

The Holton Post

November/December 2016

Issue No 91

YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Doesn't time fly?! Another year has gone and it will soon be time for another Annual General Meeting of the Holton Post. I do hope some of you will join us at the Triple Plea on Tuesday 6th December at 5.30pm, when you can meet the committee and find out about the future of the newsletter.

Once again we are grateful to the Parish Councils of Holton and Blyford for giving grants to the Holton Post, which will enable us to keep going for another year. We must not forget the value of our advertisers as well though, as they and the grants are our only sources of income. Thank you all. We must also thank all the volunteers who help us by delivering the newsletter to everyone in Holton and much of Blyford. We are always looking for more people to help, so if you can assist please contact Jim or Jackie Watts (phone number on the back page).

After six years as Parish Clerk, Alison Cackett is retiring and we welcome Dawn Henry who is taking over. Thank you Alison for doing so much for the Parish and for providing us with the Council Minutes, though you will still be kept busy as our District Councillor and Clerk to Blyford Parish Council, hopefully for some time to come.

CHURCH SECURITY

On the afternoon of Sunday 9th October, St Peter's Church suffered minor vandalism. Three recently-filled fire extinguishers were emptied, and some of the harvest fruit was taken. Two or three young teenagers were responsible, and we have a good idea of who they were. The police have been informed.

We have agreed that the church should be kept locked for a while, so that this doesn't happen again. Please could you keep your eyes open for young teenagers playing about near the church, or in the church when it is open again.

The Church Council will discuss CCTV at our meeting in November; fortunately, our recent Quiz Night raised almost enough money to provide this.

If you need to get into the church (other than for services), could you phone in advance either Jackie Moulson 01986 875457 or myself 01986 875913. Thank you.

John Hewlett, Churchwarden

The Holton Post

invites you to their

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

on

Tuesday 6th December

at 5.30pm

at The Triple Plea, Broadway



St Peter's Church, Holton



CHRISTMAS FAIR

10am until 1pm

Saturday 3rd December

Holton and Blyford Village Hall

Refreshments: Mince pies: Hot drinks:
Cheese scones: Sausage rolls

Preserves: Bric-a-brac: Jewellery:
Grand Raffle: Cakes: Toiletries
and much, much more!

HOLTON VILLAGE HALL ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

BOOK/CLOTHES JUMBLE 10am. – 12noon.

SUNDAY 6TH NOVEMBER

HOLTON BIG BREAKFAST from 9.30am

FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

POP UP PUB from 7pm LIVE MUSIC

THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

BINGO 7.30pm.

SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER

CRAFT FAIR 10am – 4pm.

SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER

HOLTON BIG BREAKFAST from 9.30am

SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER

ROGER WOOLNOUGH will be fronting a
CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING CLASS

from 10am – 12noon. £5

To book a place contact

Wendy Mendham – 01986 872590.

THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER

BINGO – 7.30pm.

SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER

POP UP PUB – Hopefully with live music.

LETTERS AND EMAILS

THE SMITHY

Dear Holton Residents,

I have recently purchased The Smithy in Holton and would like to gently and sympathetically renovate this wonderful little building. I intend to visit the Record Office and Halesworth Museum to research its history but would love to hear from you if you have any old photos, document or stories that could help me.

I can be contacted:

by email: mish_hunt12@hotmail.com

or by phone: 07971 171832.

Many thanks
Michelle Hunt

BONFIRES

I would like to comment on the disgusting smelly bonfire that was very selfishly lit on one of the hottest afternoons of the summer a few weeks ago by a person in the village.

It was lit at approximately 2pm and went on all afternoon and evening despite pleas from neighbours to put it out. The ash and foul smelling smoke was drifting all across Church View from the bonfire and of course not in the direction of the person who had lit it, who lives on the The Street in one of the cottages there. They lit it at the very bottom of their garden that backs on to Church View properties.

The ash was so bad washing had to be taken in, windows shut and the acrid smoke made remaining in the garden impossible - just what were they burning and why, for so long, on a boiling hot day. HOW SELFISH!

Dear Holton News

It was a shame to read that the Hall could possibly close next year - no doubt due to general lethargy. We went to the Big Breakfast and, although there were quite a few people there, nowhere near the amount there should have been considering the size of the village. ALL of my neighbours (of which there are very many) didn't bother to go and they will be the first ones to complain if the Hall has to close. Some of them said "they forgot", others "didn't know about it". They are the same people who didn't go to the pub and then moaned about the fact that it closed! OK, it wasn't a very good pub, but at least we *had* a pub and those people should have made more of an effort to try and use it to ensure it didn't close. Come on Holton, get off your backsides and support your Hall, Community and all the people who make an effort on your behalf. Maybe someone knows of a Keep Fit or Pilates teacher as, looking around Holton, many people - old and young - could benefit from either (or both!). Even, perhaps, a language teacher to help our brain cells tick over. Other villages have a thriving village hall because the residents take an interest and make an effort.

On another different subject, isn't it time that something is done about the excessive amount of speeding motorists that tear down Mill Road and The Street? I have to walk down both of these roads in the course of my work and it's quite a surprise that I haven't been knocked down as yet! This, together with the amount of oversize lorries, is no joke. We have a sign saying "Lorry Watch". Who is actually looking out for the lorries? I thought maybe the Parish Council would be concerned about both things.

When we moved to the village, someone commented that the people in it were "reactive" rather than "proactive". Now I know what they meant.

Keep up the good work with the Holton News.....it always makes interesting reading.

Regards
Vivian Gregg

www.eastsuffolk.foodbank.org.uk

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foodbank

To contact the foodbank ring 07928 719934

If you are in a crisis and need food, talk to a professional or care organisation and ask to be referred to the Foodbank.

HALESWORTH OPENING TIMES:
Wednesdays at St. Mary's, between 10.45 am and 11.45.

Donations can also be left at the back of Holton Church

If you wish to donate food you can drop it off at St. Mary's, Rosedale Funeral Home, Woolnough's Funeral Home and Café Frappa.

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Opening Times

Monday-Friday: 9am - 5.30pm

Saturday: 9am - 2pm



HOLTON SCHOOL NEWS

This term we welcome Miss McGowan as our new Red Kites teacher; her class are learning all about Space, which will also be the theme for their 5-day residential trip to Aylmerton in November. Kestrel's topic this term is "May the Force Be With You" focusing on electricity. They are also being given the opportunity to learn the ukulele and also on the music front they had a trip with many other primary schools to Snape Maltings for an afternoon at the Proms with a variety of music performed by young musicians. 4 pupils from this class have also been appointed as Junior Road Safety officers to help promote and educate all pupils about keeping safe on and near roads. 12 pupils applied so congratulations to the successful 4. Eagles are learning all about castles and thanks to Mr Lickman and Miss Chittock have a lovely castle in one corner of their classroom. They are also learning about Autumn. In Ospreys our new pupils (who have all settled in well) are learning about journeys and about themselves and have had a visit from the dental nurse who taught them the importance of dental hygiene. As a whole school the main focus is on improving our standards in writing and maths.

The partnership with other local schools continues successfully. On 20th October there was a Creative Arts day which involved year groups from all 5 schools working together. These days are a great opportunity for pupils to meet with pupils from other schools and make friends which then helps further down the line when they go off to high school. Staff also benefit from meeting other staff so they can exchange ideas and share experiences. As you are no doubt aware the Government is keen for all schools to become Academies, but as a small school this is not an option for Holton (or any other small school) to do so on our own so the partnership (Holton, Edgar Sewter, Wenhaston, Ilketshall and Bungay Primary) have for many months been looking at the options available. It is felt the best option for us all is to join a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) based in Ipswich which is already up and running and looking to expand. Following many discussions and hard work by Head Teachers and Governors consultation is currently underway with a view to the transition taking place in April 2017.

We have already had our first parent lunch of the year, it proved so popular that it was decided to run it over 2 days which enabled over 30 parents from Osprey and Eagles to attend – many thanks to Mrs Thompson for making these possible.

WENHASTON VILLAGE HALL Craft and Produce Table-Top Sale November 26 - 10am - 12noon

*No need to book just come to the hall
at 9.30am to set up.*

£5 per table (provided).

Produce, cakes, plants, crafts, jewellery, cards, toiletries, toys, books, clothes.

**The Cafe will be serving coffee, tea and cakes.
Please come and support this event in aid of
the Village Hall.**

Both boys and girls from Red Kites have been participating in Under 11 football tournaments, many thanks to parents who have attended and supported these events and well done to the pupils concerned.

Friends of Holton held a very successful quiz in October in Chinny's and would like to thank everyone who helped and supported the event in any way. The event raised almost £500 which is going to go towards maintaining the Adventure playground which is enjoyed by all pupils and hopefully extending to meet the needs of our Year 5 and 6 pupils.

Finally, in case you are not already aware, sadly Mrs Righton will be retiring and leaving us in July next year. During her time with us she has been instrumental in moving the school forward in a most positive way and in particular was highly successful in managing the changes brought about by the loss of the Middle School. While very sorry to see her leave governors and staff appreciate the fact that she has informed the school so early which means the recruitment process for her successor can be thorough and rigorous to enable the appointment of the best candidate to carry on her excellent work.

For more information and photos about the school please visit the school website.

Alison Hyden



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HOLTON AND BLYFORD VILLAGE HALL "HAPPENINGS"

So much seems to have happened since I wrote the hopeful piece for the last edition of the HP.

We have had the hugely successful Fashion Show organised by Helen and three other "events" which combined to put nearly £2k into the Village Hall financial coffers. There are always expenses too – and keeping those to the minimum is a watchword. Kind people like "Helping Hands" charity in Halesworth who have donated masses of glasses (for the Bar), Betty Cole, who cleared out a cupboard of glasses too – and little teapots (for the breakfasts) have appeared from everywhere! We are very grateful to those people who have helped and, indeed, attended our activities.

The first Holton Big Breakfast was really well received – cries of "When are you doing it again" means we are repeating the menu on Sunday 6th November, starting at 9.30.a.m. ALL WELCOME!

The Pop up Pub was very popular and Stuart and Steve's musical entertainment got even the most stiffed legs going – it was voted by all a success and will be repeated on Friday 11th November with a different sort of music - you'll have to be there to find out more – but it's local!

The Hundred River Folk Band really got a small, but select group, of people moving when the Ceilidh launched itself on Holton. Great fun was had by all who attended and – yes again it helped the Village Hall to stay available for all of us.

On Thursday 20th of October the first session of a regular Thursday night Bingo will have happened by the time you read this. Many people have expressed real enthusiasm for this and we have invested in a new Bingo machine – highly visible – the tea pots will be out again and here's wishing everyone a "House" of some sort! November 17th is the 2nd session.

Ballroom Dancing with Corinna is a date we are looking forward too – 22nd October when the super floor at the Hall gets used for its "proper" purpose.

I understand there's a Strictly Challenge going on - but I will report that at a later date.

We are very lucky to have Roger Woolnough hosting a session on Saturday December 10th from 10.a.m. – 12 noon – on how to make or even rejuvenate a Christmas Wreath. Bookings are necessary on 01986 872590 - £5 per person. This was a great idea passed in by Maggie Whymark – thank you.

A list of the forthcoming events is attached with another Big Breakfast and Pop Up Pub planned in December before we slump into darkened rooms over Christmas! If there is anyone out there who would like to get involved, lend a hand, give an idea – we would be thrilled to hear from you!

Keep on coming – keep our Village Hall alive – and available for all of us!

Wendy Mendham

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST "RIDE AND STRIDE"

Every year I look forward to the second Saturday in September when we like to join in with the cycle ride organised by SHCT. This year we decided to do our favourite route from Holton down to Walberswick and Southwold, using the back lanes and bridleways. It's a circular journey via Blythburgh on the way down to the sea and via Wangford coming back. We visited fourteen churches and three chapels. The weather seemed to be ideal. The wind blew us along nicely and a few odd showers kept us cool. Each place of worship made us very welcome and signed our sponsor forms. I never fail to wonder at how different and special each church is. At Walberswick the church tower was open and we were asked if we would like to climb the steps to see the view. Jim reached the top but I had gone far enough when we reached the bell chamber. The view was spectacular. You could see Sizewell Power Station, Southwold Light House and right up the Blyth Estuary. We also purchased some rather nice bone china mugs with a picture of the church on them. The wind blew us along to Southwold where we had our sandwiches looking out to sea at Gun Hill. At Reydon Church we met a lady who said she had been a teacher at Holton School when Miss Heycock was the Head. Uggeshall Church had a circular stained glass window that was donated by the villagers in 2000. The man who welcomed us pointed out all the different pictures in each pane of glass depicting life in the village: lots of flowers, fields of corn, birds, deer, trees and amusingly a cup and saucer; the good old 'cup of tea' being a sign of hospitality, sharing and friendship amongst the villagers. Our last church was at Westhall. Saint Andrews, Westahall nestles down a hill in a cosy valley hidden by ancient trees. There is a beautiful Norman Archway over the old west door. Again, I was drawn to the stained glass. All the windows were clear except for the top part of the east window above the altar. Apparently the whole window was broken at one time and the colours we now see are made out of the remnant.

Back at Holton Church we found Brian on his second shift of signing forms and welcoming.

Many thanks to all who helped and all who sponsored. There were thirty visiting cyclists and walkers to our church in Holton. Total money raised by John and Jill Hewlett, Jim and myself was £373.

Jackie Watts.

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HOLTON PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7th
SEPTEMBER 2016

PRESENT: Councillors D Fosdike (Chair), R Stephenson, G Cackett, Cllr A Cackett (WDC), Dawn Henry (New Clerk) and 3 members of the public

PUBLIC FORUM: There was some discussion regarding flooding from water on the fields at the rear of 1-6 The Street. Also the matter was raised regarding the sewers blowing during the last flash floods.

A member of the public asked if the Parish Council would consider contributing to a Defibrillator at the Village Hall, and the current situation regarding ownership of Holton Pits. It was suggested that these matters could be put on the next agenda.

APOLOGIES: Councillor M Hart, Councillor T Goldson (SCC)

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: These were approved, all in favour.

EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT: To date nothing has been received from BDO, although the Clerk has been advised that there were no issues. To be confirmed at the next meeting.

PLAY AREA UPDATE: Correspondence was discussed regarding the current condition of the play equipment on the play area. The large Multi-Play equipment was nearing the end of its life and a decision was needed regarding the next steps.

The following was agreed:

- Clerk to write to the Primary School to ask what the children would like to see on site.
- Clerk to make enquires regarding possible grants and to obtain some quotes to replace like for like.
- The fence adjacent to the bungalow on the right side of the play area to be repaired.

RECENT FLOODING: A letter had been received from a local resident concerning the recent flooding which had affected The Street, in Holton. A lively discussion ensued concerning possible causes, and sewer overflows, capacity of sewers with reference to new housing. Cllr Cackett and Cllr Fosdike have been in discussion with Suffolk County Council regarding an additional drain to ease the situation down Beccles Road. The ditches and hedges needed to be kept in a good condition also. The following was agreed:

- Clerk to write to the farmer/land owner regarding a meeting with representatives of the Parish Council to discuss possible ways forward.
- Clerk to email SCC regarding current situation concerning possible new drain, is it classed as a priority.
- Clerk to write to Anglian Water concerning overload, it was water not air.

FREE PARKING HALESWORTH: An email had been received from Halesworth Town Council regarding the possibility of a donation towards the 1 Hour Free Parking system in Halesworth. The Parish Council discussed the matter and agreed that many residents of Holton used the facility so they were prepared to make a donation in principle, a figure being used of approximately £250.

PLANNING DECISIONS/APPLICATIONS:

DC/16/3366/TCA Forge House, The Street, Holton – Reduction of Silver Birch and thinning due to proximity to road way and property.

DC/16/2902/LBC Millside Cottage, The Street, Holton – Construction of single storey lean to rear extension.

The Parish Council had no objection to either application subject to neighbours comments.

REPORTS:

VILLAGE HALL – Alison gave a quick overview of the current situation and the new programme of events and asked that the Parish Council Support this.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 9th November 2016.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS: 4th January 2017, 8th March 2017.

Alison Cackett
Clerk to Holton Parish Council

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON FRIDAY 7th OCTOBER 2016

PRESENT: Councillors G Cackett, D Davis, D Fosdike (Chair), M Hart, R Stephenson, N Kerridge

IN ATTENDANCE: A Cackett, D Henry

PUBLIC FORUM: 3 members of the public were present and provided councillors of their views in relation to: *DC/16/3840/COU - The Lord Nelson Inn, Mill Road, Holton.*

The immediate concern was the loss of a valuable local community facility.

Proposed Residential Development, Land North and East of Hill Farm Road.

The members of the public present expressed their concerns in relation to the potential lack of local infrastructure to cope with new developments and cited the example of recent flood water and sewerage drainage problems.

APOLOGIES: Cllr M Jones

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

DC/16/3808/FUL - The Nook, Sandy Lane, Holton

Construction of single storey rear extension to provide additional kitchen space.

No Objections subject to neighbour's comments.

Proposed by Cllr G Cackett, **Seconded** by Cllr Stephenson. All in Favour

DC/16/3840/COU – The Lord Nelson Inn, Mill Road, Holton

Change of Use from Public House (A4) to residential and Bed & Breakfast (C3)

The Parish Council had received written objections to the change of use from local residents which had been forwarded to the District Council planning officers.

Following a full and in-depth conversation **agreed** the following points:

- To highlight and support the comments of the Case Officer, Richard Amor, Principle Planning Officer made in the previous application DC/10/1580/FUL in relation to:
 - ‘the aspirations of both the District and Parish Council to retain the current usage as a Pub’.
 - ‘the importance of restoring the historic building and reopening an important village amenity, the principle of the development can be strongly supported (and indeed has local support)’.

Continued from page 5

- To highlight that the previous planning conditions of 15 car parking spaces had not been fulfilled
- The site plan was incorrect on the current application in relation to the ownership
- There was local interest in buying the business as a going concern but this opportunity had been overlooked.

A member of the Parish Council will attend the Planning Committee meeting to present the Community and Parish Councils concerns.

Members **motioned** to recommend **Refusal** to the application. **Proposed** by Cllr Hart, **Seconded** by Cllr G Cackett. All in Favour

PUBLIC CONSULTATION:

Proposed Residential Development, Land North and East of Hill Farm Road, Halesworth – Within the Strategic Gap of Halesworth/Holton

Following a full and thorough debate members **moved** to

- Oppose the building on the land within the Strategic Gap between Halesworth and Holton
- Support the development of smaller scale sites
- Recommend using other available land for developments as proposed and highlighted in the current Plan
- Express extreme concern about the lack of infrastructure for any future developments i.e. on schools, roads, health care facilities, water and sewage drainage, employment/unemployment

Proposed by Cllr G Cackett, **Seconded** by Cllr Hart. All in Favour .

The meeting was closed to allow for public comment. Those present voiced their support for the points raised by members and verbalised their concerns.

WEBSITE:

Members **noted** that the maintenance of the website had passed from One Suffolk to Community Action Suffolk (CAS) who had engaged a third party to undertake the support work. This would shortly result in an annual cost of £100, although there was the potential for some funding.

Members **agreed** a £100 should be allocated for the website, if required. The Clerk would establish more details and report back. **Proposed** by Cllr G Cackett, **Seconded** by Cllr Davis. All in Favour.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 9th November 2016
7.30 pm

Dawn Henry
Clerk to Holton Parish Council

ST PETER'S CHURCHYARD

Have you ever enjoyed the beauty of St Peters' Churchyard with its varied areas of nature's best? Have you used the clear-cut pathways, rested on the benches or wandered through the conservation areas? Lost yourself mentally in the labyrinth or just visited the graves of loved ones?

It's a large area that until recently has been maintained for many years by one man, aided by one or two other volunteers. That man, Jim Watts, has now taken on the role of Village Hall Chairman and has reluctantly called it a day. He was responsible for the creation of the conservation areas and the Labyrinth and will continue to care for those, but we are now faced with finding a way to maintain the rest of the churchyard, which at certain times can be a challenging task.

It has been decided to seek to employ a person to be responsible for the cutting of the grass paths and surrounds of those graves still visited by relatives. However that's only part of the duties Jim used to undertake and we still need help with other aspects.

Unfortunately the congregation is not a young one so we are keen to recruit the help of other residents.

If you can spare a short time, be it once a week, month or less frequently, please contact one of the Church Wardens. You don't have to be an Alan Titchmarsh or Charlie Dimmock, every little helps and it's healthy too!

Churchwardens John Hewlett 01986 875913 and
Jackie Moulson 01986 875457

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

Q: What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

A: Frostbite.

Q: What do you get when you combine a Christmas tree with an iPad?

A: A pineapple!



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CHURCH SERVICES

NOVEMBER

6th Nov	9.30am Team Eucharist at St Mary's Church, Halesworth 6.30pm Evening Prayer
13th Nov	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 10.50am Service at the War Memorial in the Churchyard and then in St Peter's Church
20th Nov	11.15am Iona Morning Worship
27th Nov	11.15am Eucharist

DECEMBER

4th Dec	9.30am Team Eucharist at St Mary's Church, Halesworth 6.30pm Evening Prayer
11th Dec	11.15am Eucharist
18th Dec	6.30pm CAROL SERVICE
24th Dec	CHRISTMAS EVE 4.00pm CHRISTINGLE 11.30pm Midnight Communion (TO BE CONFIRMED)
25th Dec	CHRISTMAS DAY 10.30am Team Eucharist at St Mary's Church, Halesworth (TO BE CONFIRMED)

JANUARY

1st Jan	NO SERVICES AT ST PETER'S CHURCH 9.30am Team Eucharist at St Mary's Church, Halesworth
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Please check the latest 'Team Times' or Church Noticeboard for full Service details as these can change.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Remembrance Sunday continues to be important even though the involvement of our service personnel no longer dominates the news. Wars continue and there are inevitably casualties. On the 13th November we will be remembering all those who have lost their lives or have been wounded, whether physically or mentally in the various conflicts of the last 100 years. And as we remember all those from the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland we also remember those who came to help us from the countries of the Commonwealth, the United States of America and elsewhere, so after our service we will be walking from the Church to the Airfield Memorials reciting the names of those Americans who died while serving here in Holton. This is followed by a short time of reflection at the Memorials.

CHURCH NEWS AND EVENTS

POP-IN PARLOUR

Pop-In Parlour will be taking place in St Peter's Room at the Church on Friday 4th November and Friday 2nd December from 12 noon to 1.30pm when we will be serving delicious homemade soup. Do come along and enjoy the soup, bread, cheese and chutneys and the conversation, as well as tea or coffee. In December there is the added attraction of a Fairtrade Stall with gifts, food and cards.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

**on Saturday 3rd December
from 10am to 1pm**

in Holton and Blyford Village Hall

Once again the Village Hall will be packed with all manner of goodies to feast your eyes and stimulate your taste buds. Refreshments will also be available, delicious sausage rolls, scrumptious cheese scones and traditional mince pies together with teas and coffees. What more could you want! As for the stalls! Well who knows what delights will be on offer so come along and see what Christmas gifts and goodies you can find.

DOTTIE'S CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

**Thursday 15th December
10am onwards
7 Park Walk**

Come and enjoy a lively gathering of friends and neighbours enjoying each others company, drinking coffee (or tea), eating cake, buying raffle tickets and in the process raising money for Halesworth Community Nursing Care Fund. See you there!

THE TOWN CAROL SERVICE

**Friday 23rd December at 7pm
St Mary's Church, Halesworth**
With the Blyth Valley Team Choir

CHRISTINGLE

4pm Saturday 24th December

The Christingle Service will again be the real beginning of Christmas for many local families who have been coming to St Peter's Church for many years, first as children themselves and now with their own children, and even grandchildren! This popular service is a major fundraiser for The Children's Society, a charity which helps vulnerable young people all over the country. If you are planning to come please don't forget to bring some money with you for this very worthwhile and sadly all too necessary work

BLYFORD & SOTHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 5TH SEPTEMBER 2016

PRESENT: Councillors G Walker (Chair), B Martin, S Macdonald, J Beckett, G Dunsire, R Parry and Cllr A Cackett (WDC), 2 members of the public.

PUBLIC FORUM: The speeding issues and lack of a footpath were highlighted, and there was some discussion regarding the VAS signs.

APOLOGIES: Cllr T Goldson (SCC)

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: Approved.

EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT:

The Clerk advised that there were no matters highlighted in the Audit report and that there was no fee to pay. The Report was accepted, all in favour. Thanks were given to the Clerk for all her hard work.

BLYFORD LOCAL MEETING:

A report was read out by the Clerk from the last meeting held on Saturday 9th July 2016. Copy attached to the minutes. It was noted that questionnaire had been distributed by the group regarding villager's views and the results would be presented to the next Parish Council. After some discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would carry out the following:

- Data would be requested from the VAS signs for Parish Councillors to look at.
- Request for the VAS signs for July 2017 for Latitude
- The Clerk would write to Suffolk County Council requesting a survey regarding road safety in Blyford/ requesting who owns the verge, and cutting costs to help for use as a footpath.

FREE PARKING IN HALESWORTH:

Some discussion took place, and payment towards this was agreed in principle, although no figure was highlighted at this time.

REPORTS: Cllr A Cackett advised regarding Devolution and the possible merger of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING:

Monday 14th November 2016.

Alison Cackett
Clerk to Blyford & Sotherton Parish Council



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STRAIGHT ROAD, BENDY ROAD: 40/30, NATIONAL SPEED LIMIT?



Driving South out of Blythburgh the other day on the A12 I was struck, as I usually am, by the long, straight uphill 30mph section and how odd it feels at that speed (perhaps even odder coming the other way!). It always seems to result in an impatient driver 3 inches behind my back bumper. The same applies further South on leaving Yoxford even if that is a shorter, less straight section (which remains a prime place for Suffolk traffic police to do their work!) And then I thought about matters closer to home: the stretch of the road between the Queen's Head at Blyford up to the Blyford village sign. As we know it's a continually bendy section, first one way then the other, of road which seems to bother and test the very patience of drivers whether familiar with it or not. As a cyclist I have often had cars recklessly overtake me on a bend and almost confront oncoming vehicles head on were it not for some late evasive action. And yet this is a national speed limit section not even 40mph! How bizarre. Which brings us to the latest update on the ongoing B1123 Southwold Road Saga. Earlier in the summer 4 local Blyford citizens devised a questionnaire about primarily, the often excessive speed of traffic through the village but also about the nature of the road users (in particular heavy vehicles) and the merits of a footpath linking the houses along the road with its hub, the pub and the church. There has been a very positive response from residents, who are all clearly most concerned at traffic speed and safety in their domain. Analysis of the survey should be complete by November, when it is planned to arrange another resident's meeting to discuss the issues arising and a way forward. From an early examination, backed up by many conversations, there seems to be a consensus of opinion that the speed limit should be extended from Holton's 30mph limit, through the existing Blyford 30mph limit, and then beyond, to the Queens Head pub. If not 30 all the way, at least 40, 30, 40. Part of the proposed extended limit from Holton to Blyford would also include a stretch of road that is in Holton, so a joint meeting of Holton and Blyford and Sotherton parish councils has been mooted. Enquiries are meanwhile being made to request a survey by County Council engineers about road safety in Blyford.

Meanwhile down the road in Halesworth, the Community Speedwatch group is looking for volunteers to help monitor vehicle speeds around the local area. Volunteers are trained to use speed indicator devices which display vehicle speeds. The registered owner of any vehicle seen exceeding the speed limit is sent an advisory letter by the Police, explaining that speeding is unacceptable to the local community and asking them to be more considerate. The Community Speedwatch scheme trains volunteers from members of the community to get actively involved in monitoring the speed of vehicles travelling through their neighbourhood. This is certainly something to be considered in Holton and Blyford.

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And more developments on our near borders!

Hopkins Homes is consulting with members of the local community on proposals for a new residential development on land off Hill Farm Road in Halesworth. The proposals are for up to 175 new homes and in excess of 20 acres of new public open space, together with land for a potential extension to the cemetery. An event was held in early October 2016 to present these plans. Whilst Halesworth Town Council confirm that there is no planning application on file at the moment for a development in this location and it is believed that this consultation is just to gauge public reaction, I encourage everyone to look at the plans in detail which are described (and justified) at great length on www.blythpark.co.uk

There is a feedback questionnaire on the website but with a very short response time, which expired on the 21st October. It is anticipated that a planning application submission will happen in November 2016.

Clearly there are many implications of this project on the local infrastructure, one of which could be the volume of traffic flow on the B1123 thus taking us back to our original theme.

Watch this space for further developments.

John Beckett

CINEMA @ THE CUT

NOVEMBER	
Wed 2nd	Florence Foster Jenkins (PG)
Wed 9th	Embrace of the Serpent (12A)
Wed 16th	Eye in the Sky (15)
Fri 18th	Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie (15)
Wed 23rd	High-Rise (15)
Wed 30th	The Mill and the Cross (15)
DECEMBER	
Wed 7th	Victoria (15)
Thu 14th	Anomalisa (15)



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THE GARDENING COLUMN

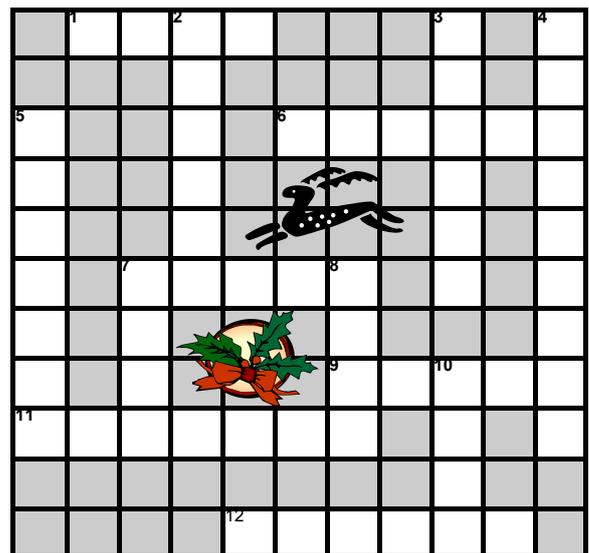
At the end of the growing season it's good to reflect on the wild flowers which grow in our garden; our house is rather out of the village, next to farmland, so we have a number of delightful wild flowers which either spread or seed "over the garden wall".

*How many flowers do you think that I can see
In an English Country Garden?
Ground elder, stinging nettles, bitter cress and twitch
And the flaming – beg your pardon.
Buttercup, the creeping kinds,
Couch and dock, the weed that binds,
Thistles too, creeping and marsh and globe,
These are all flowers that grow and grow and grow
In our English Country Garden*

*How many flowers do you think that I can see
In our English Country Garden?
Self heal, convolvulus, dandelions and thorns
And the bloody – beg your pardon.
Bristly ox-tongue, sedge and moss,
White and yellow dead nettles,
Ivy and daisy and thorny wild rose:
These are all weeds that seed and grow and spread
In our English Country Garden.*

On the plus side, we also have wild flowers which are welcome: foxgloves, sweet woodruff, poppies, common orchids and a green/white bee orchid

QUICK CHRISTMAS PUZZLE



ACROSS

- 1 A child's bed with tall sides (4)
- 6 Coldest season between autumn and spring (6)
- 7 Jingle ____ (5)
- 9 A spiritual being with wings is an ____ (5)
- 11 Happy ____ (3,4)
- 12 These brighten the Christmas tree (6)

DOWN

- 2 Frozen water hanging from a roof (6)
- 3 Use one to make some chips (6)
- 4 Where Santa lives (5,4)
- 5 White person we build in winter (7)
- 7 The north wind doth ____ (4)
- 8 It twinkles in the sky at night (4)
- 10 Give a ____ to someone you love this Christmas (4)

Answers p.11

WHAT GEAR?

By our Motoring Correspondent

This month article is merely a collection of snippets and timely reminders in view of winter being in the offing. I briefly review the new Ford KA+, Fiesta Zetec and the Mazda MX5.

Timely reminders: it is probably too late to get your winter tyres in stock if you need them but there is no harm in trying to obtain a set from local suppliers who have always matched "away" prices for me. If you can obtain a second set of matching rims from your dealer or a breakers yard it is sensible to have them fitted to those rims as tyre noise increases with the chunkier tyre treads. Replace them with the original wheels after the bad weather.

Top up your screen washers with a winter concentration of cleaner to prevent freeze-up of the solution. Have your garage check the cars anti-freeze.

Clean off tar and insect deposits on the paintwork with approved products. Although a chauffeur would simply use water with a splash of paraffin in it, it is probably better to stick to a dedicated product. If your car is left outside in all weathers, then you may want to polish your vehicle with a good quality polish to protect the paint finish from atmospheric pollution. Keep away from abrasive polishes which will gradually destroy the finish.

Should we suffer a severe winter when much road salt will be used, consider using the underbody wash at a car wash if you do not want to hose the salt off yourself.

Have you checked your oil level in the engine lately? Top up if the level is low, or change it if a change is overdue. If within your cars guarantee period it is essential to check regularly as an engine failure from a lack of oil will see you paying for a new engine!

Lastly check your tyre pressures or get the garage to check them for you. It is too late when you get that drifting feeling on a corner, over correct, and end up in a ditch.

The new FORD KA+

How can they import a car made by Ford in India and sell it so cheaply? Well the answer is ship them over in a super container ship by the hundreds and the cost will be no more per vehicle than taking it from Halesworth to Holton.

Now this is a good looking KA, although Ford's entry model actually looks larger than the current Fiesta. Actually it is taller, has plenty of room for 5 and has four doors as standard. This is a people's car: group 2 insurance, modern specification, easy to park and drive and cheap to run. Performance is adequate, but boot space has been limited to allow ample room in the passenger compartment.

Due to demand (prices start at around £9000 and of course escalate when highly specified by the customer) I have been unable to drive one. But if it is anywhere near as good as my Fiesta Zetec then you should enjoy the driving experience. To sum up, a really good looking, useful car for anyone.

Whilst mentioning the Fiesta, a rebodied version will appear in 2017. It will be slightly larger than the present car as is frequently the case these days. But with shrinking car park space bays do we want big cars?

A piece of history

In the 1950s Ford introduced the 100e Ford Anglia to replace the sit up and beg Ford Popular. Then once the 105e Anglia with the raked back window was introduced, Ford put the 105e engine and gearbox in the 100e body and called it the Prefect. Just a thought – if the new Fiesta is to be larger than the existing one, why didn't Ford just rebadge the existing Fiesta as the new KA and keep the name Fiesta for the new bodied car? Would have saved a few pounds when the market is difficult.

The new 2 litre MX 5. Supplied by Wrights Beccles

Not even 200 miles on the clock. Just over 1000kgs. Goes like stink – do yourself a favour and save a fortune over a Beemer. Easy simple hood. 45 + to the gallon but not run in yet. First Japanese car I have driven. Full of accessories that you would pay an arm and a leg for with the badge models. It does what it says on the tin. It has been wonderful during this extended summer. Not for those with gammy legs as getting in and out may be a problem.

STOP PRESS

Look out for information on the new VED (vehicle excise duty) rates to apply from 1/3/17.

Not retrospective but new cars bought after that date will be subject to new rates. Commonly £140 per year even for zero emissions, but a hefty increase on cars costing in excess of £40,000, with a five-year surcharge. So will it reduce car costs? Did you see this coming?

SOUTHWOLD DECORATIVE AND FINE ARTS SOCIETY

The new season is starting in September with the following lectures:

Tuesday 8th November: The Victorian House Around the World. Lecturer: Roger Mitchell

Tuesday 13th December: Treasures of the Turf: the Fine and Decorative arts of Horseracing. Lecturer: Christopher Garibaldi.

All lectures are held at 2pm in St Edmund's Hall, Southwold and visitors are welcome.

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CHOCOLATE BISCUIT CAKE

Ingredients:-

- 125g butter
- 75g golden syrup
- 200g dark chocolate, 70% cocoa solids
- 1 egg
- 60g digestive biscuits
- 40g walnuts
- 60g sultanas
- 40g glace cherries (keep a few back for decoration)

Method

1. Line a loaf cake tin or small straight sided square tin with greaseproof paper or baking parchment or cake case.
 2. Melt the butter and syrup together in a small saucepan over a gentle heat until it begins to boil (don't let it over boil).
 3. Melt the chocolate in a bowl over barely simmering water, then mix thoroughly with the butter and syrup.
 4. Pasteurise the egg by beating it slowly and continuously into the hot chocolate mixture
 5. Break up the biscuits into largish chunks; remember they will be broken further when they are mixed so don't make them too small.
 6. Add the walnuts, sultanas and cherries, but remember to reserve some cherries for decoration.
 7. Pour the chocolate mixture onto the dry ingredients and mix together with a spatula or wooden spoon.
 8. Tip into the tin, scraping every last bit in, smooth the top and decorate with cherries.
 9. Set in the fridge for 4 hours.
- To serve:* remove from fridge, take out of tin, peel off paper and cut into slices (or squares). Serve chilled, with cream, ice cream or on its own!
- Delicious but very rich.

Jill Hewlett

HOLTON AND BLYFORD VILLAGE HALL TOTE WINNERS

Result of the draw on 13th September was:

1st No. 118	John Handley	£25
2nd No. 3	Dot Booley	£10
3rd No. 167	Tony Rust	£5
4th No. 137	Robert Garner	£5

Result of the draw on 11th October was:

1st No. 70	Mrs Gibson	£25
2nd No. 99	Bryan Collett	£10
3rd No. 87	Erica Strange	£5
4th No. 60	John Hewlett	£5

New members are always welcome. Please contact Helen Fensom on 01986 873575 for further details.

QUICK CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Across	Down
1 CRIB	2 ICICLE
6 WINTER	3 POTATO
7 BELLS	4 NORTH POLE
9 ANGEL	5 SNOWMAN
11 NEW YEAR	7 BLOW
12 LIGHTS	8 STAR
	10 GIFT



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Geoff Cackett, Paigles, 6 The Street, Holton
Halesworth, IP19 8PH

DEADLINE DATE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS:
Friday 23rd December

REGULAR ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Art Group	4th Tuesday, 2 - 5pm, except July, August and December
Badminton Club	Tuesdays 7.30 - 9.30pm
U3A	3rd Tuesday in the month 2 - 4pm
Fear Naught Boot Camp	Monday, Wednesday, Friday evening 6.30 - 7.30pm

The Village Hall is available for private functions during the day and evening and is licensed for the sale of alcohol.
Please contact the Letting Officer,
Alison Cackett tel: **01986 874442** or email:
holtonandblyfordvillagehall@hotmail.com

HOLTON B&Bs	
Gavelcroft	01986 873117 gavelcroft@gmail.com
The Lord Nelson Inn	01986 835734 info@thelordnelsonholton.co.uk
Valley Farm	01986 874521 mail@valleyfarmholton.co.uk

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Holton Road Cafe	01986 873772
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Private Hire – DRF Transport	01986 872829
The Hot Meal Service	01986 835895
Taxi – Ginge	01986 874028
Cundy’s Dairy	01986 892428

OTHER USEFUL LOCAL NUMBERS	
Doctor’s Surgery	01986 874618
NHS (non-emergency)	111
Police (non-emergency)	101
Waveney District Council	01502 562111

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Minor injuries include minor cuts, burns, sprains, grazes, foreign objects in eyes, nose or ears, bites, stings and minor head injuries. Minor illnesses are not treated at Minor Injuries Units.

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Beccles Hospital, St Mary’s Road, Beccles
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Tel: 01502 719820