

Number 160

June/July 2026

Village Voice

THE DERSINGHAM MAGAZINE



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celebrates Easter**

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June/July edition of *Village Voice*

As you can see from our front cover, the ladies and gentlemen of the Dersingham Day Club were busy creating some remarkable Easter bonnets. We understand a good time was had by all. For more information on this valuable support for our more elderly residents, see inside.

In putting this edition together, we noticed how many organisations and groups rely so heavily on volunteers to help run them. It could be said that volunteers form the backbone of our community. Many have been contributing this way for many years, but as our volunteer population becomes older, they need to be handing over to younger folk!! So, if you have a little spare time, there is a great variety of worthy causes that need support:

Hunstanton and District Foodbank
Dersingham Task Force
Hunstanton and Coastal Stroke Group
Breast of Friends Cancer Charity
Dersingham Phobbies
Tapping House Hospice
Dersingham Village Centre

...to name but a few.

In this edition you will find updates on what has been going on in our various clubs, and their plans for the upcoming months. We can read the latest on the Neighbourhood Plan, details of upcoming films at the Village Centre, and be reminded of the season restarting for various sporting activities. And put a date in your diary for the return of what has become the annual Dersingham Yard Sale (Sunday July 26th), when dozens of driveways host tables filled with all those unwanted objects that have cluttered up every room in the house. Details inside. As always, we also have a few miscellaneous bits and pieces which we hope you will enjoy.

Particularly for newer residents to the village, a reminder that the Parish Council website offers a wealth of information about what goes on locally: dersingham-pc.gov.uk.□

Dersingham Village Centre Association

Annual General Meeting

7pm

Tuesday 16th June

All are Welcome





CHARITY GALA CONCERT

Presented by Dersingham Choir

Saturday 11 July 2026

7.00pm

Venue: St Mary's Church, Snettisham, PE31 7NA

Featuring:

Jenny Williams - Soprano

Daniel Meades - Tenor

Matthew Preston - Piano

Benjamin Howell - Piano

Tickets:

**£25 Adult | £10 Under 18
(on the door)**

**£22 Adult | £8 under 18
(booked online)**

www.dersinghamchoir.com



Parish Council Chairman's Report Coral Shepherd



At last, the weather has improved and I hope you are all enjoying some warmth and being able to get out and about.

You may have noticed that the Parish Council has replaced the bus shelters in Hunstanton Road, one beside the Recreation Ground and one opposite The Spar. These new ones have integrated seats to help keep residents dry whilst waiting to travel for their bus. We have also put in a bench at the bus stop in Hunstanton Road near the junction with Woodside Close. As this is very popular we will be looking at all bus stops to see if there is enough space to be able to put in benches.

A big thank you to the residents who turned out on a chilly, damp April morning to help with the annual litter pick around the village. This year we included the ditch to the west of the Sports Ground, and whilst the main culprits inevitably were plastic bottles and fizzy drink cans, I would like to take the opportunity to remind residents that all ditches around the village serve an important function in helping to prevent flooding; they are not places to dump old carpets, chairs, toys, buckets and odd pieces of timber. These are all things we have found and they can and do block ditches, thus preventing the free flow of water and increasing risks of flooding. Please take care when disposing of rubbish and help to keep the village safe and clean. I am aware that some residents do pick up litter when they are out walking; many thanks for doing this, it does help to keep the village clean and tidy, a place that we can be proud to call home.

After all of the commemorative services at the War Memorial last year we noticed that the paint highlighting the engraved names on the memorial was wearing off, making it difficult to read some of the names. We have now appointed a specialist contractor to restore the names on the village War Memorial at the junction of Station Road and Hunstanton Road. As a reminder it commemorates those who served in the First World War and those who gave their lives in both World Wars. It is important that we continue to respect and remember all of those who gave their lives so that we can continue to live in freedom and peace. The contractor has advised that the work may appear to be alarming, as firstly he will be painting the plaques with black undercoat and then a coat of silver paint. Once the paint has thoroughly dried, he will then remove the black paint leaving shiny names. This work will take place in the summer during a dry spell, so please don't panic when you see the memorial plaques turning black and silver - it won't have been vandalised but will ensure the names remain visible.

There have been a couple of incidents recently in Hunstanton Road near Thaxters: one was a road accident and the other involved the air ambulance being scrambled and landing on the Recreation Ground. The defibrillator outside the Spar shop was used and many thanks to the staff and volunteers who leapt into action and helped save a life. As some residents may be aware through reports in this magazine from the Dersingham Sports Ground Association, that the pavilion at the Sports Ground is very dated. The interior no longer meets modern standards. The Parish Council have now partnered with the Dersingham Sports Ground Association and together we are working towards getting grant funding so that we can remodel the interior of the building to provide modern changing facilities. □



News from Dersingham Village Centre Sue Payne, Chairman DVCA

Association Matters

The Association's AGM will take place on Tuesday, June 16th at 7pm. All are welcome.

Car Parking

The Centre's car park is not huge, but we can normally accommodate every user/visitor providing drivers park sensibly and unselfishly.

Additionally, please ensure that you do not block the footpath which runs along the south side of the building. It is a public footpath and also needs to be kept clear so wheelchair users can gain access.

Coffee Shop

Every Thursday between 10am and 12:30pm we catch up with our regular customers and extend a very warm welcome to visitors. On offer are very reasonably priced home-baked savouries and cakes, and hot and cold drinks.

Tapping House take over on the first Thursday each month, with a slightly different menu, and the proceeds support the excellent work carried out at the Hospice.

Friendship Lunches

On the first Tuesday each month, we serve a freshly cooked two-course meal, with tea or coffee, for just £8. Numbers are limited and booking is required. Call 01485 540644 by noon on the *Thursday* beforehand and also advise us of any allergy or dietary needs.

Village Cinema

June's film is *Song Sung Blue*, based on a true story about two performers who form a Neil Diamond tribute band. In July it's *Hamnet*, the well-publicised film about the death of Shakespeare's son, which won an Oscar for Jessie Buckley. We look forward to seeing you.

Events

The Yard sale takes place on Sunday July 26th. As usual there will be table tops in the Centre and a pop-up café. To reserve a table, or for more information, call 07943 499786, or email contact@dersinghamvillagecentre.org.uk

For more information about the Centre, what's on, contact details, visit our website - www.dersinghamvillagecentre.org.uk. We also post on the Dersingham Village Facebook Group. □

Minute Taker Vacancy

The Trustees of Dersingham Village Centre Association are seeking to recruit a Minute Taker to support their monthly meetings, which are held at the Village Centre on the third Tuesday each month and last a maximum of two hours. You would be expected to attend the meetings, take minutes, and circulate these to trustees in a timely manner.

An honorarium of £40 per meeting will be paid.

If you are interested, please contact the Association:

contact@dersinghamvillagecentre.org.uk



Brian Anderson—Response

I thought I should respond to the letter from Roger and Janet Fickling.

My credentials: I am an Honours graduate of the Institute of Physics and spent my whole working life at the Department of Physics and Astronomy at University College London, working firstly on spacecraft instrumentation and then on high-energy physics detector systems at the CERN laboratory near Geneva. I have also worked on ecological and phenological projects (some still on-going) and have publications in these fields as well as those in my paid employment. Other aspects of my back story are scattered through the seventy or so articles I have written for Village Voice since 2013. Village Voice back catalogue is available online.

The sources I used in the evolution articles include:

Richard Dawkins: *The Greatest Show on Earth, Climbing Mount Improbable, The River Out of Eden, The Extended Phenotype.*

Stephen J Gould: *Hen's Teeth and Horses' Toes. The Flamingo's Smile*

Sean B Carroll: *Endless Forms Most Beautiful.*

David Beerling: *The Emerald Planet.*

Gabriel Dover: *Dear Mr Darwin.*

Charles Darwin: *On the Origin of Species.*

Jacob Bronowski: *The Ascent of Man.* □



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Dersingham Neighbourhood Plan

Nigel Barker, Working Group Chairman

Once again, I'll start with a big thank you. This time I'd like to thank all the parishioners who took the time to complete the household survey. We received 247 responses which represents an 11% return and is on par with similar surveys run by our consultants. It's so important that the views of as many people as possible are reflected in the final Plan.

In recent weeks the Working Group have been compiling lists of local green spaces and public views of community importance. The list of local green spaces started with over 50 candidates which were then reviewed with regard to National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 107 criteria. This states that Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:

- A) In reasonably close proximity to the community it serves.
- B) Demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife.
- C) Local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.

The outcome was a list of 25 potential candidates which have been photographed and mapped in readiness for the scrutiny process. The initial list of public views was reviewed to confirm that they were public and significantly special; this netted 15 potential candidates which will now be mapped and photographed.

Our next piece of work will centre on Design Code. We have a workshop with the principal consultant on 28 April and I will report on this in the next edition. Meanwhile, please keep an eye on the Parish Council website for any news and if you haven't done so already, register for regular email updates. □

Dersingham Craft & Gift Fairs

Dersingham Village Centre
83 Manor Road, PE31 6LN

Sunday, 10am - 3pm

28th June

4th October

22nd November

Lots of fabulous stalls & a pop-up cafe

Free Entry

Free Parking

Hosted by Fiona Hillier and Charlie Wagg

Contact 07952 229796

Local travels Su Foxley, a Dersingham Resident

My husband and I moved to Dersingham two years ago; of late we have been keen to explore further afield. The following reveals a short summary of some of our travels.

Fakenham Town Gasworks

This visit was recommended by a friend, however I must admit we were slightly apprehensive at first! The Fakenham Gas Light and Coke Company opened its gasworks in 1846, on part of the Mill Common. One of the first employees was a man named Mr Robert Paulson Spice, a fairly local man, having been born in Norwich in 1814. He went on to become one of the leading gas engineers of his day. Interestingly, gas lighting to the streets of Fakenham happened some 30 years after appearing in London. The gasworks closed in 1965, five years prior to the arrival of North Sea Gas. The site currently is a fascinating museum manned by very knowledgeable volunteers who assist with a variety of tasks, including repair and maintenance. The museum is open Thursdays and Fridays, opening at 10:00am and closing at 1:00pm, April through to October. So, if local history is your thing, we certainly recommend a visit. Telephone 07716 862555 for more information.

(Information taken from a booklet produced by the Gasworks Museum.)

Our next trip took us slightly further afield to Sheringham, again reachable by bus.

Private Lifeboat, the *Henry Ramey Upcher* www.sheringhamsociety.com

Housed in its original boat shed, the *Henry Ramey Upcher* is an important survivor being put on display almost in its original condition, having been built in 1894. The boat is on the National Register of Historic Ships. Building the new lifeboat started in April 1894 from locally sourced wood and was ready to be launched in September 1894. The boat was in service for 41yrs, 61 launches were recorded, with a total of 202 lives saved. This was certainly an interesting one and in a half hour visit the volunteers were extremely knowledgeable and keen to give us a guided tour.

(Information taken from the Sheringham and District Society leaflet.)

Lastly **Cookies Crab House in Salthouse**

If you are a seafood lover, off you go, but a word of caution - they are closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. Again, reached by bus.

We hope you enjoy your visits as much as we did. □

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Dersingham Walking Group Ray Johnson

Joining the walking group is a great way to meet some of your fellow villagers, plus some folk from further afield, and to explore the local area. There is no cost involved, just turn up. All our planned walks will appear here in *Village Voice* and can also be found on our website

Dersinghamwalking.co.uk. The walks usually take place on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month.

June - July walks

Wednesday May 27th 2.00 Snettisham Common to beach

Start Point: Car park Snettisham Common TF672335. w3w: swooned.baker.tried

A walk to the coast from the Common via the flood plain. Attractive views in both directions.

Leader: Ray Johnson 07999 841749

Wednesday, June 10th 2.00 Dersingham Bog

Start Point: Wolferton Car Park (not Scissors) TF 653280

w3w: prowling.mouse.promoting

One of the most scenic walks we undertake - and right on our doorstep. Some slopes on the walk, if in doubt contact the walk leader.

Leader: Brian Eldridge 01485 540862

Wednesday 24th June 2.00 Dersingham Walk

Start Point: Village Centre TF 691304. wsw: dote.attend.directors

Starting by ascending Sugar Lane we will walk along the ridge. For anyone wanting a shorter walk, the route passes a bus stop.

Leader: Brett Thomas 07801 095510

Wednesday July 8th 2.00 Wild Ken Hill Circular

Start Point: Rose & Crown TF 682343 w3w: booms.upcoming.fragment

A shortish but strenuous walk. Sturdy shoes or boots are recommended due to the uneven surface of part of the walk.

Leader: Ray Johnson 07999 841749

Wednesday 22nd July 2.00 Great Massingham and Peddars Way

Start Point: Village Green (Dabbling Duck) TF 791231

w3w: Stays.badminton.squish

A repeat of the walk we undertook earlier this year. A very low turnout due to an (erroneous) poor weather forecast. A very pleasant, mainly rural walk taking in a section of the Peddars Way.

Leader: Tony Bubb 01485 542638

PLEASE NOTE THAT the leaders are happy to organise and lead these walks but stress that each participant must appreciate that there are hazards associated with walking and take responsibility for their own safety. If you want more information about any particular walk then please contact the walk leader. Dogs are welcome on most walks, provided they are well behaved and tolerant of other dogs. For general information concerning the walks contact the coordinator.

Group coordinator: Ray Johnson Tel: 07999 841749

Email: rayjohnson315@gmail.com □



Cascade of Poppies at St Nicholas Church Appeal Anne Hynde

The Flower Team at St Nicholas are planning to add to the very well received 2025 "Cascade of Poppies" to decorate the church for Remembrance Sunday 2026.

To achieve this, we need as many poppies as possible. The poppies can be any textile creation - knitted, crocheted, felted - that can be attached to make the cascade, which will be displayed at the front of the church. We were thrilled with the response from the village and beyond that our request received last year and would like to build on that success.

Patterns can be downloaded from the internet and the St Nicholas "Knit and Natter" group can help with expertise.

We will start collecting poppies from **Sunday 27th September** up until the end of October.

If you would like to help, or would like more information please contact: Anne Hynde - 07885 956321 ☐

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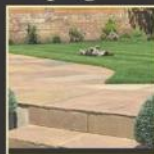
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More Than a Food Parcel: How We're Supporting Our Neighbours in Hunstanton and Surrounding Villages

In a perfect world foodbanks wouldn't need to exist. But here in Hunstanton and the surrounding district, we know that life can throw unexpected challenges our way—whether it's a sudden job loss, a health crisis, or the rising cost of living. At the Hunstanton and District Foodbank our mission is simple: to ensure no one in our community goes hungry and that everyone feels supported during their hardest moments.

Helping with the Bigger Picture: Introducing Anne Sipple

We believe in providing more than just a bag of groceries; we want to help address the root causes of food poverty and offer a helping hand with the "bigger picture." That's why we are delighted to introduce **Anne Sipple**, our Financial Inclusion Worker from the British Red Cross.

Anne is a vital part of our team, working directly with our clients to provide practical, one-on-one assistance with financial concerns. If you are struggling to navigate the social security system, identify grants you might be eligible for, or are worried about rising energy bills, Anne is here to help. Her expertise ensures that when someone comes to us for food, they also receive the guidance and support needed to find firmer financial footing for the future. You can contact Anne directly at annesipple@redcross.org.uk or call her on **07395 877614**.

How You Can Help Us

Our service is built on the incredible generosity of local people. If you are in a position to help, there are several ways to support our mission:

- **Donate Food via the "Bank the Food" App:** To make sure we receive the items we need most, we encourage everyone to download the **Bank the Food** app. It's a free app that sends a notification when you're at the supermarket with our real-time "priority list."
- **Drop-off Points:** We have just taken over the food donation basket at **Dersingham Co-op**. Any donations left in the basket will come to us for distribution in our emergency food parcels. You can also drop off donations directly at **St Edmunds Church Hall, Hunstanton** on Mondays or Thursdays between 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm. Alternatively, you can purchase items at **Sainsbury's Hunstanton** and leave them in our collection box there.
- **Financial Donations:** While we always need food, monetary donations are also incredibly impactful. These funds allow us to help people with emergency energy bill support, cover our essential running costs, and ensure we can keep our doors open for those in crisis. If you would like to make a financial donation please contact us direct on the contact details listed below.

Join Our Team: We Are Seeking New Trustees

As we grow, we are looking for dedicated individuals to join our Board of Trustees. Being a Trustee is a rewarding way to make a tangible difference. We meet every two months to set the direction of the charity, manage our resources responsibly, and ensure we are serving the community effectively.

We are particularly looking for people with a passion for helping others. If you have

experience in **Governance, Legal, HR, Marketing, or IT**, we would love to hear from you. It's a voluntary role, but the reward of being part of a motivated, friendly team working to end food poverty in our area is immeasurable.

Get in Touch

If you need help, or if you're interested in becoming a Trustee, please reach out:

- **Phone:** 07795 491154
- **Email:** info@hunstantondistrict.foodbank.org.uk
- **Visit Us:** St Edmunds Church Hall, Church Street, Monday and Thursday, 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm.

Together, we can ensure that our community remains a place where everyone is looked after. Thank you for your continued support!□

Alzheimer's Society – Trek26 Steve and Lindsey Davis

Call it overconfidence on my part, but buoyed up by how things were going for my Macmillan Norfolk Coast Mighty Hike which, by the time you read this, I trust I will have long since completed, I discovered this other interesting looking local Hike in aid of the Alzheimer's Society. Now, as with the Macmillan one, it too offers both 26- or 13-mile versions, both of which start from Holkham Park on Saturday 1st August. In the case of the 13- miler, it makes a loop taking in the coastal path along to Wells before dropping down inland and back around to the start at Holkham. And for the 26-miler, a bigger loop hiking out more to the west to start with and around the Burnhams before returning along the coast and joining up with the shorter route.



This time, I managed to persuade my wife Lindsey to register with me, but only on the condition that we went for the shorter route! As you might have guessed, we're now both in need of raising some money by sponsorship donations for this very worthy cause which, although neither of us has any personal experience dealing with Alzheimer's so far, who knows what the future might hold?

If you would like to sponsor one or other or both of us, please visit our 'team' fundraising page at [justgiving.com/team/steveamlindsey](https://www.justgiving.com/team/steveamlindsey) or simply use the QR code here if you're able to do so. If you don't do online payments, we're happy to accept cash donations and enter them on your behalf but would be unable to GiftAid them for you.

Finally, if you were feeling inspired to have a go yourself, full details can be found at: [alzheimers.org.uk/trek26](https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/trek26). Contact: steve.dersingham@gmail.com or 07885 721158.□



Dersingham Choir Presents “Echoes of Africa” Summer Concert

Dersingham Choir is delighted to present its Summer Concert, “Echoes of Africa”, on Saturday 27 June 2026 at 3.00 pm, at St Nicholas’ Church, Dersingham (PE31 6GZ), with doors opening at 2.30pm.

This event has always proved extremely popular, so this year’s concert will take place in a new, larger venue to accommodate the choir’s growing membership and increasing audience numbers.

This year’s programme carries the vibrant theme “Echoes of Africa”, featuring a lively selection of songs from southern Africa, alongside a much-loved medley from *The Lion King*. The concert will also include a varied and uplifting mix of operatic and popular favourites, offering something for everyone.

Dersingham Choir will be led by its Musical Director, Jenny Williams, and accompanied by Matthew Preston on piano. The audience can expect a warm and welcoming atmosphere, with refreshments available and a raffle with prizes adding to the enjoyment of the afternoon. This promises to be an engaging and entertaining summer event for all ages.

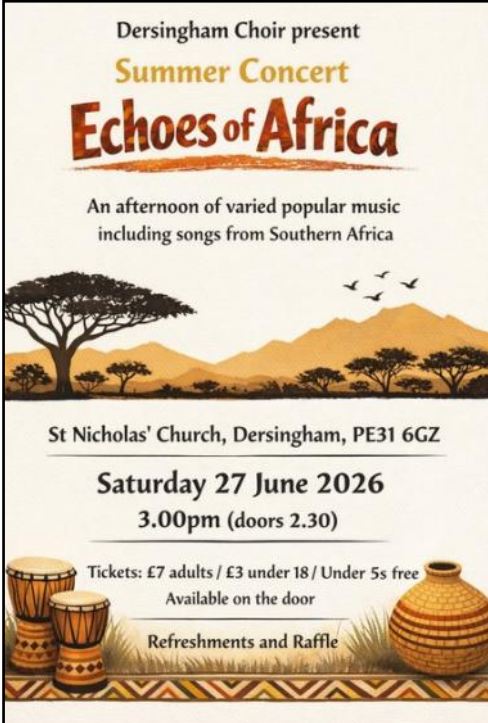
Tickets are, £7 Adult / £3 Under 18 / Under 5 Free, and will be available on the door only, so please turn up in plenty of time to avoid disappointment.

Also, as mentioned in the last issue of Village Voice, Dersingham Choir is excited to present its Charity Gala Concert on Saturday 11 July 2026 at 7.00pm, at St Mary’s Church, Snettisham PE31 7NA, following the success of last year’s event.

The format will mirror last year’s programme, with Jenny Williams (soprano) and Daniel Meades (tenor) performing a selection of solos and duets. They will be accompanied by Matthew Preston and Benjamin Howell, who will also delight the audience with popular solo piano works and perform together in some engaging piano duets.

Tickets can be pre-booked online now at: www.dersinghamchoir.com or purchased on the door. Tickets are, £22 Adult / £8 Under 18 (online) or £25 Adult / £10 Under 18 (on the door).

For more information about both these exciting and entertaining events please contact Kate, the choir secretary, email secretaryDC2025@outlook.com or phone 07513 986858. □



Dersingham Choir present
Summer Concert
Echoes of Africa

An afternoon of varied popular music
including songs from Southern Africa

St Nicholas' Church, Dersingham, PE31 6GZ

Saturday 27 June 2026
3.00pm (doors 2.30)

Tickets: £7 adults / £3 under 18 / Under 5s free
Available on the door

Refreshments and Raffle



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Monday 8th June 2026

Temples of Sanitation

Lecturer: Mike Higginbottom

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Monday 13th July 2026

Portraits of Hanseatic Merchants

Lecturer: Justin Reay

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Registered Charity No. 1105490

Dersingham Task Force Clare Bee



Easter is over, the first spring Bank Holiday has come and gone, and we're moving into the time of year loved by so many of us. There are many reasons for this – the longer, lighter days, the lovely fresh green of the unfurling leaves, the joyful birdsong at some unearthly hour. There's a feeling of hope and renewal in the air.

We are so lucky to live in this beautiful village, surrounded by open countryside, the coast and accessible woodland. We don't have to go far to feel at one with nature and enjoy the great outdoors.

At Task Force, we try to do our bit to keep our village looking good and welcoming to all. We continue to meet fortnightly throughout the spring and summer, but as you'll see from the photos, we also enjoy the social side of our group. We hear so often how important it is for those of us no longer in paid employment to keep up friendships and social activities.



So, if that's you, and you'd like to benefit from a little gentle activity and lots of coffee and cake, friendship and laughter, give us a call.

Contact Dennis on 07482 913399 or at denzilweatherill@gmail.com □

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Dersingham Social Club

Alex Dixon

Monday CLOSED

Tuesday CLOSED

Wednesday 7:00pm - 11:00pm

Thursday 7:00pm - 11:00pm

Friday 4:30pm - 11:30pm

Saturday 2:00pm-11:30pm

Sunday 1:00pm-9:00pm

Saturday 30th May - COUNTRY NIGHT

With Cowboy DJ The Big Hig @ Buckin' Boots. Line Dancing. 7:30pm.

Non-stop mix of modern and traditional country hits, plus basic line dancing. Tuition throughout the night (no experience needed).

Saturday 6th June - 70s, 80s and GLAM ROCK DISCO/KARAOKE. 8pm.

Tuesday 9th June - NORFOLK PAINT PARTIES. 6:45pm.

Paint your very own Hamish the Coo. No experience necessary, Nikki will be painting along with you, showing you every step, which brush to use, how much paint to apply, so you paint your very own work of art.

Places can be booked via their website norfolkpaintparties.co.uk.

June 11th - July 12th - WORLD CUP

Please check out our Facebook page for updates on the games we are showing and opening times.

Friday 19th June - QUIZ NIGHT. 8pm

Teams of 6, £3pp entry. 1st prize £60, 2nd prize £24. Bar Tab.

Friday 17th July - QUIZ NIGHT. 8pm.

Teams of 6, £3 pp entry. 1st prize £60, 2nd prize £24. Bar Tab.

Saturday 25th July - NO NONSENSE - Local Band. 8pm.

Performing hits from the 60s through to the 80s. Come along and sing along to all those songs you forgot you knew!

WEEKLY EVENTS

TABLE TENNIS - Mondays 2.00 - 4.00 pm.

Dersingham table tennis club meets every Monday, 2.00 – 4.00pm in the club. We have roughly equal numbers of female and male players of varying skills, and we always play for fun. Just turn up and join in or contact Mark 077763 643498 for more information.

LINE DANCING - 2nd and 4th Mondays 6:45- 8:30pm.

Places can be booked through the Buckin' Boots website and are suitable for beginners. www.buckinbootslinedancing.com.

SIT, STEP & SMILE - Wednesdays 4:00-5:00pm.

Join Kyra for a friendly, fun, relaxed line dancing class. Seated options available.

No experience needed, move at your own pace, enjoy gentle exercise and great music. Book your place online <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/GHHV> or by phoning 07968 354431.

Please check our **Facebook page @DersinghamSocialClub** for more details and any minor changes to our events. If you are not on Facebook and would like to be added to our monthly newsletter, please let us have your email address and your name. We would also welcome any suggestions for future events you'd like to see at the club. You can also email us at dersinghamscenquiries@gmail.com with any enquiries regarding membership, hall hire (either daytime or for parties, wakes etc).□

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Dersingham Day Club

Coffee Morning – Saturday 16th May

Thank you for joining us for a Coffee Morning at Orchard Close, Dersingham. There was a tombola, bric-a-brac, cards, books, jigsaws, and cake to enjoy. With thanks to our friend Suzanne for arranging the venue for us. All money raised went go towards helping with the running costs of our Day Club, which supports local residents aged 70 and over. We're proud to say our two oldest members are approaching 95, and one of them tells us she has been attending for at least 12 years!

About Us - We are a self-funded group run entirely by dedicated volunteers who give up their Wednesdays to provide a friendly, warm, and fun place for members to socialise. Our activities include games such as Rummikub, Chicken Foot, Cribbage and Dominoes, as well as occasional crafts. Members also enjoy a two-course lunch, tea, coffee and biscuits, and every few weeks visiting entertainment. If you would like to join us, or know someone who might benefit, please contact Wendy on 01485 544975 or Maggie on 01485 543264. We do have a couple of spaces available.

What We've Been Up To

It's been a busy and enjoyable time at the club. Some of our members recently made Easter bonnets ahead of our special Easter buffet. The bonnets were judged by Caprice Duo, who also entertained us after lunch. It was a difficult decision with so much effort put into every creation! Judy, Carrie and David were the winners. We've also enjoyed a quiz with Meg, a game of Hoy with Suzanne, a visit from the Heacham Songsters, and a beetle drive.



Win's fantastic bonnet



Renee and volunteer Barbara



Caprice Duo and Carrie, an Easter bonnet winner



Harry and David making bonnets – David's one a winner!

Finally, a big thank you to everyone who voted for us in the SPAR giveaway on Facebook - we were pleased to win the hamper! Our thanks also go to SPAR Thaxters for delivering the hamper to us. □

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**Make a Difference: Volunteer with the
Coastal Stroke Support and Carers Group
The Local Community Needs You – Join Our
Inspiring Team**



If you're looking to give back to your community in a truly meaningful way, the Coastal Stroke Support and Carers Group is the perfect place to start. Our group is a friendly, welcoming hub for stroke survivors and their families, offering vital support that helps people rebuild confidence, regain independence and rediscover joy after stroke. We're now seeking passionate volunteers to help us continue this life-changing work.

Our sessions are relaxed, encouraging everyone to socialise and share experiences in a comfortable, supportive setting. Whether it's art, communication or fitness groups, or simply enjoying a cup of tea and a chat, every interaction makes a positive impact. Over the past year, we've organised outings to Thursford and the local library, and hosted talks from Care line, Lily, Norfolk Ambulance Service and ASPIRE researchers. These activities not only uplift our members but also bind our community together.

Volunteers are the heart of our group. With their help, we can expand our activities, reach more people and offer even greater support. You don't need any special qualifications – just a compassionate attitude and a willingness to get involved. Whether assisting during sessions, helping organise events or simply lending a listening ear, every bit of help makes a difference.□

**Costal Stroke Support Group - HUNSTANTON
Join us – Volunteers needed for varied roles!**

Do you have a few **Tuesday mornings** to spare?

We'd love your help at the Hunstanton stroke group, a Stroke Association support group offering vital support, friendship and social activities for stroke survivors.

Whether it's serving refreshments, lending a hand with group activities or becoming a treasurer for the group, your time can make a real difference and we would love to hear from you.

We meet at: **Wesley Methodist Church, Austin Street, Hunstanton, PE36 6AL** every Tuesday morning from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

If you are interested in getting involved please contact **Jane Larrington on 07530 074392**

You can also email us at: **Emma.shears@stroke.org.uk**

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across a wide range of care issues. Care information is often time-consuming and difficult to access, so we are happy to share some of our questions and answers with you

Question – A fellow driver told me that it is illegal to drive in sunglasses at night and that if I had an accident while wearing them, my insurance may not pay out?

Answer - This can be correct. Sunglasses are classified into categories 0 to 4 based on their tint level and how much light they allow through. For drivers, the key distinctions are:

- Category 3 sunglasses are suitable for daytime driving in bright conditions.
- Category 4 sunglasses are not suitable for driving at any time, as they block too much light.

Highway Code Rule 94 states that drivers must ensure their vision is not impaired at all times. Wearing dark lenses — particularly Category 3 or 4 — at night or in low-light conditions, can seriously compromise your ability to see clearly, increasing the risk of an accident.

There are also insurance implications to consider. If you are involved in a collision while wearing inappropriate eyewear, insurers may treat this as negligence. This could result in reduced compensation, a denied claim, or allegations of driving without due care and attention.

Always ensure your vision is clear and unobstructed to stay safe and compliant with UK regulations.

Visit any of the UK motoring organisations for further information

Question – What is the scam involving charity giving and debit or credit cards?

Answer – A recently published scam involving a fraud which targets passengers in taxis and people making **charitable donations on the street**. It works like this: when you pay by debit or with credit card, the driver or fundraiser tells you the transaction has failed. On the second attempt, they discreetly cover the amount field on the card reader and ask you to enter your PIN again — but the amount being charged is very different from what you originally agreed to pay.

Because the transaction appears routine, you may not realise anything is wrong until your bank statement arrives or you receive an instant payment notification.

If this happens to you in the UK, your bank *may* offer a refund — but this is not guaranteed, particularly where a PIN was entered voluntarily.□

‘Breast of Friends’ charity raises £43k for cancer patients at QEH



A charity has raised more than £43,000 to support cancer patients at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital King’s Lynn (QEH).

‘Breast of Friends’, the King’s Lynn registered charity, is run by a committee of generous volunteers.

Last year the hospital’s Cancer Care Unit was refurbished to create an uplifting environment to support the 12,000 patients that use it every year. The Breast of Friends helped make this possible with their fundraising efforts alongside other contributors.

The charity has also donated money to help purchase a specialist reclining couch for the Breast Care Unit at the Trust to make patients more comfortable.

The remainder of the money has been used to purchase 108 specialist post-surgery bras for patients who have needed to have breast removal surgery, called a mastectomy.

Claire Ling, Breast of Friends Chair Trustee, said: “Raising money is incredibly humbling and emotional for everyone involved with Breast of Friends, and for me personally. Having received treatment from both the breast and cancer care units at the hospital, I’ve seen first-hand how vital these services are.

“Knowing that the generosity of our supporters is directly helping the same units that supported me makes this achievement even more special. It’s a powerful reminder of what a community can achieve together.

“Becoming a registered charity is an important milestone for Breast of Friends, strengthening our ability to secure funding and continue supporting local Breast Care

and Cancer Care patients.”

The group have dedicated their time to an action-packed calendar of events including brave sky dives, fun drag brunches, creative craft fairs and the charity’s annual ball which took place in October.

Dawn Collins, Interim Chief Nurse at the QEH, said: “Funds such as this are used to go above and beyond the care that the NHS can provide. Thanks to the Breast of Friends charity every patient’s mastectomy receive a specialist bra after their surgery which is specially designed with discreet pockets to securely hold silicone breast prostheses. These bras make a difference for patients at a vulnerable time.”

The charity has also created a Kindness Corner in the hospital’s Cancer Care Unit, offering small thoughtful gifts for patients. Items are donated include toiletries, silk pillowcases, handwarmers, anti-sickness bracelets and puzzles. All donated with cancer patients’ needs in mind.

The Breast of Friends charity is continuing their work, with their first event of 2026 being casino night, which raised over £2,000. For more information about the charity, upcoming events, or to find out how to donate or volunteer, visit <https://breastoffriends.co.uk> □

Trials and Tribulations of a *Village Voice* Deliverer **Jan - A *Village Voice* volunteer deliverer**

Delivering the *Village Voice* to the residents of Dersingham - a simple task ??????

Well, no, actually not as simple as it first appears. There are several reasons why:

- Bigger properties often appear to have two or more doors - so which one to choose to find the letter box??
- Then letter boxes at the bottom of the door (commonly known as "back breakers") may look very stylish but not easily reached by those of us in our "latter years".
- The letter boxes themselves so stiff they can take the ends of your fingers off!!
- Wall mounted letter boxes - sometimes hard to find and then the opening not big enough to fit the "*Voice*" in.
- Loose dogs or those that lie in wait below the letter box - many apparently having an aversion to *Village Voice* deliverers.
- Obstacle courses to manoeuvre on the way to the front door - cars inappropriately parked, awkwardly placed flowerpots and overgrown shrubs. All fighting to prevent the delivery being made.
- And then after all of the above there is the weather!!!?? But we won't mention that!!

Despite all of this the band of intrepid volunteers overcome all to get your copy of the *Village Voice* to you, so please spare us a thought when reading this great local book.

And finally, a mention for our merry band of postmen/women who overcome all of the above all year round. We applaud them.

(Ed: Here at Village Voice we are amazed at the resilience of our definitely intrepid volunteers and do so appreciate all their efforts. Thank you!!)

Hunstanton Webcams donates £400.00 to RNLI.



Hunstanton Webcams have donated £400.00 to the RNLI after the successful launch of their first ever charity calendar, showing the stunning photography of the West Norfolk town, whilst raising funds for the vital lifesaving service.

“We received over 100 entries and, as a result, produced two different calendars: one generic version and another dedicated to Hunstanton’s famous sunsets,” said Glen Piggott, who runs Hunstanton Webcams. “The twenty–four winning photos were handpicked by judges in a completely anonymous selection process and chosen solely for their outstanding photographic quality”.

Glen set up Hunstanton Webcams during the Covid lockdown, when people were unable to visit the resort. “If people couldn’t come to the beach, then the beach could come to them,” he said. While the website now boasts five live webcams, the original one, located on the Waterside Bar, remains the most popular.

He added that while people log in from around the UK and further afield to watch Hunstanton’s famous sunsets and waves crashing onto the promenade, the sinkhole which appeared in early February led to a spike in page views.

For more information regarding the Hunstanton Webcams, please contact Glen Piggott email glen@glenpiggott.co.uk □



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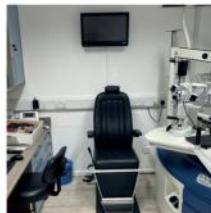
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Dersingham VA Primary and Nursery School

It has been a busy and exciting half-term at our school, with pupils across all year groups taking part in a wide range of enriching activities, performances, sporting events, and engaging curriculum projects.

We were delighted to welcome Rock Steady Music School into school for a special music showcase designed to promote private music lessons. These lessons offer a unique opportunity for children to learn instruments alongside their friends as part of a band, helping to build both musical skills and confidence through teamwork and performance. As a whole school community, we also came together at St. Nicholas Church to celebrate our Easter service. Families joined us for this special occasion, where Year 5 gave a wonderful performance of the Easter story, sharing the meaning of Easter with younger children and parents alike.



Year 5 - Easter Service



Years 5 & 6 Netball Team

Sporting success was also celebrated this term as our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils took part in a netball tournament. The team performed brilliantly and secured an impressive second place. Miss Seaman, who led the team, said, "I was really impressed with how their teamwork developed across the tournament. Coming 2nd was the icing on the cake!"

Our reception class immersed themselves in the magical world of fairy tales, re-enacting classic stories and even creating their own alternative endings. In Religious Education, they also made beautiful Easter gardens, carefully including important Easter symbols within their creations.

Year 1 explored the past and present by comparing toys from different time periods and learning how technology has changed over the last 100 years. Inspired by stories about toy museums where toys came to life, the children then designed and created their own magical toys.

Year 2 took to the skies with their learning on the history of aviation, studying everything from the Wright brothers to the Space Age. Their topic ended with a science investigation where they designed and tested paper planes to explore how flight design affects performance.

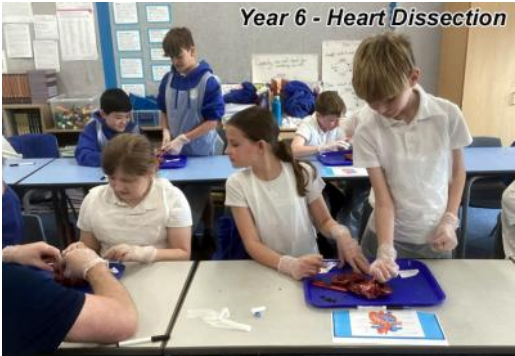
Our Year 3 pupils focused on the rich history of King’s Lynn, with particular attention to its fishing heritage and the importance of its geographical position for trade with European countries along the Hanseatic route.

Year 4 had a memorable half-term studying volcanoes in Geography. They explored different types of volcanoes, their causes, and the famous eruption of Pompeii. This inspired some excellent persuasive writing, where children wrote letters convincing the people of Pompeii to evacuate before disaster struck.

In Year 5, pupils learned about the United States, studying key figures in the Civil Rights Movement as well as mountain ranges and the biomes of North America. Their learning encouraged both historical understanding and geographical curiosity.

Year 6 have been working incredibly hard in preparation for their upcoming SATs, with revision sessions in full swing ahead of tests beginning on Monday 11th May. Alongside this, they have been studying their topic “Regular as Clockwork,” based on Philip Pullman’s *Clockwork*, using the text to inspire their own horror writing. In

Science, they have been learning about the human body, particularly the circulatory system, which concluded with an exciting heart dissection.



We are incredibly proud of all our pupils for their enthusiasm, creativity, and hard work this term, and we look forward to even more exciting opportunities in the weeks ahead. □

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Events for June and July

COFFEE MORNINGS – MONDAYS 10:00am to 12:00am, 8th and 22nd June 6th and 20th July.

Coffee, tea, cakes and biscuits available to purchase. For information, please email farmboy24@sky.com or telephone, text or WhatsApp 07899 872351.

NORFOLK and WAVENEY MIND GROUP - MEETINGS EVERY TUESDAY 11:00am to 6:30pm.

For further information and to book please visit the website www.norfolkandwaveneymind.org.uk or email ruralmentalhealth@norfolkandwaveneymind.org.uk or telephone 0300 330 5488.

FRIDAY 12th JUNE: FILM NIGHT - Hamnet (12A) starring Jessie Buckley and Paul Mescal in the Oscar winning period drama based on the novel by Maggie O'Farrell, who co-wrote the screenplay. William Shakespeare, a young Latin tutor, falls in love with the free-spirited Agnes and marries her despite his parents' disapproval. In due course they have three children, but William heads to London to pursue his career as a dramatist, leaving his family in Stratford. During his absence young Hamnet falls sick with the plague and dies before his father arrives home. Later, Agnes journeys to London to watch her husband's latest play, *Hamlet*. Club opens 7.00pm, film starts 7.30pm. Admission £5 at the door. For further information email enquiries@anmerclub.co.uk or telephone 01485 579465.

FRIDAYS 26th JUNE and 31st JULY: QUIZ NIGHTS – Club opens 7.00pm, quiz starts 7.30pm. Entry £3 per person. Fully licensed bar and raffle. For information email enquiries@anmerclub.co.uk or telephone, text or WhatsApp 07899 872351.

MONDAYS 1st JUNE and 6th JULY: BINGO NIGHTS – Club opens at 7.00pm, “Eyes Down” at 7.30pm. £6.50 for a book of 10 cards; £1.50 for a “Flyer Card” and £2 for a “Cash Accumulator” card. Fully licensed bar and raffle. For information email enquiries@anmerclub.co.uk or telephone, text or WhatsApp 07899 872351.

Opening times, unless otherwise stated:
Fridays - 7.00pm to 10.00pm. Last orders 9.30pm.

The club is available for private functions. For more information and to book, please email anmer.club@outlook.com. □

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or telephone 01485 579465
or visit our website on: www.anmer.club@outlook.com

What's on in Wolferton **Jane Larrington**

Wolferton Social Club

Here are the details of activities at the Social Club for June and July.

Cash Bingo

Sunday 14th June: doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

Sunday 5th July: doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30 pm.

Please note that to play cash bingo you must be a member of Wolferton Club or one of the other clubs on the Sandringham Estate.

Prize Bingo

Tuesday 16th June: doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

Tuesday 21st July: doors open 6.30pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

The Social Club is open as follows:

Friday and Saturday evenings 8.00pm -11.00pm

Sunday lunchtime 12.30pm - 3.30pm

For further details please contact the Social Club during opening hours on 01485 541919

St Peter's Church, Wolferton

Thank you to everyone who supported our popular annual coffee morning held at Wolferton Social Club in March. Over £1000.00 was raised in aid of Happy Memories and St Peter's Church, a great success. Many thanks to those behind the organising of this event.

During April our wonderful Henry Willis organ (recently restored) was visited as a part of International Organ Day. This was an opportunity for a visit to both hear and, for those interested, to play several organs on the Sandringham Estate.

Please refer to the Sandringham Group of Churches website for up-to-date information regarding forthcoming services.□

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**The Hunstanton One-Act Drama Festival, 3-5 July 2026.
Tickets on sale now!**

If you're a fan of live theatre, then don't miss this year's One-Act Drama Festival which takes place over three days at Hunstanton's Town Hall theatre stage in July.

Groups from Sleaford, Wisbech, Heckington, Boston and even Sheringham will be coming together to present their short plays to the audience and will be competing with each other for awards in this friendly drama festival, open to amateur theatre groups from across the region.

This year, we welcome five new groups to the festival - St Nicholas Players, Stage Direct, Phoenix Theatrx, the Sleaford Little Theatre and BaT Productions - and of course, we're thrilled to be saying 'hello again' to the Streham Players, Boston Playgoers, ManNic Productions, Wilburton (Youth & Adult) and Heckington Players - so we have a packed programme to choose from.

Now we have our full line-up, tickets are now on sale via our website www.oneactdramafestival.com; click on the **BUY TICKETS** icon to purchase them online. If you prefer, you can purchase single or season tickets in advance from our good friends at Hunstanton's independent bookshop 'ByTheBook' on Hunstanton High Street, or simply buy your tickets at the door on the day of the performance.

Keeping the Hunstanton One-Act Drama Festival going is only possible with your support and the support of our kind sponsors, so a big thank you to Hunstanton Town Council, Hunstanton Rotary and KL1 Radio for helping our small committee make it happen for 2026 and a huge thank you to YOU for being part of the audience for our wonderful drama groups!

More information, such as who's on and when is on our website www.oneactdramafestival.com and you can get in touch with us via email admin@oneactdramafestival.com .

Here's to a busy and successful 2026 Festival and we look forward to seeing you in July! □



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ONE-ACT DRAMA
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2026**

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Gala Award Ceremony

NEW VENUE - Hunstanton Town Hall

Tickets & info www.oneactdramafestival.com
Tickets can also be purchased on the door

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The 'Whybelonely' club is going from strength to strength. The last gathering on Friday 1st May was the first anniversary of the club. It is held on the first Friday of every month at St Cecilia's Church, Mountbatten Road, Dersingham, 2pm till 4pm, Everyone is welcome.

The Growing In Faith Together 'This is my Body' programme was very well received. The seven videos are still available to watch; the web address is <https://www.charisuk.com/cafe-ondemand/sacraments/this-is-my-body>. These spirituality events will be continuing, look out for more information in the weekly bulletins.

The Pope's prayer intention for June 2026 is ***For the values of sports***; we pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth. The Pope's prayer intention for July 2026 is ***For respect for human life***; we pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognising it as a gift from God.

On Sunday 7th June there will be the usual Corpus Christi Procession at Oxburgh Hall, starting at 3pm. All are welcome. Our annual Strawberry Fayre this year will be on Saturday 13th June at St Cecilia's, Dersingham. Don't miss out on the delicious strawberries and scones, other refreshments and lots more besides. Following last year's very enjoyable International Lunch, there are plans to repeat this in August. Please see the noticeboards, website or weekly bulletins for more details.

Rosary prayer meetings are at St Cecilia's every Monday from 2pm and there is also a Mothers' Prayers group which meets at 2.30pm Monday fortnightly at OLSE. Please note that you do not have to be a mother to attend the meetings. See the weekly bulletins for dates.

If you would like to be on the distribution list for the weekly bulletins straight to your inbox, please send your email address to hunstantonparish@rcdea.org.uk. Also, if you are a new parishioner, there is a form in both church porches to fill in your details to welcome you to the parish. Feel free to ask if you can't see them.

For Parish news including Mass times and prayer requests, please see the **Parish News** page on our website. For information about live streamed Masses in the Diocese and related matters see the **Links** page of our website at www.hunstantoncatholicparish.org.uk. The Sunday Masses are at 9am at Mountbatten Road, Dersingham, and 11am at OLSE, Sandringham Road, Hunstanton. Daily Masses are at 10am at Hunstanton on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and 10.15am at Dersingham on Wednesdays.

Website: www.hunstantoncatholicparish.org.uk Email: hunstantonparish@rcdea.org.uk

The Parish telephone number is 01485 534675. If you require a Priest urgently, telephone V. Rev Canon Peter Rollings on 01553 772220 or email parishpriest763@gmail.com.□

Our Language – A Humorous Look

English, this language that we speak,
Has roots in German, Old Norse, Latin, French and Greek.
Its success is great on the worldwide stage,
Keeps it evolving and growing from age to age.

It's given us an impressive vocabulary of words
With its basic structure of nouns, adjectives, verbs and adverbs.
Although its mastery in speech can sound so good
There are so many words that can be misunderstood.

The pronunciation of words can make things tough,
For example, having a cough can make you feel rough.
It's even more confusing and you wonder how
The main branch on a tree is called a bough.

A formula to recognise the use of words we use
Could cause less vexation and more to amuse.
How can it be with a word like streak,
Take the 'r' out and it becomes steak?
Of course, to pronounce it properly as steak
Remind yourself, it should rhyme with bake.

Try not to have a row with someone in the row;
Players take a bow, presents are tied with a bow.
Of course, words can be familiar, but oh so confusing
And frustrating, annoying and not in the least amusing.

Take 'aid' which can be maid, laid, paid, raid, but not said ??
Said does not fit the pattern – it rhymes with bed!!
The English language has input from so many sources,
I commiserate with learners doing English courses.

As for the dialects and the perplexing Cockney Rhyming Slang
This bizarre speak is quite difficult to get a hang.
'Apples and pears' – stairs; 'Butcher's hook' – look; 'Dog and bone' – phone;
and many more,
A language made up to confuse I'm sure.

I'll bring this to a close, as I edge close to confusion,
There are three 'C's' all sounding different in the words – Pacific Ocean!!!

Lorna MMXXVI

Hunstanton Croquet Club



I'm typing this in April, but by the time it is printed we shall be halfway through the season!

At the moment, beginners on our 2026 'Introduction to Golf Croquet' course are showing great promise and resilience in freezing easterly winds. As well as the basics of croquet, they are also learning the benefits of wearing lots of layers.

May bank holiday saw the annual Robert Prichard AC tournament which kicks off a busy season of internal and external tournaments, bringing together some of the top players from around the country. We are only able to do that thanks to Jonny Ives maintaining the lawns to such a high standard.

Club afternoons kicked off with a full house of 40. Lovely to see so many people enjoying our inclusive sport.

Thanks, as always, to all the members who keep the club running smoothly - it wouldn't work without you. □



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All Change at Phobbies.

Dersingham Phobbies is a club organised and run by volunteers for people with a wide range of disabilities or who feel isolated. We meet every Thursday in Dersingham social club. We held our AGM on 7th May.

After many years of volunteering for Phobbies, both Maggie Ponder, chair of the organising committee, and Julie Kittle, treasurer, stood down from their important roles. They will be succeeded by Mark Shelton and Sarah Jeffreys respectively.

Maggie said, "I was really happy to find Phobbies nineteen years ago but vowed that I would never run it. Phobbies closed during COVID lock down and we sadly lost valuable members of the committee, so after restrictions were lifted some new volunteers and I, along with Julie's help with finances, got it going again and I became the boss! Now is the time to step back and I am delighted that Mark and Sarah have agreed to take the reins over. It is a lovely club full of wonderful people and I intend to keep coming every week for as long as I am able. Currently it is thriving with seven new members arriving in the last six months, so it is a good time to hand over. I would like to thank everyone who has supported me over the last five years."



Maggie Ponder and Julie Kittle

Julie added, "I joined Phobbies for my Mum to attend a few years before COVID. When it was safe to re-open Maggie asked me if I would be Treasurer, having worked in a Bank. Even though my mother had to go into a home during COVID and has since sadly died, I agreed to continue as Treasurer because I had enjoyed going with Mum so much. I have been in the role for about 5 years but now feel it's time to hand the reins to someone else. I will still go on Thursdays as it's a very friendly group with all sorts of activities and I'd miss everyone if I stopped."



Phobbies activities have continued apace, with collage making and mask designing being two popular projects. We always welcome new volunteers and anyone else who wants to attend no matter the reason why. Any help that you can give, whether it's a one off, a few times a year or more regular will be greatly appreciated and you will be made most welcome. We would most gratefully receive any craft activities anyone has that our less able club members can carry out.

Phobbies meets on Thursdays at Dersingham social club, Lynn Road from 10.00am to 2.00pm. Weekly subscription is £2; tea, coffee and biscuits are provided free, but we bring a packed lunch. Anyone interested in joining can drop in on a Thursday or contact Mark Shelton tel. 07763 643498 or email mm.shelton@btinternet.com □



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The Moon

Brian Anderson



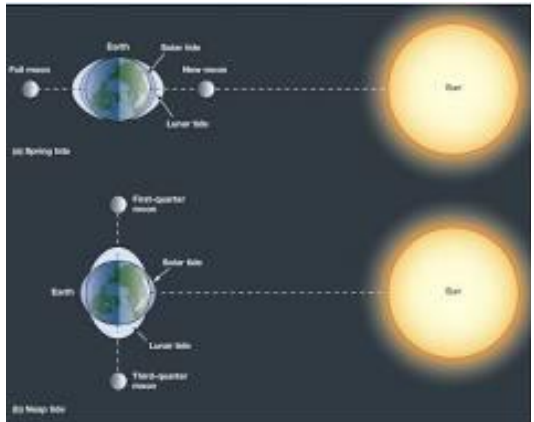
Our moon is called "The Moon" because it's the only one we have. Most (but not all) of the other planets in the Solar System have moons. Jupiter has 97! (At the last count). The Moon has featured in religion and folklore throughout human history. The Moon, usually shown as a goddess (or associated with a goddess) is to be found in the religions of Rome, Greece, Ancient Egypt, China, India, Mesopotamia and the native civilisations of Central and South America. We still retain the Latin and Greek names in the English language - *Luna* and *Selene*.



In English folklore the Moon features widely. Mental states are held to be susceptible to lunar influence - hence *lunatic*. Werewolves are said to be stimulated by the Moon, Superstitions that looking at the new (or full) Moon through glass or in a mirror spells catastrophe are still fairly common. I have known people who believed this.

Mentions of the Moon are frequently found in literature (especially science fiction), poetry, music and visual arts.

Besides its cultural influences, the Moon has a significant physical effect on the Earth, most easily seen in the tides. The Sun also has an influence on the tides but, because it's 372 million times further away than the Moon it has, despite its greater mass (27 million times greater than the Moon), a lesser role. We live near the coast, so we are aware of the tides more, perhaps, than other people do. There are *spring* and *neap* tides. These are caused by the relative positions of the Sun and Moon. When the Earth, Sun and Moon are in a line the gravitational fields of the Moon and Sun are worked in the same direction,



so the tides are at their highest and lowest - a spring tide. When the Sun and Moon are at right angles to each other, the gravitational effect is minimised - a neap tide. Some years ago, I was asked why, if the moon was at some point over the Earth, the tides were high on both sides of the globe. I have to admit I didn't know and had to think about it. It was quite easy. If you put a sphere in the gravitational field, the sphere will be distorted into an ellipsoid (sort of egg-shaped). If the sphere is the Earth *everything* gets stretched, water included. This tidal flexing of the solid Earth is one of the contributors to the Earth's central heat.

The Moon is much smaller than the Earth, just over a quarter of the Earth's diameter. Its mass is just over 1.2% of the Earth's. The surface gravity is about one sixth of Earth, which means, of course, that it's much easier to take off from.

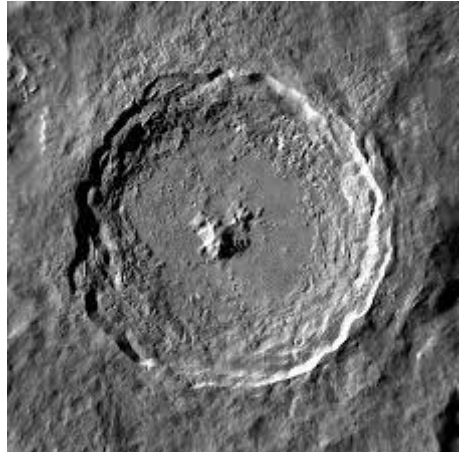
The Moon has a core that is at least partly liquid. This has been determined from seismometers planted by the Apollo missions, which detected moonquakes, and by laser ranging from reflectors left also on the Moon by Apollo astronauts, which showed perturbations in the Moon's rotation.

The Moon has almost no magnetic field (about a millionth of Earth's). Early in the Moon's history, the field was probably much stronger but as the core cooled the iron/nickel core failed to sustain its strength.

There is almost no atmosphere. What atmosphere there is is derived from outgassing at the surface the decay of radioactive minerals in the crust and collisions with ions in the solar wind.

The origin of the Moon has been the subject of much speculation and analysis. One theory suggested that the Moon was flung off the (molten) Earth soon after the formation of the Solar System. This was rejected because the rotation speed required was far too great to be realistic. Another was that the Moon is a wandering planetoid that was captured by the Earth. This would require an unfeasibly extended atmosphere to break the Moon into Earth orbit. A third was a simultaneous formation of the Earth and Moon from the primordial disc that led to the Solar System, but does not explain the absence of metals in some lunar samples. None of these hypotheses can account for the high angular momentum of the Earth-Moon system.

The current hypothesis is that a large planetoid struck the Earth only 50 million years after the formation of the Solar System. This planetoid is called *Theia*. It was probably a little smaller than Mars. There are various alternatives to what might have happened. The first is that *Theia* impacted the Earth and the ejected terrestrial material and *Theia* were liquefied in the collision, coalescing just far enough away to prevent dropping back to Earth. Another is that *Theia* broke up before impact, leading to several impact sites. A third (supported by detailed computer simulations) proposes that *Theia* remained partially intact and that fragments remain deep within the Earth. Evidence of a mixture of Earth and *Theia* is revealed in the analysis of the moon rocks brought back by the Apollo and robotic missions, which show similar mineralogical composition. But there are discrepancies. The isotopes (isotopes of elements that are chemically identical but differ in nuclear structure) of zirconium, silicon and oxygen in some of the samples are dissimilar to terrestrial minerals.



The Moon was once volcanic like Earth, but volcanism ceased about 1.2 billion years ago. When the volcanoes were active, large amounts of lava spread over the surface. These are called *mares* as they were once thought to be seas. The rest of the Moon is heavily cratered, mostly due to massive bombardment by asteroids in the earlier history of the Solar System. This bombardment continues to this day on a much-reduced scale. The constant grinding by meteorites of all sizes reduces much of the lunar surface to a dust call *regolith*. It is much sharper than terrestrial dust, which has been weathered by wind and water. When exposed to air it smells like "burning gunpowder", presumably because it has never been exposed to free oxygen. *Regolith* is considered a possible health risk to any prolonged stay on the Moon.

The Moon is gradually receding from the Earth (by about 3.8cm a year). This was measured by the reflectors mentioned above and acts as a confirmation of the calculations that show a widening orbit due to tidal forces. We can run the clock either way - in the past (about four billion years ago) the Moon was orbiting at only a third of its current distance. The tides must have been immense! Eclipses would have been more numerous and of longer duration. Run the clock forward and Moon will have receded to a point where total eclipses no longer occur.

The Moon is gravitationally locked to the Earth - it always presents the same face to us. We call this the Near Side. The other side is called (no surprise) the Far Side. There is no *Dark Side of the Moon* (sorry, Pink Floyd). All the Moon's surface gets sunlight, apart from deeply shaded craters. The lunar day is determined by its rotation around the Earth (27 days) and not by its own spin - it hasn't got one.

There are still people who think the Apollo landings were faked. It would require far more space than available here to deal with this. I recommend:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Third-party_evidence_for_Apollo_Moon_landings
https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moon_landing_conspiracy_theories

These Wikipedia articles are quite comprehensive and, even better, have full citation and reference lists.

One final point. I can categorically state that the Moon is not made from green cheese.□



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A Story of Spontaneous Kindness

Barbara Pascali

Feeding ourselves healthily is really important, thought Anna, as she walked purposefully in the direction of the tearoom to meet up with her friend Chris. They both seemed to enjoy their conversations where each felt able to air anything that was bothering them, as well as tucking into their favourite cake or savoury treat and a hot drink. Currently, her own favourites were a date and walnut scone with a peppermint herbal tea.

Occupying her thoughts at this moment in time, however, were other kinds of feeding. Recently, after a writing group session in a town about an hour away from where she lived, she was waiting at the bus stop to go home. Soon, the bus she needed drew up. Other people were also waiting, including school children and other adults. The school children initially climbed on, but then everyone noticed that there was an elderly lady slowly making her way down the aisle of the bus with her shopping trolley. She was really quite fragile and was having considerable difficulty manoeuvring her trolley off the bus.

Anna watched fascinated, as various people, including school children, worked together, quite spontaneously, to help solve the lady's problem:

- First, the youngsters climbed back off the bus and waited.
- Then they tried to help her, but something on the top of her trolley was obstructing its movement.
- Next, a gentleman leaned forward to help her but couldn't work out what the problem was.
- The lady explained the problem – it had obviously happened before – and the gentleman listened.
- Finally, he was able to correct the fault.
- Throughout this time, another lady had gently rested her hand on the lady's back to prevent her from falling backwards.
- The lady with the shopping trolley then went on her way and the school children climbed back on the bus.

The spontaneous kindness, gentleness and willingness to listen of all those waiting near the bus stop touched Anna considerably. What a contrast, she thought, to some actions of so-called newspapers whose only intention seemed to be to manipulate our understanding, diminish our sense of hope and destroy those in their path! Of course, it must also be recognised, Anna acknowledged, that there are genuine journalists who work to reveal injustices, unknottling problems that need to be addressed and, indeed, put their very lives in jeopardy in order to bring this about.

Whilst acknowledging this, Anna hoped that she would never forget but always remember the actions of those at the bus stop – a spontaneous and simple example of the natural beauty hidden within each human being, ready to burst forth. Was it possible, she wondered, to hold in balance the knowledge of this natural creativity whilst at the same time being aware that innocent people can suffer through the indifference of others?

Nature itself often brought her back to clear thinking – only that morning, had she not heard for the first time this year an early morning birdsong; a message perhaps that,

whatever else is happening in the world, it is instinctive for birds to begin finding a mate and to build nests for future generations. Similarly, the appearance every January of the faithful snowdrop.

Perhaps, thought Anna, for human beings it could be the letting go of painful memories that might be the first step in moving forward and becoming free to create once more.

Suddenly, Anna realised that the tearooms where she and Chris were meeting had come into view and she could see Chris's bright yellow car parked in the tearoom's car park - an uplifting light pointing towards the end of the tunnel.□

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The King John Cup

Oliver Bone – Lynn Museum Curator



The King John Cup is often described as the town's greatest treasure. It is an exceptional survival and one of the most important secular standing cups of its period. Its name, however, is something of a red herring. There is no evidence that King John ever had any connection with the cup, and it would perhaps be more accurate to call it the *King's Lynn Cup*. The cup was made around 1340, more than a century after King John's death in 1216.

The cup's early history remains uncertain. It may once have belonged to the Trinity Guild, who regarded King John as one of their founders. This association may explain how the misleading name arose. The first known reference to the cup appears in the town records of 1548, just one year after the guild was dissolved.

Made of silver gilt, the cup is richly decorated with enamelled panels showing elegantly dressed figures engaged in hawking and hunting. Around the base, hounds chase hares in lively pursuit. Inside, an image of a woman holding a falcon adds to the cup's courtly theme. In centuries past, mayors of King's Lynn sometimes drank from the cup during civic ceremonies.

The King John Cup was made in northern France around 1325–1350. It is a rare secular standing cup with a detachable bowl and richly decorated enamel panels. Much of the enamel has been repaired or replaced over the centuries, but the imagery and overall design remain close to the original.

Origin of the Cup

Research on similar standing cups and on the clothing shown in the enamel figures indicates that the King John Cup was made in northern France between 1325 and 1350. Comparable examples come from Avignon, Paris, and the Low Countries. We do not know when the cup arrived in England, but its first record in Lynn appears in 1548, listed among silver items given to the Corporation. Although the donor is not named, it is highly likely that the cup originally belonged to one of Lynn's medieval guilds. The **Trinity Guild**, the largest and wealthiest, is the most probable source: they possessed costly drinking cups, and their property was transferred to the town at the same time.

Origin of the Name

Several theories have been proposed to explain why it is called the "King John Cup." Early historian G. H. Anderson listed four possibilities:

- **Given by King John** – impossible, as the cup was made over a century after his death.
- **Given by King John of France** – no evidence.
- **Given by John IV, Duke of Brittany** – no evidence.
- **Used in feasts celebrating King John's 1204 charter** and therefore named in his honour.

The fourth explanation is the most plausible. Over time, King John became a mythical founder figure for Lynn, due to his charter, his visits to the area, and the famous loss of his baggage in the Wash. As a result, both the cup and the King John Sword were gradually associated with him, despite having no real historical link.

The first written use of the name “King John’s Cup” appears in 1691, though a Latin verse from around 1647 already refers to the cup and sword as gifts of King John. This shows that the legend was well established by the early 17th century.

Use of the King John Cup in Celebrations

Communal drinking has been part of English tradition since ancient times, from earlywassailing ceremonies to the ale feasts of medieval guilds. Sharing a drink from a common cup was an important part of guild life and later became a key element of civic ceremony.

The King John Cup was definitely in use by the Mayor of King’s Lynn by 1653, and likely earlier. By 1691, the Hall Books state that the cup was kept locked away except for public festivals, when the mayor needed it. An account from 1738 records that the cup was used at “all public occasions” when toasting the King and Queen, and that any visitor to the Mayor was expected to drink from it. This tradition became known as “The Courtesy of King John’s Cup.”

Because so many people drank from the cup - and because of the constant turning of the stem, knob, and foot—the cup suffered heavy wear, which explains the frequent repairs documented across the 17th and 18th centuries.

The cup holds one pint and was traditionally filled with sugar sweetened sack, a popular fortified Spanish wine. Sack was widely consumed in England in the 16th to 18th centuries and is the ancestor of modern sherry. The Mayor received a substantial allowance to supply it: in 1741 this cost £150 (about £18,000 today).

The Painting by Pieter Gerritsz van Roestraten

The painting on display at Stories of Lynn is attributed to the Dutch artist Pieter Gerritsz van Roestraten (c.1630–1700). Roestraten came to London seeking portrait commissions but eventually turned to still-life painting, specialising in richly rendered luxury objects. His depiction of the King John Cup, painted around 1675, is the earliest known image of the cup. The work is a *vanitas* painting. This is a genre in which every object carries symbolic meaning. Vanitas paintings remind viewers of the transience of life and the futility of earthly pleasures, encouraging them to focus instead on the spiritual.



In this composition:

- The cup and the mansion symbolise power, status, and worldly possessions.
- The watch signifies the swift passing of time.
- Medlars, a fruit that rots before it ripens, warn against moral decay.
- On the right-hand side, Christian symbols appear:
- Pomegranates, associated with the Resurrection.
- A goldfinch, whose red head was once believed to have been stained by Christ’s blood.□



Making Gardening Easier May Davey

Summer is here! The trees are in full bloom. Near Sandringham there are patchwork fields of tulips - Tulips for Tapping - attracting thousands of visitors.

In March we had a successful AGM. The Committee was reselected, with Sue Neil as Chairman. The finances are in good order. We have 42 paid up members. Carol Page from Bramble and Yarn in Lincolnshire brought her intricate woven goods and many dyed samples of hanks of yarn to show us. It was fascinating to see how very slight changes to the dyes produced a variety of colours.



In April Christopher and May Davey showed illustrations of their cruise up the Danube last August. They described the advantages of a gentle river cruise. The main advantage was that there was free-seating at meals, so one had a chance to meet lots of people.

On 20th May The Owl Man, Richard Brooks from Croxton Hamlet, brought his photographs of local wildlife to Dersingham Village Centre.

On 20th June we are meeting at St Cecilia's Church in Mountbatten Road because the Centre is busy. Gerry Tamm is coming to describe how the Poppy Collections are organised and how the money is used. There will be the usual tea and £3.00 entrance at the church.



A garden in Vienna

On 17th July members will be entertained by Sue Neil in her home at Pentney Lakes.

Meetings usually take place on the third Friday of the month at Dersingham Village Centre, unless an outing has been arranged. They begin at 2.00pm, stop for tea about 3.00pm and end at 4.00pm. Visitors are always very welcome. There is an entrance fee of £3.00 which covers tea and the raffle. Contact Gloria Pantling for details at 01553 671912. Why don't **you** come and see how you like us? □

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Singalong at the Village Centre by Steve Davis



Always a pleasure to meet up with such a lovely group of folk in the Garden Room at the Village Centre. It takes place from 2.00pm to 4.00pm on the last Friday of each month for a good sing through an eclectic mix of songs, plus two or three solo instrumental pieces, dependent upon who turns up really! Most just come along for a sing but we're always happy to accommodate any who like to bring along some form of musical instrument. It's great fun, and there's always time to chat over tea/coffee and biscuits too. All are welcome and full details can be found on our webpage at **Dersingers.uk** or please contact me directly at **steve.dersingham@gmail.com** or phone/text/WhatsApp: 07885 721158.

The next three sessions are scheduled for Fridays 29th May, 26th June and 31st July. □



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Dersingham Brownies Pirate holiday



The end of the Easter holidays saw the 1st and 2nd Dersingham Brownies fly away to Neverland (Patteson Lodge, Coltishall) for their annual Pack Holiday.

This year's theme was Peter Pan so all the games, crafts and activities had a Pirate twist. Over the course of 3 days, the Brownies enjoyed a wide range of activities including: Low Ropes (watch out for the crocodiles!), crafts - some of which were: making a headdress for Tigerlily, a crocodile bookmark and a fairy dust necklace for Tinkerbell, treasure hunt, helping with preparing the meals, keeping the holiday home clean and tidy as well as sewing a badge onto their badge blankets. Each six had to keep their bedroom area tidy ready for inspection, wash up and take it in turns to lay the table. As the weather was perfect, there was also lots of opportunity to play outside.



In the evenings, there was a pyjama parade with prizes, an indoor campfire with lots of silly songs, toasting marshmallows over tea lights and a story before snuggling down in their bunk beds.

All the Brownies and Leaders had a wonderful time with all the girls achieving either their Holiday Adventures 1, 2 or 3 (depending on how many Pack Holidays they have been on.) Planning has already begun for next year's holiday when we will be falling down a rabbit hole...□

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Dersingham Institute Bowls Club by Jan Rawstron

As the date for our opening of the green for the 2026/27 season approached, we were all on tenterhooks as the weather ranged from cold and wet to cold and very windy, but on the day, April 11th, after a somewhat chilly and cloudy start, the 36 bowlers were treated to a mild and sunny afternoon. Our Club President, Keith Richardson, opened the green by bowling the first wood of the season which was followed by a roll-up. The afternoon drew to a close with a delicious finger buffet organised by Dawn Brown and her team and was provided by the very generous members.

The green looked a treat and, although a bit slow to begin with, sped up as the afternoon wore on. Thanks must go to our green keeping team, as usual led by Allen Toppin, who work hard throughout the winter months ready for the new season.

After just a couple of weeks, led by our team Captain Iain Brown, we will have played our first game in the Albert Victor League, an away tie at home to Clenchwarton in the first round of the Knockout Cup on Friday April 24th, swiftly followed by an away match in the league against Sandringham on Friday May 1st.

Our matches in the Countryside League began on May 5th when Captain Terry Thompson led the team in an away match against Docking. Good luck to both our Countryside and Albert Victor teams. Updates on our progress in the next issue.

Our Annual Open Day was held on Sunday April 26th. I will give details of how this went next time.

The draw for the teams in the Dickie Murrell Memorial League (The Birds League) were made on Saturday May 2nd, with the league itself started on Wednesday May 13th. There will be roll-ups at 2pm on Wednesday afternoons and of course on Saturdays as usual.

The first trophy of the season, The Edies Cup, was competed for on Bank Holiday Monday, May 4th at 2pm.

We also hosted a friendly match against Cliff Parade on Sunday May 17th, which is always a closely fought event, played in good spirits.

I think that takes us up nicely to the next issue, when more fixtures and results will be available. It is such a pleasure to be back outdoors, in the fresh air, with our fellow members, both old and new. Hopefully we will have a good 2026/27 season. Best wishes to all. □



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Dersingham Methodist Church Elizabeth Batstone

Flower Festival and 136th anniversary. Thursday 21st to Saturday 23rd May, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm, theme 'Songs to Stir the Memory'. Stalls – cakes, cards, books, gifts, plants, light refreshments.

Songs of Praise, Sunday 24th May, 3.00 pm, with the Revd Helen Hollands, Chair of the East Anglia Methodist District.

The arrangements will depict songs we sang at Sunday School, such as *Wide, wide as the ocean; Only a boy called David; How did Moses cross the Red Sea;* and others. Children from Dersingham VCA Primary and Nursery School will sing on Thursday and Friday morning at 10.00 am. Funds raised for the Matjinge Project and Dersingham Methodist Church.

Over the past few years, the West Norfolk Methodist Circuit has been supporting the school of our minister, Revd Dr Richman Ncube, in Matjinge, Zimbabwe. In the past we have funded a borehole and solar pump, a satellite internet connection and six laptop computers. The next goal is to provide solar lamps for the children and a solar battery to power the internet connection reliably.

Revd Rich is visiting Zimbabwe later in the year and after the Flower Festival we will be collecting articles to take to the school – such as football uniforms, footballs, pens and pencils, keepsakes (prizes to give to children), sanitary pads for girls etc.

We look forward to seeing you at the Flower Festival. □



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Sunday 24th May
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the
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From your Ward Councillors Tony Bubb and Judy Collingham



We hope you are enjoying this current unseasonably warm, sunny weather. Though perhaps not if, like us, you are gardeners. Reminiscent of last year's dry spring, maybe this is a weather pattern to which we are going to have to get used; the East of England has had only 1% of its normal monthly rainfall for April.

Onto matters political: the most important event on the horizon, as we write, is the County elections on May 7th which will have taken place by the time the *Village Voice* is published. Whoever gets in will have a tricky time as it will be all change by 2028 when the Unitary Authority is established and both Borough and County Councils will be amalgamated. Your current Borough Councillors will continue for an extra year until 2028 to avoid elections to the Borough being held which would then be "valid" for only one year. Ward members have asked about the civic mayoral position which is an historic one and one much loved and respected by many in this Borough. Currently we cannot say with any certainty how that role will be accommodated in the new arrangements.

Our thanks to those considerate dog owners who are exercising their pets along the perimeter of the sports field and only with the dog on a lead. Please may we ask all pet owners to respect the signage. It would not be in anyone's interest to ban dogs on the sports field completely.

On the topic of the sports ground, a golf ball was found (not for the first time) on the field. It hardly needs saying that practising golf on the field is inherently dangerous and not permitted. A word of thanks to our Parish Council for the work in clearing the ditch and installing a new culvert into the houses to the rear of the field. It looks smart and enhances access to the field.

As Borough Councillors we each have a Community Fund of £1,000 for use in the community. In the last year we have contributed to a new mower for the Dersingham Sports Ground, a new fridge for the DVC to be used by hirers, and money towards an accessible toilet for Ingoldsthorpe Sports and Social Club. However, we are not able to support any Parish Council schemes. If your group needs help, please get in touch. □



Inheritance Tax: A Valuable Exemption to Consider

Mapus-Smith & Lemmon LLP
incorporating Kathryn Gigg Chartered Accountants, Hunstanton

The current Inheritance Tax (IHT) Nil Rate Band was frozen at £325,000 back in 2009 and is due to remain fixed at that level until 2031. If it had risen fairly with inflation it would likely be in excess of £675,000 by now. Similarly, the Annual Exemption of £3,000, set in 1981, ought perhaps to be over £15,000 today.

As a result, exposure to **IHT has been gradually rising year on year**; and now with the misguided attack on farmers and family businesses resulting in the restriction of Agricultural & Business Property Reliefs from 6 April 2026, plus the inclusion of undrawn money-purchase pension funds in a chargeable Estate with effect from 6 April 2027, the IHT tax take is set to increase substantially.

Anything that can mitigate the impact of the tax that can be considered a “penalty on thrift, independence and enterprise” has therefore got to be worth considering.

One of the most important but misunderstood reliefs is that of **Gifts as “normal expenditure out of income”**. To have any chance of claiming the relief, the gift must be made: a) as part of the donor’s normal expenditure; and, b) taking one year with another it was made out of income; and, thirdly, c) that after allowing for all such gifts as part of normal expenditure the donor was left with sufficient income to maintain their usual standard of living.

As it will be your Executors who will make the claim and hence need to provide evidence of the annual level of surplus income it is imperative to keep a detailed record of your income and expenditure (see the final page of HMRC Form IHT 403) along with any supporting papers, and also document the gifts made.

Normal means “normal for the donor and not for the average person”; and there should be a regular pattern of gifts. It is always wise to document one’s intention for the gifts to be regular from the outset.

In basic terms, evidence of one’s income for the purposes of this relief should be available from your Tax Return but it is not necessarily the same as income for Income Tax purposes (e.g. you may also have income from exempt sources such as ISAs or Premium Bond winnings). HMRC will wish to ensure that capital is not included (e.g. you might consider the 5% withdrawals that you take from your Investment Bond Policy to be regular income, but, in fact, they are truly defined as capital).

Most surprisingly however the normal expenditure exemption is not (currently) limited to a specific monetary amount. Hence, it can be seen how valuable this relief can be as opposed to finding that your gifts are classed as Potentially Exempt Transfers, sitting on your 7-year clock before they escape the Chancellor’s clutches.

Over the next year many people will find that their potential exposure to IHT increases massively. Something that they have not had to seriously consider until now.

“Carpe diem” therefore, and plan (as well as you can, as soon as you can) to ensure that you make good use of all reliefs and exemptions available to you – “while stocks last”!

If you are considering making substantial gifts out of income and need detailed support to structure and maintain the records that HMRC would expect to see, please do contact Nicola Tarry FCA at Mapus-Smith & Lemmon LLP, Hunstanton office on 01485 534800 or ntarry@mapus.co.uk

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Caution: The information listed above is for general guidance only. You should neither act, nor refrain from action, on the basis of any such information. You should take appropriate professional advice on your particular circumstances because the application of laws and regulations will vary depending on particular circumstances and because laws and regulations undergo frequent change. Whilst we endeavour to ensure that the information contained herein is correct, neither we nor our firm shall be liable in damages (including, without limitation, damages for loss of business or loss of profits) arising in contract, tort or otherwise from any information contained in it, or from any action or decision taken as a result of using any such information.

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Dersingham VOLLIES Group

The Dersingham Fundraising Volunteers, known affectionately to the Norfolk Hospice Tapping House as 'The Dersingham VOLLIES' are a small group of generous women who have been organizing events and fundraising in aid of Tapping House since 2014. They hold a monthly 'pop up' coffee morning on the first Thursday of every month at the Dersingham Village Centre from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm. It is a relaxing morning of socializing and meeting new friends over a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of homemade cake – all in aid of Tapping House.

As well as the coffee mornings, the group have organized a huge number of events over the years including race nights, quizzes, jazz evenings and craft fairs. Funds raised since the group's formation total just under an amazing £19,000! The ladies work closely with the Fundraising Team who provide them with regular updates about Tapping House and can provide advice and support with their event planning. Tapping House would like to thank them for all their continuous hard work, enthusiasm and support.

The Dersingham VOLLIES are an incredible example of how a group of friends or neighbours can come together and create a positive, lasting impact within their community whilst raising all important funds for Tapping House, helping us to continue to provide the level of care that we do.

If you are interested in getting involved or starting a similar fundraising group, you can contact the Fundraising Team by calling **01485 601701** or emailing **fundraisingoffice@tappinghouse.org.uk** □

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Fifty days and onwards

Rev Mark Capron



Each year, fifty days after Easter, Christians around the world celebrate Pentecost, a moment often described as the 'birthday of the Church'. But this is more than a historical milestone because Pentecost is a story of transformation, courage, and the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit moving ordinary people into extraordinary purpose.

Locally, this Pentecost we will be welcoming the Bishop of Norwich, Bishop Graham, who will be leading a special Service of Confirmation, as more people make public affirmation of their Christian faith in following Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. The service is on Sunday 24th May at 10am in St Nicholas Church, Dersingham. In the days leading up to the Pentecost service, there will be interactive prayer spaces in church for anyone to explore prayer in simple and creative ways.

In the Bible in the books of Acts, Pentecost describes the followers of Jesus, still uncertain and fearful after his ascension, gathered together in Jerusalem. Then something remarkable happened: "a sound like a rushing wind filled the house, and what seemed like tongues of fire rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages as the Spirit enabled them" (Acts 2:2-4).

This moment marked a turning point. The same disciples who had hidden in fear were suddenly emboldened. Peter, who had once denied knowing Jesus, stood before a crowd and spoke with clarity and conviction. Thousands responded. In that instant, the Church was born, not as a building or institution, but as a living, Spirit-filled community.

Calling Pentecost the 'birthday of the Church' is fitting because it marks the beginning of a mission. The early believers did not remain in one place; they went out, carrying the transformational message of Jesus to the world. The Church grew through the Holy Spirit working in and through people who were willing to listen and respond.

This year, Pentecost, fifty days after Easter and onwards, continues to invite reflection, and with the prayer spaces we hope this will aid some in their own quest of God

Blessing

Rev Mark Capron

Rector of Dersingham, Anmer, Ingoldisthorpe and Shernborne
and Minister of 'The Well' Church, Ingoldisthorpe.

YouTube Channel: 'Dersingham Online Worship'

Word Wall

Sort the following into four groups of connected words. Answers on page 64

OREGANO	BABOON	WARNE	MACAQUE
TAMARIN	BANDSAWS	FENNEL	LAKER
TURMERIC	RAMADHIN	GRINDERS	SUMAC
JIGSAWS	MANDRILL	UNDERWOOD	SANDERS



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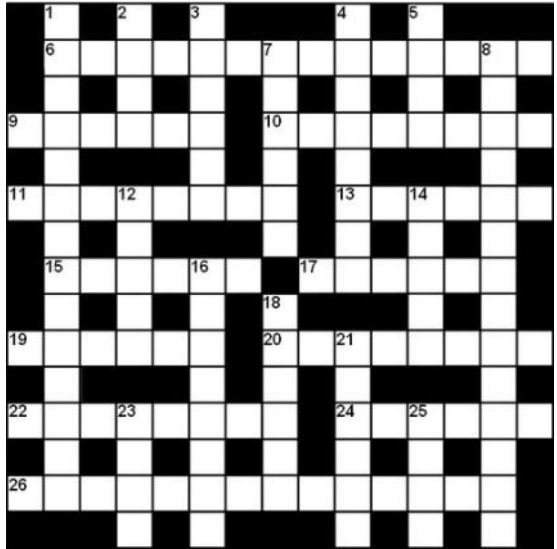
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Across

- 6 All points to a pear at a media gathering (4,10)
- 9 Herb numbered in a new experience (6)
- 10 Aunts are terribly bullish (8)
- 11 Someone to put you through a different poor rate (8)
- 13 Cast or compound (6)
- 15 Doll up with quiet favourite (6)
- 17 Wander and somehow get lost in both directions (6)
- 19 Friends come up for a scrumptious meal (4,2)
- 20 Avenue in the metropolis is revealing potholes (8)
- 22 Long-suffering indifference (8)
- 24 Cancel opening in Newcastle for example (6)
- 26 Papers to indicate if I am about to join the Navy (14)



**Answers on
Page 64**

Down

- 1 People busy cooking rudd and tuna – as in some islands (14)
- 2 Can include Welsh counterpart (4)
- 3 Goods scattered around church feline (6)
- 4 But a dent can be repaired for a new player(8)
- 5 Box of chocolate lemons (4)
- 7 Not a line used by legal secretary (6)
- 8 Harry learnt while fooling around house warming (7,7)
- 12 Rent Rhode Island whelp (5)
- 14 Swimmer appeared at our turn at the races (5)
- 16 Frank unveils excerpt in way out (8)
- 18 Crustaceans discovered in silicone coated tents (6)
- 21 Uncultivated land behind museum spoiled by hooligan (6)
- 23 Mixed drink taken from batsman's hostelries (4)
- 25 Increase profit (4)

Sudoku

				1		5	4	
			9		6			
							8	1
	6	5		3				
7							9	
	1		5		7	3		
9			6	8		1		
		1					3	4
	4			5			7	



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Crossword Answers

Across

6 News conference. 9 Fennel. 10 Taureans.
11 Operator. 13 Actors. 15 Puppet. 17 Stroll.
19 Slap up. 20 Cavities. 22 Stoicism.
24 Negate. 26 Identification.

Down

1 Underpopulated. 2 Twin. 3 Ocelot.
4 Debutant. 5 Tele. 7 Notary. 8 Central heating.
12 Rip up. 14 Trout. 16 Explicit.
18 Scampi. 21 Vandal. 23 Inns. 25 Gain.

Word Wall Answers

Monkeys: Baboon, Macaque, Mandrill, Tamarin

Power tools: Bandsaws, Grinders, Jigsaws, Sanders

Spices: Fennel, Oregano, Sumac, Turmeric

Spin bowlers: Laker, Ramadhin, Underwood, Warne

Sudoku Answers

3	9	7	2	1	8	5	4	6
1	5	8	9	4	6	7	2	3
6	2	4	3	7	5	9	8	1
8	6	5	4	3	9	2	1	7
7	3	2	8	6	1	4	9	5
4	1	9	5	2	7	3	6	8
9	7	3	6	8	4	1	5	2
5	8	1	7	9	2	6	3	4
2	4	6	1	5	3	8	7	9

Village Voice Deadlines and Publication Dates

For articles, reports of events, meetings and details of upcoming attractions:

Issue	Copy deadline midday on	Publication date
No 161 (Aug/Sept 26)	Monday 29th June 2026	Monday 20th July 2026
No 162 (Oct/Nov 26)	Monday 31st August 2026	Monday 21st September 2026
No 163 (Dec26/Jan27)	Monday 2nd November 2026	Monday 23rd November 2026
No 164 (Feb/March 27)	Monday 4th January 2027	Monday 25th January 2027
No 165 (April/May 27)	Monday 1st March 2027	Monday 23rd March 2027

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Back Cover	15.2cm wide x 21.6cm high	£160.00
Inside Covers	15.2cm wide x 21.6cm high	£150.00

Village Voice is published every two months. Discounts are available for block bookings: if you book in advance for all six issues in the year, you get one free entry. There is a 10% discount for a block of four or five bookings in the year.

Obtain booking form and full technical details for advertisements by emailing villagevoice@dersingham.org.uk or from the Parish Council office (address below). An invoice will be sent on receipt of the booking form.

Articles

Please send as Word documents. Any photographs need to be attached as separate files, not in the body of an article or email, and they need to be high resolution (large) images so that they reproduce well. Please send articles and photographs to villagevoice@dersingham.org.uk

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The Production Team for this edition of Village Voice consists of

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VILLAGE CINEMA

at Dersingham Village Centre

Presents on

Tuesday June 30th at 7:30pm

SONG SUNG BLUE (12A)

Starring: Hugh Jackman & Kate Hudson

The true story of two down-on-their-luck performers who form a Neil Diamond tribute band, proving it's never too late to find love and follow your dreams.



Entry £6 Under 16s £3

Entry includes tea/coffee/squash
Wine, Beer, Cider, Soft Drinks
available from the Bar



Dersingham Village Cinema is managed by
Dersingham Village Centre Association
Charity No 117846Z
Supported by Creative Arts East



DERSHINGHAM
VILLAGE CENTRE

VILLAGE CINEMA

at Dersingham Village Centre

Presents on

Tuesday July 28th at 7:30pm

HAMNET (12A)

Starring: Paul Mescal & Jessie Buckley

William Shakespeare and his wife, Agnes, celebrate the birth of a son, Hamnet. However, when tragedy strikes and Hamnet dies at a young age, it inspires Shakespeare to write his timeless masterpiece "Hamlet."



Entry £6 Under 16s £3

Entry includes tea/coffee/squash
Wine, Beer, Cider, Soft Drinks
available from the Bar



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