among



the trees. Our American friend, Cynthia, was enchanted - by the statues made of natural materials, the lush planting of bamboos, tree ferns and giant Gunnera in "The Jungle" and by the rope bridge that crosses it. I was enchanted by the lop-ear pigs which root out invasive brambles among the trees and by the colonies of the Black Honey Bee, the original bees of the British Isles. Heligan is one of the partners in the B4 Project (Bringing Back Black

Bees) which aims to conserve this sub species and promote their reintroduction by bee-keepers.

So, yes, I'm glad to have seen the changes and glad that we didn't turn tail, but a word of warning. Take your own picnic. The food in the cafes was expensive and what we had was not very good.

Dee The Gardener

Topical Tip

November is a good month to plant tulips. This relatively late planting date can help reduce problems with the disease tulip fire.



Clare Crane - Starston's New Parish Clerk

I am pleased to advise you that I have been appointed as the new Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) for Starston Parish Council. I can be contacted on the usual email address starstonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk .

I thought you might like to know a little bit about me. I am married to James and we have three beautiful girls, Bethany 10, Evie 8 and Maisie 5. They all currently attend Pulham Primary School where I am also a parent governor. We have lived in Pulham Market for the past 10 years where we enjoy all aspects of village life.

The girls are big gymnastics enthusiasts and they all attend Spring Gymnastics Club in Diss. I am also a level one gymnastics coach and help out when I can. As a family we enjoy travelling abroad for our holidays and spending time with our extended family and friends who all live nearby.

Previously I have worked in many aspects of the travel industry. I was a conference and group event manager for many years and was lucky enough to be able to travel extensively. I have spent long lengths of time in South East Asia and worked in India as well as organizing and attending events in Europe.

Currently I work as the administrator for Pulhams Pre-School and have been in the role for nearly 3 years. I am also the Clerk and RFO to Pulham Market Parish Council where I have been for just over 2 years. I enjoy all aspects of this very diverse role and try to attend as many relevant training courses as possible to help provide independent, objective and professional advice to the Parish.

I am currently working towards the CiLCA qualification (Certificate in Local Council Administration). Practically, providing the majority of Parish Councillors have been elected and I gain this qualification, Starston Parish Council will then be awarded "General Power of Competence" which means the Parish Council will be able to retain 25% of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) monies, instead of the current 15%.

If I had to describe myself I would say that I am a busy person (which is the way I like it), ambitious, proactive and organized. I have a "can do" attitude and love working as part of a team.

I look forward to meeting you and getting to know you and your lovely village. I hope to be regularly available during the day in the village – but more of that in next month's Pigeon Post.

Clare Crane
Parish Clerk & RFO

Remember information relating to Starston can always be found on the front page of the village website: www.starstonvillage.co.uk



AGM Reports for the Jubilee Hall Trust

The Jubilee Hall

The Chairman thanked the committee for all their enthusiastic hard work throughout the year. Socially, in December we watched and laughed when the Made2Measure Theatre Company performed '*Nativity on Ice*' and enjoyed a finger buffet organized by Debbie and Stuart. In January we held a 'Tapas Evening' and in April we celebrated St George's Day with a traditional dinner with steak pies and crumbles and made merry as usual.

In May we held a special party to celebrate the completion of major work in and on the Hall building to which we invited the village. We also invited people who had been involved with grants, construction, electrical work and decorating with the result that we have greatly improved the insulation and weather-proofing of the building and upgraded our electrics. The cost of the party was minimal in comparison with the goodwill it generated.

In June we held a successful village tea party on the Glebe Meadow to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday, despite an early downpour. In July the Made2Measure Theatre Company entertained us again with '*Appointment With Death*' and we were involved in the Festival of Bells. Finally, in August we were involved in the Teddy Bears Picnic.

Our hall lettings bring in a steady revenue and the 100 Club continues to make a significant contribution.

During the year the Parish Council agreed to have a Wi-Fi Hotspot installed in the Hall to enable internet connection to be used, not only from within the hall but also from without, at no cost to the Hall. The installation is due to take place shortly and should go live within the next couple of months.

Bruce Colman circulated a statement of account and reported that the state of the Hall's finances at the year ending 30th September remain sound.

Bryan Hanner was re-elected Chairman, Bruce Colman as Treasurer and the existing committee were re-elected en bloc. During the year Simon Cook and Stella Rice joined the committee by invitation.

John Formston

**See Stop Press announcement about the
Jubilee Hall on Page 23**



.... and the Glebe Meadow

The Glebe Meadow

The Glebe Meadow has continued to keep us busy. Much work continues year on year, with volunteers in the winter working party helping with hedging and cutting back the banks, over-grown trees and general clearance, and with those in the regular mowing rota doing a great job. The longer grass was cut for hay and baled, with the costs being covered by the sale of the hay.

Changes since last year:

- The balance of Saracen's Norfolk grant (safety signs, picnic table and temporary safety netting by the Beck) is being used for the special seat in Jubilee Orchard which is to be made and installed in October/November. The seat is also being financed by the Parish Council, Jubilee Hall and two donors. There will be an official 'unveiling' to mark its completion, and the final stage of the Glebe Meadow project from 2012.
- The Orchard is maturing and among the 26 trees are a number of apples which are bearing fruit, and which we harvested (in conjunction with the family who planted them) for the event in the Jubilee Hall on 1st October for Macmillan Cancer Support. (*See Page 25*)
- The Wildflowers planted near the apiary provided a colourful display this spring and summer which the bees loved. The flowers were mown in early August, along with the rest of the longer grass in the meadow, and the hope is that many will flower again next year.
- The Bees have had a good year and the novice bee-keepers are also progressing - although a very long way to go! But the bees responded and helped us produce around 130 jars of honey compared with 12 last year. These jars have been snapped up at £4.00 a jar, starting at the fete on 6th August where 60 jars were sold. The question now is how many jars to keep for other village events over the next few months. At least bee income exceeds expenditure this year!

(See more about the bees on Page 12)

Glebe Meadow usage is now in the region of 2,500 people during the year, not including events on the meadow. My thanks to all those who have helped in so many ways during the year.

Peter Grimble

I eat my peas with honey,
I've done so all my life.
It makes the peas taste funny
But it keeps them on the knife.



Glebe Bees and Honey Getting Ready for Winter

Our bees produced some wonderful honey this year, of many different shades of colour. I do hope you've been enjoying one of the 90 or so jars sold to date. If you would like more honey, please ring me on 852819 (and return any jars if you can).

As if exhausted by their efforts to produce surplus honey for us, the most prolific colony has become 'queen-less' and resisted attempts to 're-queen'. It will inevitably die out over the winter as no new replacement bees are being born. The other two hives look more encouraging, and even though the colonies are smaller, the queen is present and we have been feeding with sugar syrup to ensure they don't go hungry through the winter. We are hopeful that having created an appetite for delicious Starston Glebe Meadow honey, we can maintain this in 2017.



Once the bees have settled in for the winter with protection against mice invasion and woodpecker attack, the apiary requires much less work as the bees focus on keeping the queen warm until egg laying and foraging resumes in the spring. As I write, ivy is buzzing with bee activity and is a wonderful source of pollen, although other food is fast running out.

People ask about the threat of wasps, which can be the scourge of bee colonies. This year the wasps have been much less in evidence, although there are worrying reports about the Asian Hornet which has been seen in Britain for the first time. It is particularly aggressive and can wipe out bee colonies in just a few hours. Attempts are being made to locate and destroy this serious pest which is 5 times the size of our honey bee. Its abdomen is much darker than our native hornet, so please report anything suspicious. Fortunately for us, the first sightings have been in the West Country, but we must keep alert.

Our bees have proved a real success this year and we learn more about them every week. As always, please contact me if you would like further information about our Starston Bee Group or if you would like to join in for some hands-on beekeeping (equipment provided). You would be very welcome.

Peter Grimble



Harleston & District Dementia Friendly Community

Our launch was extremely successful so a huge thank you to all residents and businesses who supported us. Please note that we are holding a further free 'Dementia Friends' training session at Paddock Road surgery, Harleston on Tuesday 8th November from 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm. If you would like to book a place please call Pat on 07593 391684 or email patricia.simmonds@mail.com

We are looking to hold our first 'dementia drop-in' session in January at The Swift Piano Bar at the Swan Hotel. Please come along and join us for a cup of tea and a slice of cake whilst listening to some nostalgic piano playing. We will be confirming the date in our next update and look forward to meeting you then.

There will be a representative from South Norfolk District Council at both the training event and the drop-in session, for advice with respect to their Forget-Me-Not grants for people living with dementia.

AGM: Please note that our AGM will take place on Tuesday 29th November at 7.00 pm at The Estate Manager's office, Malthouse Court, Harleston, IP20 9BU. Nominations for Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer need to be submitted by November 22nd to the email address above. All are welcome, refreshments will be provided.



COFFEE MORNING & CHRISTMAS CARD SALE for CHRISTIAN AID



Crafts, Gifts, Cake and Produce Stalls.

All welcome - please join us

at Starston Grange, Cross Road, Starston IP20 9NH

Friday 11th November 10.30 - 12.30

Sue and Peter Grimble

01379 852819



Harvest Festival Service and Supper

A good sized congregation turned out for our annual Harvest Festival service at which the Rev. Norman Steer officiated. Thanks to Ruth and her team of flower arrangers for decorating the church so beautifully. An extra special effort had been made as Tony and Margaret Wheal's daughter Victoria was married in the church on the Saturday. Thanks also to Paul Grimble for playing the organ, to the lay ministry team for planning the format of the service and to Herbert and the bellringers.

Afterwards we again feasted on Beefsmith's pedigree Red Ruby Devon Beef and mushroom pie, followed by

fruit crumble and cheese in the Coach House, which had been beautifully laid out for the occasion. Herbert and Julie organised a raffle and entertained us with a testing quiz.

A big thank you to Julian and Philippa (and family) not only for providing such a cosy, welcoming venue but also for the preparation beforehand and after the evening. Thanks to Philippa, Ruth and Kirstin for preparing the main course and to those who made the fruit crumbles. A thoroughly enjoyable, jolly evening was had by all.

John Formston

Watch Out - The Wolves Are Hungry Tonight

Once upon a time that never was, in an England that never existed, ferocious wolves roam the snow-bound land and travellers carry guns to ward off attacks. But brave Bonnie Green and her orphaned cousin Sylvia have more than wolves to cope with when a sinister new governess, Miss Slighcarp, arrives at Willoughby Chase mansion. And when Bonnie's parents are reported shipwrecked and drowned, and the girls are banished to a workhouse, the future looks far from bright for our young heroes...



A classic children's novel of the 1970s, *The Wolves of Willoughby Chase* - adapted for the stage in 2010 - is a wild and thrilling adventure, combining drama, comedy and a little spookiness. Following successes such as *Bugsy Malone* and *Johnny and the Bomb*, **Harleston Players Youth Theatre Company** are bringing the play to life with two performances on November 18th and 19th at 7.30 pm in the Sancroft Centre Studio Theatre at Archbishop Sancroft High School. Tickets (£4) available from Robinson's Stationers, online at www.harlestonplayers.co.uk and by telephone (01379 855027).



Pigeon Post

Photo Competition - The Results

Main Competition Judged by Frances Crickmore

Over 16 Category

- 1st Prize: Tanya Colman for *Birthday Tea on the Glebe*
 Judge's comment: "As soon as I saw this picture it made me smile. I love the candle light."
- 2nd prize: Christina Davies for *Bees Are Not The Only Pollinators*
 Judge's comment: "Technically this is a very good photo."
- Runner up with an honourable mention: Russell Carter for *Misty Welcome*

Under 16 Category

- 1st Prize: Harry Colman for *A Summer's Evening on the Glebe*
 Judge's comment: "Lovely depth of field with really nice autumn colours."
- 2nd prize: Sam Colman for *Harvest 2016*
 Judge's comment: "A lovely harvest scene."

Village Competition chosen by Starston People

There is only one prize for this section of the competition but by adding up the votes we have also come up with the 2nd and 3rd places.

Over 16 Category

- Winner: Russell Carter for *Misty Welcome*
- Joint second place: Lara Griffin for *Best Buddies Admiring The View*
 Clare Grimble for *The Glebe Meadow Hay Team*
- Joint third place: Sue Grimble for *A Comma Butterfly Takes A Fleeting Rest on a Fig Leaf*
 Tanya Colman for *Birthday Tea on the Glebe*
 Russell Carter for *Fluffy Clouds*
 Rosemary Steer for *Twilight Across Conifer Meadow*

Under 16 Category

- Winner: Harry Colman for *A Summer's Evening on the Glebe*
- Second place: Sam Colman for *Harvest 2016*

Every picture in the Village Competition received at least one vote in the 'Honourable Mention' category and the one which got the most of these was: Andy Leitch for *The Gatekeeper*.

Winning Pictures Over the Page



Photo Competition Winners - Over 16



1st Prize - Birthday Tea On The Glebe
Tanya Colman



2nd Prize - Bees Are Not The Only Pollinators
Christina Davies



Photo Competition Winners - Under 16



1st Prize - A Summer's Evening On The Glebe
Harry Colman



2nd Prize - Harvest 2016
Sam Colman



Village Photo Comp Winner



Misty Welcome
Russell Carter

All the pictures which were submitted for both sections of the competition are now in a Picture Gallery on the Starston Village Website. You can access all the Picture Galleries from the link at the bottom of the right hand menu column.

If anyone would like their original photos returned then please let us know.

Voting for the Village prize took place on the afternoon of Saturday 1st October in conjunction with a fund raising event for Macmillan Cancer Support. As well as tea and cake there was a local produce stall and a Tombola. Over 70 people came and the total raised for Macmillan Cancer Support was £433.60.

All the cash prizes for the photo competition have been funded by Pigeon Post.

Others who submitted photos for the competition are:

Sam Carter, Debbie Griffin, Stuart Griffin, Peter Grimble, Brian Lavell, Lucy Kirkwood and Rachel Wells.



Co-op Community Fund

The Co-op has introduced a new Local Community Fund to benefit local groups and charities. Every time Co-op members buy branded products and services showing their membership card, the Co-op donates 1% of their spend to a local cause. The more members spend, using the card, the more goes to causes in their area.

Harleston Information Plus is thrilled to have been accepted as one of two local causes for Harleston Marketplace Co-op, Laxfield Co-op and Co-op Funeralcare branches in Harleston, Diss, Long Stratton and Halesworth.

If you are a member and use one of these branches, please consider nominating us via the Co-op's website, then 1% of spend will come to us if you use your membership card. Members continue to receive their 5%. Please go online to do this, the process literally takes one minute – www.coop.co.uk/membership.

We are a chosen charity until the end of March 2017, so there is lots of opportunity to raise funds for us. Any money we receive will go towards running our services and to offer free daytime and evening information sessions on the following: using a computer, smartphone or iPad, emergency first aid, how to improve your career prospects and applying for the job you have always wanted. We hope to hold other sessions, but this will depend on the amount of money the community raises.

At the time of writing £404.46 has so far been raised by members so please nominate us today, then next time you use your card you will be helping us. Every penny counts! Thank you.

*Julie Helsby
Harleston Information Plus*

BEER FESTIVAL

Fri Dec 2nd: 6pm - 11pm
Sat Dec 3rd: 11am - 11pm
Sun Dec 4th: 12pm - 3pm



- Beers from best local micros plus some out of towners and cider
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Harleston Lions Charity Golf Day

On 13th June Harleston Lions hosted their twenty first (and final) charity golf day at the Bungay and Waveney Valley Golf Club. Seventy six players in teams of four again enjoyed a great day with much fun and laughter whilst raising a serious sum of £4,346.79. After two rounds of golf and a lovely dinner the Lions presented cut glass prizes to various winners plus cheques to East Anglian Air Ambulance (£1,000.00), All Hallows Healthcare Trust (£1,000.00), Street Games (£500.00), Nelson's Journey (£500.00), Lions International Sight Savers (£250.00). Over the twenty one year history of this event it has raised a staggering £74,580.27 which has been distributed amongst some forty four various charities.



10th Fairway - Lions Charity Golf Day - Bungay and Waveney Valley Golf Club

Harleston Lions Club would very much like to give a huge "thank you" to the following :-

- Lion Les Bicker and his wife Irene who have arranged every single golf day and have put in so much work that there is just too much to even begin to mention.
- Bungay and Waveney Golf Club - wonderful partners from the beginning. The green staff have been magnificent and the catering and bar staff have been an example as to how to run a successful golf day. The professional, Andrew, has not only arranged buggies and equipment but has put himself freely on the line in "*Beat the Pro*" on one of the par threes.
- Our sponsors - many have put in money and draw prizes from the very beginning and without them the event wouldn't have been so successful.
- The many East Anglian golf clubs who supported our raffle with gift vouchers.
- Last, and by no means least, the players. Thank you all for your wonderful support - we shall miss you much more than you will ever realise.

Lion Val Tolhurst
on behalf of all at Harleston Lions Club and 21years of fabulous golf friendship.



Firework Event

Saturday 5th November
from 3.00 pm – 5.00 pm



Primary School children and Pre-school children
will meet at Hillside, The Street
For details see Youth Club Page on Starston Village Website

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Nicola Wilson, Jane Thompson, Ann Leitch

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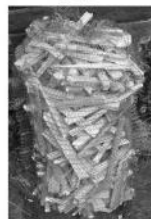


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Southern Hemisphere Adventure 2: New Zealand

After travelling around Australia for six months, it was time to go to another country I have always wanted to visit - New Zealand - by far THE most beautiful country I have ever been to and would return to in a heartbeat. If you've watched *The Lord of the Rings* you've seen a glimpse but it's so much more in reality.

Auckland was my starting point. I was on my own entirely for the first time so a little nervous but I signed up to partake in the famous 'Kiwi Experience', a coach organised for backpackers from all around the world that takes you around the country in as little or as much time as you choose. Highly recommend for those of you wanting to see all the beauties of New Zealand, without having to organise anything yourself!

First stage was a three hour bus journey north to the Bay of Islands. A group of 15 of us seemed to click there and stuck together until the very last hour in the country. After a couple of days we headed south again to Hot Water Beach, a very literal term where you can dig a hole on the beach and the water reaches temperatures of 50 degrees! We also went to Cathedral Cove, home to one of the sets of the Narnia: Prince Caspian movie. We went into the water which was refreshing... yet freezing!

Waitomo was the next stop, where we had signed up for 'black water rafting' which meant crawling into freezing, pitch black caves and swimming through the dark to an opening which had a guided path lit up by glow worms! One of the most remarkable experiences of my life. We also took a look around the original set of the town called 'Hobbiton' from *The Lord of the Rings* and *The Hobbit* movies. Working in film, it's something I had to see and it was so much fun!

Taupo and River Valley were next, where 32 of us slept in one huge dorm together, before heading to Windy Wellington for five days. It was nice to relax there and not have to wake up early for the bus. We got to explore the city and go to a rugby match! Hurricanes vs. Queensland Reds! (Hurricanes won).

South Island was upon us, supposedly the more beautiful Island which I can now agree with. Highlights included Franz Josef, one of the many glaciers in the country; Queenstown – where we had the best burgers in the world. I also took part in one of the world's highest Canyon Swings there (a bungee jump but instead of bouncing back up you swing through a gorge! Mum and Dad were 'thrilled' to watch my video). Hiking through Whakarewarewa National Park, climbing up Queenstown Hill to the Basket of Dreams and meeting the most amazing people, some of whom I still visit in London on the weekends!

I would highly recommend visiting New Zealand. The scenes are amazing and look almost like a backdrop of some stunning movie. Best month of my life!

Rosy Barker



Jubilee Hall Chairman

It is with great pleasure that I can announce that we have a new Chairman of the Jubilee Hall Trustees and the Jubilee Hall Committee – Michael Bartlett. As an added bonus Dee Palmer has offered to become Secretary to the Committee and, with unanimous agreement, her offer has been gratefully accepted.

On behalf of our committee a warm welcome to them both.

At our AGM on 26th September I stated that, as Chairman, I had achieved what I set out to do. From the time I started as booking clerk/caretaker with Joy I always said I would like to leave the Hall in a better condition than I found it. We made steady progress over the years with a new kitchen roof, new fitted kitchen, new patio, new shed and various other repairs. However, two years ago, with the encouragement of Ann Leitch, we embarked on a bigger operation and the rest is history.

I must thank all the committee members, past and present, who have worked with me over the past years for their support and understanding on what has been my own way of leadership. Also the support of so many other people both for the Hall and the Glebe Meadow has been almost unbelievable.

Michael starts off with 100% backing from the Jubilee Hall Trustees and all the committee members of the Hall and the Meadow. We wish him and Dee well.

Bryan Hanner

Michael adds....

I was present at the AGM of the Jubilee Hall this year and I heard Bryan say that he would like to stand down as Chairman but felt he would have to continue for another year. Mindful of how much time both Bryan and Joy have given to the Jubilee Hall I felt that if he wanted to go then he should be able to do so. Having discussed the whole matter with Dee I offered to become Chairman if Bryan, the Trustees and the committee members were happy for me to do so. You will have gathered that they were, so here I am. I am very pleased that Bryan will continue to be a Trustee and that he and Joy will stay on the Hall's management committee.

I will do my best to serve the Jubilee Hall as conscientiously as Bryan has done. I consider it a great privilege to be able to contribute to the Hall and to Starston in this way.

Michael Bartlett

Jubilee Hall Wi-Fi Hotspot - Update

Due to the appalling behaviour of BT/Openreach (failing to keep appointments, providing conflicting information, engineers arriving to do the work only to then announce they can't do it), the installation of the Wi-Fi Hotspot has been delayed. At this stage we have no idea when this inefficient organisation might fulfil its obligations.



Norfolk Churches Trust Bike Ride

John and I did the bike ride again this year.....by car! Although still fit enough to cycle we thought we would visit some of the notable churches in the area but this was only practicable by car. The intention was not to visit lots of churches but to stop and enjoy some with special features. We already had a book celebrating the treasures in 100 Suffolk churches and planned a route accordingly. We visited 16 churches during the day and thoroughly enjoyed spending time in each rather than merely checking in and passing on. For those who now consider the bike ride a hazardous business, we would recommend this as an alternative.

Firstly, we thank all those who either sponsored us or sat in Starston church registering visiting cyclists. We have, to date, sponsorship totalling just under £300 plus Gift Aid but we can still accept further sponsorship if anyone wishes to donate.

Secondly, we would like to share with you some of the treasures you can enjoy in the area; examples of art and craftsmanship that one can appreciate regardless of whether one is religious or not. Top of the list is St Mary's in Huntingfield, just outside Halesworth near Cratfield. It contains one of the most glorious examples of Victorian amateur painting in any country church in England. Covering the ceiling of the nave are decorative panels of apostles and saints; over the chancel angels bear the symbols of Christ's passion, all in bold heraldic colours. The charm and skill of this substantial work of art was created singlehandedly by Mildred Holland wife of the Rector, The Revd. William Holland over a period of seven years between 1859 and 1866. Thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund and other charities cleaning and conservation work was carried out in 2005, restoring the ceiling to its former glory. Go and see it for yourself or visit www.stmaryshuntingfield.org.uk .

Another spectacular treasure worth a visit is the "Doom Painting" in St Peter's church at Wenhaston. This huge and astonishing painting on oak, dating from the end of the C15, was whitewashed over in the 1540s, thrown out in 1892, and brought back after the Suffolk rain had revealed the treasure beneath the whitewash. The two central panels show the righteous lining up in front of St Peter, also St Michael, and the devil weighing a soul to determine its destiny. Also shown are the gaping jaws of hell where the 'damned' are being despatched. The original detail and colouring are simply remarkable. Visit www.wenhaston.net/doom .

Briefly, some of the other treasures visited are the steady ticking of the early 17th century clock in the church at Metfield; the Norman round tower at Wissett where the trees used to construct the ceiling were felled between 1145 and 1205 AD; the Elizabethan communion table at Blyford All Saints, widely regarded as one of the best altar tables of the late 1500s.

Another interesting aspect of our visits was that quite a number of churches had some or all of their pews removed, and had installed kitchens and toilets in various configurations. Interesting in as much as we have such plans for Starston church in the next few years if funding is secured.

Bobbie Formston



Black Ice

Saturday 26th November at 7.30 pm

Starston Jubilee Hall

The Made2Measure theatre company present their new Christmas show for 2016.

The Swiss Alps. Cuckoo clocks and cowbells. Powdery snow under a powder blue sky. And lashings of Gruyère cheese.

In a remote ski resort, strange events draw four characters together over a glass of schnapps. Outside, the snow is deep and crisp and even and, as the shadows lengthen, the storytelling begins. Stories about the peculiar characters who used to live on the mountain and a strange beast that terrorises the valley. Top up your glass and throw another log on the fire - this musical comedy has a distinct chill to it.



Tickets cost **£10** to include a hot meal and dessert. The hall and bar will be open from 7.00 and the play starts at 7.30. Tickets available from Debbie Griffin: 01379 854233.

Glebe Meadow Orchard

The trees which Starston families planted in the Glebe Meadow's Jubilee Orchard in 2012 are starting to bear fruit. Several of the apple varieties in particular produced a fine crop this year.

Foremost among them were dessert apples Red Ellison, Adam's Pearmain, London Pearmain and Harling Hero. Pleasingly these are all old Norfolk varieties.

Some of the fruit was on sale at the Macmillan Cancer Support fundraiser where there were many takers who were keen to compare the heritage fruit with the modern supermarket offerings.



Photo: Lara Griffin



Harleston Christmas Market and Lights Switch-On

Harleston is establishing a reputation for vibrant street markets featuring local produce, crafts and gifts, complemented by delicious street food and entertainment, themed trails and window display competitions. This winter is no different and on **Saturday 3rd December** there will be a day of festive activities for all the family.

A colourful Street Market, from 9.30 am onwards, will fill the Market Place with gazebos, decked with lights and decorations, selling crafts and hand-made gifts, cakes and Christmas puddings, Christmas garlands and wreaths, and lots of street food. At St John's Church in Broad Street there will be a Church Bazaar with additional craft and gift stalls (10.00 am – 4.00 pm), whilst Father Christmas and some of his elves will be in residence in Santa's Grotto at Harleston Information Plus in the afternoon.

Entertainment during the day will include Victorian gent Nathaniel Howell on his fantastic penny farthing bicycle, carol singers and Park Radio DJs. From 3.00 pm The Thoroughfare and Church Street will be closed to traffic so that everyone can throng into town to enjoy more community stalls, children's rides and street entertainment before the lights are switched on shortly after 5.00 pm.

A highlight will be the appearance of two sides of black-faced Molly Men at 4.30 pm, who will perform rustic dances that have their roots in ancient traditions. The famous Suffolk-based Old Glory Molly Dancers will meet with The Witchmen, a renowned Welsh Border Morris side, to create a memorable spectacle.



The Molly Men originate from a time when farm labourers were laid off over the winter and to raise money for food would visit local landowners to perform and demand money with menaces – hence the disguised faces. The Molly Men, led by a 'molly', dressed in women's clothing, and a 'lord', stamp and swing whilst their musicians, decked out with crowns of holly and ivy, play traditional instruments such as melodeon, concertina, recorder, drums and "tea-chest" bass.

The darkness will be dispelled by the switching on of the Christmas tree lights in the Market Place and throughout town by Harleston's own local hero, Carol Wiles MBE.

There will be time to browse around the market and enjoy the stalls until 5.30 pm, when it will be time for everyone to go home and look forward to Christmas.

The event is supported by South Norfolk Council's Market Towns Initiative and organised by Harleston's Future team of local volunteers.

For more information contact Nicky Stainton – 01379 855235 / 07747 620386 or nmstainton@gmail.com.



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POLYCARBONATE AND PERSPEX



Local Films in November

Pennovers Film (Pulham St Mary)

Title: Whiskey Tango Foxtrot (15)

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

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

Kim Barker, a frustrated news copywriter in America, decides on a complete change by agreeing to take up a new assignment in Afghanistan. A dramatic culture clash awaits her but with help from some British friends she discovers what it takes to be a successful war correspondent.

Booking advisable - phone 01379 676660. Ices available.

Harleston Film (Masonic Rooms, Thoroughfare, Harleston)

Title: Florence Foster Jenkins (PG)

Date: Thursday 24th November **Time:** 7.30 pm (Doors open at 7.00 pm)

Cost: £4.00

The story of Florence Foster Jenkins, a New York heiress who dreamed of becoming an opera singer, despite having a terrible singing voice.

Book with Harleston Information Plus on 01379 851917

Alburgh Film (Alburgh Village Hall)

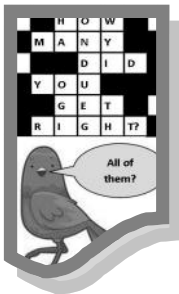
Title: Eddie The Eagle (12)

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

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

Inspired by true events, Eddie the Eagle is a feel-good story about Michael "Eddie" Edwards, an unlikely but courageous British ski jumper who never stopped believing in himself - even as an entire nation was counting him out.

Answers to the October Crossword



ACROSS

1. Farm gate
4. Brat
6. Alto
7. Door lock
9. Bindweed
10. Hymn
12. Psalm
14. Cedar
19. Amir

20. Pint size
21. High Mass
22. Half
23. Draw
24. Book club

DOWN

1. Flabby
2. Ratings
3. Trowel

4. Belched
5. Token
8. AWOL
11. Mar
12. Pom
13. Air show
15. Ents
16. Abigail
17. Fiasco
18. Key fob
19. Aphid



November Crossword by Nona

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

CLUES ACROSS

1. Dish made from eggs (8)
7. Made up drink that scares Judy (5)
8. That which is normal (9)
9. Choose (3)
10. Dilapidated building (4)
11. Hold in custody (6)
13. Slides on snow (noun), insults cricketers (verb) (6)
14. An assistant on a Scottish hunting or fishing expedition (6)
17. Small cave, usually near water (6)
18. Factor that allows the Starship Enterprise to travel through time (4)
20. A famous doctor (3)
22. Sudden crisis (9)
23. Broken fragment (5)
24. Damaged (8)

CLUES DOWN

1. Take place (5)
2. A 'must have' for modern house hunters (2-5)
3. A small island in a river or lake (4)
4. Cups and saucers etc. (3,3)
5. Coalition (5)
6. Bus going to and fro over the same journey (7)
7. A discredited method of selling (7)
12. Taken no notice of (7)
13. Tardiest (7)
15. Student (7)
16. Steady flow (6)
17. Another word for testicle (5)
19. Letting out a rope or chain (5)
21. Taj Mahal city (4)



Benefice Services in November

	6th 3 before Advent	13th Remembrance Sunday	20th Christ the King	27th Advent 1	
Dickleburgh	9.30am PC	11.00am Remembrance	9.30am BCP	9.30am PC	
Pulham Market	11.30am HC. 6.30pm Celebration	8.00am HC 10.55am Remembrance	9.30am HC	9.30am SW	
Pulham St Mary	8.00am BCP Communion 9.30am Messy Church	10.45am Remembrance	9.30am BCP Matins	9.30am HC	
Rushall	11.00am BCP Matins	3.00pm Remembrance	11.00am SW	11.00am SW	
Starston	11.00am BCP Communion	10.55am Remembrance	11.00am Patronal Service	11.00am Great and Small	
Thelveton	11.00am HC	With Dickleburgh	With Dickleburgh	11.00am 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

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	jakast@toucansurf.com
Bobbie Formston	Tree Warden	01379 853042	jformston07@talktalk.net
John Formston	Footpaths	01379 853042	jformston07@talktalk.net
Sam Carter		Not available	sam@samuelcarter.com
Helen Gale		Not available	helengale00@hotmail.com

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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

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Safer Neighbourhood Team

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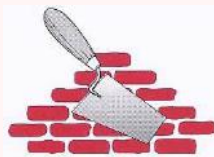
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