

CSV Vocal Volunteers in Local Action



Volunteers from the CSV Vocal Project in Downham Market were kept very busy this summer! As well as their usual voluntary activities in their communities, they joined forces with CSV Vocal Project volunteers from Hunstanton to clean up some community areas there.

CSV VOCAL Projects are local schemes based in Downham Market and Hunstanton that provide opportunities for adults with learning difficulties, referred by Norfolk Social Services, to become involved in their communities through volunteering. Some of our adults with learning difficulties require additional support in order to volunteer. This is provided by other members of the community who volunteer their own time and skills and act as 'support volunteers' for CSV Vocal Projects.

On Wednesday 4th August, volunteers and support volunteers from both projects got together to plant beds and clear public areas in both New and Old Hunstanton. They invited other individuals interested in volunteering to join them for the day as a taster of

what it can involve and how much fun it can be! The day was an enormous success. A new rose garden was planted in front of the Pier Amusement Centre, and the old chapel ruin garden was tidied and pruned. The day was organised by CSV Vocal Hunstanton, in partnership with West Norfolk Council and the Community Transport Scheme. A lot of hard work was put in by everyone involved in the day, including other voluntary groups who helped with lunches. Eric Linge, Hunstanton's Mayor, joined volunteers for lunch and thanked everyone for all they had done.

CSV Vocal project Downham Market is now planning a day of volunteering in October, to coincide with Make a Difference Day (a national CSV scheme to get people involved in their communities through volunteering). We will be organising a project for one day during the week of 25th October where CSV Vocal volunteers will get together to 'make a difference' in some part of the local community. If you would be interested in getting involved in this day, and seeing what being a support volunteer with CSV Vocal is about, then please call Jemma Mindham on 01366 385839 or at jmindham@csv.org.uk for more information.

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Northwold Spiritualist Group

Meetings in Northwold Village Hall, alternate Fridays at 7.30pm;-

8th Oct, Paul Sayer
22nd Oct, Gwendoline Swain
5th Nov, Ron Reardon

Enquiries to:
Eileen Cooper 01366 728289



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Village Life

NORTHWOLD & WHITTINGTON

St Andrew's Church, Northwold



Picnic in the Churchyard Sunday 12th September

In spite of the threat of storms, wind and floods we optimistically prepared for our picnic to meet the "team" of Ministers and readers who will be looking after St. Andrew's in the future. They say that the sun shines on the righteous, and it certainly did on that day!

A goodly crowd of people from Northwold, Whittington and Wretton enjoyed a very happy couple of hours during which we also took the opportunity of celebrating the special birthday of one of our Church members with delicious cake and general rejoicing!

Meeting our "Team", and each other was a very positive step towards the future and we hope that it will encourage continuing support of our beautiful Church and all it stands for.

Brenda Ayres and Jane Luckman.
Churchwardens.

Charity Notices

Northwold Education Foundation

Grants are available from the above Charity to students of further education up to the age of 21. Apply to Mrs. J. Norris 25 West End Northwold. Closing date October 10th.

Allotments

Rents are due on Saturday 9th October the clerk will be at the main gate between 2.00 and 2.30 pm.

The Norman Almshouses Charity

We have available a property in School Lane for a person in need. Apply to Mrs. J. Norris, 25 West End, Northwold. Tel: 728296

Harvest Festival

Harvest Thanksgiving will be on Sunday, October 10th at 11.00am. Canon Rowsell will conduct a traditional harvest Festival Service.

After the service, Harvest lunch will be available in the Village hall. Tickets for lunch are £3. 50p for adults and £1. 50p for Children, obtainable from Brenda Ayres or Jane Luckman.

The Church Bazaar

The Annual Church Bazaar will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, November 27th, and will be opened by Mr Tom Shephard at 2.30 pm.

Any donations for the stalls or offers of help would be appreciated.

Christmas Tree Festival

We are planning to have the Church decorated with Christmas trees again this year.



If you, or your family or local organisation would like to decorate or sponsor a tree please contact Brenda Ayres on 728565 or Jane Luckman on 728571.

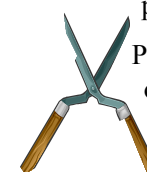
Help required...

In order to keep the Church looking cared for and clean, we desperately need help with cleaning and gardening! It is a huge building with a large churchyard and it needs a lot of care.

Even if you don't worship with us, please can you spare some time to help?

St Andrew's is our heritage – a building of great beauty and with historical significance. We want to be proud of it.

Please contact Jane Luckman on (01366) 728921.



Issue: October 2004

Copy date for the next issue is;

25th October

copy@northwold.net

Tel. 01366 728233

Church Diary

* marks Sunday school
at St. Andrew's, Northwold

October

3rd	17 th after Trinity
9.30am	Service of The Word at All Saints
*11am	Holy Communion at St Andrews

10 th	18 th after Trinity
9.30am	Service of The Word at Christ Church
*11am	Harvest Festival, St Andrews

17 th	19 th after Trinity
8am	Holy Communion at St Andrews
9.30am	Holy Communion at Christ Church

24 th	20 th after Trinity
9.30am	Benefice Holy Communion At Christ Church

31 st	All Saints - 4 th before Advent
11am	All Age Worship at All Saints

November

7 th	3 rd before Advent
9.30am	Service of The Word at Christ Church
*10.30am	Holy Communion at St Andrews

Northwold Generosity

May I say a very BIG thank you to those who supported the Northwold Macmillan coffee morning.

So many of you donated cakes, books and raffle prizes plus cash on the day, that we raised the grand total of £300 for Macmillan cancer relief.

Thank you too to the ladies of the W.I. who gave their time so willingly and worked so hard on the day to keep everything running smoothly.

Verity Lynch

Bowls Club 100 Club Draw

August 2004

1st	P. Barrett	£ 50
2nd	P. Lanario	£ 25
3rd	D. Lanario	£ 15

Sylvia Knights



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The Village Life Team



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The views expressed in submitted items are not necessarily endorsed by Northwold & Whittington Village Life. Whilst we endeavour to ensure that all information contained in the newsletter is correct, we cannot be held responsible for errors. The Editor reserves the right to refuse or omit items without explanation.

Photo call - success!

I am the person in the centre of the photograph. John Pedlow on the left, and myself were stationed at RAF Seletar, Peter Back (Mary's brother) was in the Navy and we met twice when the ship he was on called at Singapore Island.



Also, during my two and a half years in Singapore three other Northwold lads were stationed there at sometime, David Selwood also at RAF Seletar, Brian Stone (Army camp) and Michael Armstrong, RAF Tengah.

After leaving the RAF, I settled in Bicester, Oxfordshire - home area of my wife, Pamela - we now have two children and seven grandchildren.

Most of my working life I have worked for a local company as a Production Manager, until it ceased trading a few years ago. Since then, until I retire in January, I am employed as an Officer at the local prison.

I have fond memories of Northwold and try to visit twice a year. Many thanks to Chris Darlow for sending me a copy of "Village Life" each month.

David Bloomfield
3 St. Peter's Crescent,
Bicester, Oxon. OX26 4XA

Wanted (still!) Editor for Village Life

Unfortunately, due to work and home commitments, I feel that it's time to hand over to someone else as Editor.

Of course I'm happy to continue to assist on an "ad-hoc" basis. If you're interested in the position, just call for a chat! 01366 727425

From the deputy editor...

Have we all noticed how neat and tidy the grass along the end of the allotments is and has been all summer. The reason is that one of our allotment holders has taken it upon himself to cut this grass every week making it neat and tidy, and you don't get your feet wet when it has been raining. Nobody asks him to do this, which he does at his own expense and in his own time. No fuss made, nothing said, he just gets on and does it.

Step forward Richard Pearce! I'm sure there are many like me who would like to say thank you. So thank you Richard on behalf of the allotment holders and myself.

Deputy editor

Whittington News

Reports on activities, news and events in and around Whittington

Halloween Quiz Night. On Saturday. 30th October, 2004 at Whittington Church, 7.30pm.

Bangers and mash and Mulled wine included in the entrance fee of £5

50/50 Raffle.

Teams of no more than four please!

Come and have some fun and test your knowledge on a variety of subjects.

Entries must be pre-booked for catering purposes on answer phone 01366 500591.

Grow your own?

Northwold Combined Charities have allotments available at £3-00 per annum in Methwold Road.

Applicants please apply to:
25 West End, Northwold

Northwold & Whittington Parish Council

At the September meeting of Northwold Parish Council, Mr Darlow tendered his resignation, due to pressure of work. Jim Norris was co-opted to the Council, but there is still one vacancy. 14 members of the public attended to show their concern about developments planned in West End. The Council repeated its previous view that the access to the site was too narrow and unsafe.

Dogs are not allowed on the Recreation Ground, and the play equipment is in excellent condition. The litter warden clears the site weekly. The old toilet is to be removed and the field entrance repaired.

Mileage payments to Community car drivers are to be increased from 36p to 40p per mile in October, passenger paying half. Councillors again complained about the vast quantity of expensively produced documents received from public bodies - Police, Fire and County Council, etc - most of which goes straight in the bin.

Jim Booty

Letters..

Xmas Shopping Trip

Should there be enough demand I will organise a trip to Ipswich on Monday 29th November for Xmas shopping or whatever. The coach will leave Northwold church at 9.30am. and will arrive at Ipswich before 11.00am. It will then leave Ipswich at 4.30pm. and arrive at Northwold around 6.0pm. Due to world fuel problems the cost will be £7. payable when booked.

Should you be interested in going, please 'phone 728400 or email daisyfour27@hotmail.com.

Mary Hull

Play area

Editor, I would like to point out to the person who wrote to the Village Life in September about the bad state of our children's play-area at the Recreation ground that two of our young 'mums' made all arrangements to form a group in 2003 with the sole

purpose of improving this play-area and NO-ONE attempted to join them in a fund-raising scheme. Where were you then?

Rosemary Crisp
20 Methwold Road

To the Editor,

With reference to last month's letter page, I have completed my weekly inspection of the play equipment on the recreation ground, and found everything in excellent condition. Dogs are not allowed on the field, and there are five litter bins clearly visible. Our litter warden clears the field every week. Matters reported to the Council are always dealt with immediately. If anyone wants to help, there is still a vacancy on the Council.

WE can only deal with doggy poo if a photo of the dog performing with it's owner is produced.

The "Common" has not been a common since 1798, the land is private and maintenance of footpaths is the owner's responsibility.

No complaints about noise from the

Village Hall have been made to the Committee for at least a year.

Jim Booty

From Steve, Lorraine Ryan and Max...

We would like to say thank you to everyone who gave cards and presents to our son Ryan who arrived on Friday, 13th at 5.45 pm. Your blessings and generosity have been overwhelming. Once again, Thank You !!

And a special thank you to Roy and Jasmine for taking Max for his walks.

A regular contribution

Have you thought about being a regular contributor to Village Life?

The magazine needs someone to write a monthly column of 500-1,000 words - and you get to choose the subject. It could be a completely different subject each month! (No long-term commitment)

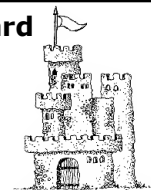
If you can help, just start sending copy to Michael Parfitt (details inside front cover). Ed.

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Rita's Ramblings

Well here we are again with the days getting shorter and the temperatures beginning to drop. It doesn't seem all that long ago when I was writing that the days were getting longer etc etc. Is it that as you get older you tend to appreciate the speed at which time flies by or is it that you have more jobs to do than a mere 24 hours allows? The other morning, before I went to work, I was walking the dogs and thinking of what I was going to do as soon as I got home. Truth be told, I wasn't really paying much attention to the dogs, it was just another chore to get finished before starting the next. Bonnie was trying to rush along the road eager to experience something new and exciting: Amber, on the other hand, was walking quite sedately sniffing here and there. As I glanced down to tell her to hurry up she paused and lifted her head to catch an interesting scent wafting past on the

breeze. It was obvious that she was thoroughly enjoying the moment. It made me think how often I make a list of jobs to do and as soon as I get started on one I start to think about the next. I really can't believe I have that much to do with just Nigel and I and the dogs, but I often seem to be dashing around and *almost* running late. I really should have learnt my lesson by now and I know I ought to try and take one job at a time and enjoy the moment more. Having said that, I don't think I'll follow Amber's example and start sniffing around the bottom of telegraph poles! I don't know whether you are like me thinking that one of these days I will get round to doing It may be something simple like re-joining the WI or going to the Produce Show or one of a hundred ideas that spring into my mind occasionally. Then it comes around to the relevant day and something else needs to be done: it's the first dry day for a week and the grass ought to be cut and the washing is

still in the basket waiting to be hung out; or the wallflower seeds have been in the seed box for the past 3 years and they really should have been planted last month!!! It is often said that if you ever want someone to do a job for you, choose a busy person because it *will* get done. I certainly admire all those people in the village who work tirelessly for the benefit of others and always seem to be involved in a whole host of different activities. They seem so adept at organising their lives efficiently and, most importantly, they make a difference. Perhaps, one of these days, I will manage to follow your example and become more actively involved in the village calendar of events. Perhaps it will all be different when I retire - or is that just another pipe dream too?

On that note I had better say cheerio for now - I am overdue making a phone call to my sister! Until next month, take care.

Rita

Northwold News

Reports on activities, news and events in and around Northwold

Forget me not Club

Mr Roger Warner told members about his friendship with a village in the Ukraine, and his frequent visits to take clothing and other items to help the poor people there.

Jim Booty

Care Group
Community Car Scheme

As from 1st October charges have been set at 20p per mile - thus

King's Lynn Hospital	£8.00
Downham Health Centre	£4.00
Feltwell Surgery	£3.00
Boughton Surgery	£2.00
Minimum charge	£1.00

All passengers pay except when an adult is accompanying a child or a helper is with a severely disabled person.

All persons may book this service who have health appointments where public transport is not suitable and who have no access to private transport.

The scheme is supported by the Borough Council (25%) and Parish Council (25%).

Cars will now be paid at 40p per mile. Drivers receive no further allowances - all time is given free.

On behalf of all those who use this service the Care Group wish to record their appreciation to all volunteer drivers.

Anyone wishing to offer help or would like any other information please contact our Community Car Scheme Co-ordinator Jim Booty 728 515.

Riverside Group

The group was started as a response to the Questionnaire circulated on behalf of the Village Hall about two years ago. Many people had ticked the box for "talks" - so where are you all?

When preparing to fulfil this request the only comments I had were that folks don't really want to turn out on a cold winter's night and that many retired people liked a nap after lunch - hence the morning time tried.

At £2 a head the first four people pay for the hall (at a modest £8.00) and then there are the fee and expenses of the speaker - it doesn't take a wizz-kid to work out we need a few more than are attending at the present. There were eight present at our last talk and that is a disappointment for any speaker.

Please may I make another attempt at trying to find out what you want. Any notes to 90 West End or ring 728 208.

Pam Eyles

Foolhardy Folk Circus
(A Child's Account)

At the circus there was some really good acrobatics being done. That was my favourite bit. They had cold drinks, chocolate bars, crisps and candyfloss. It was really good when someone from the circus sat in the crowd and then he suddenly got up with a loud shout and joined the circus. It wasn't a circus with animals, just people. Everyone enjoyed the part when they got the water out. The tent was really hot, and all the clothes were funny. I think the circus was great.

By Christina

Northwold
Playground
needs your
help!



In the past we looked at improving the play area on the "Big Rec". We'd like your help with this project.

The Parish Council have kindly given us their permission and have earmarked an area for development. We now need to know what sort of equipment you'd like in our playground. When you visit other play areas, please take photos or draw pictures of equipment you (or your children!) like. Also, look for notices of where they received funding from - and pass on the details to us.

Rebuilding the play area will cost money but there are numerous bodies with grants to offer. We've managed to get lots of application forms for funding. These forms are quite complicated (you need a degree in "form filling" to complete one) so if you're able to help, please do!

A proportion of money will need to be provided by our own fundraising so if you have any fundraising ideas forward them too.

We have such an opportunity here to make a big difference; we just need community support and input.

If you have any ideas/suggestions on this please drop them off at 59 School Lane (You can't miss it-it's the half a flint house right at the end of School Lane but there's still a letterbox at the front of the house!). If you'd like to help, please ring 01366 727344.

There will also be an informal meeting for everyone interested on Wednesday 13th October, 8pm at Manor Farmhouse, 30 West End. Please don't be shy and do come along!

Carrie Hatfield & Eve Harris

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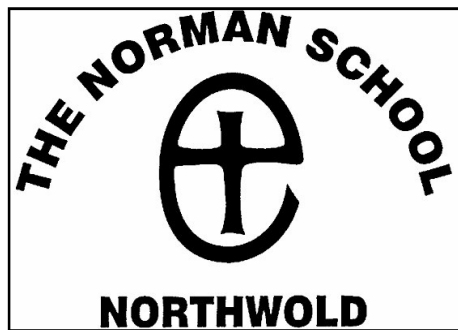
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The start of the new school year is always a time of welcome to new children, their families and to new staff too, this term is no exception.

We are delighted to welcome the new children to school and two new members of staff, Miss Fiona Witton,

teaching years three and four and Mrs. Jill Fysh teaching years one and two.

We always approach the new school year with anticipation and excitement and this year we had the added thrill of the completion of the new building.

The staff worked extremely hard during the holidays to prepare the school for the children and we made it (just in time). The new building is stunning both inside and out with only a few cosmetic touches to finish.

There are many exciting events planned for the term, children have already contributed to the Produce Show and taken part in the Cluster Rounders Tournament.

The oldest children in school will be visiting Ely Cathedral in early October and we will be celebrating Harvest

Festival in St Andrew's Church on 8th October.

Thank you to all parents who have already started to help in school or returned to their role from last year, to Mrs. Young who has started work on the garden and to Mrs. Rauch who is helping to establish an American section in the library. We are grateful to all who offer any help.

Advance Notice: The opening ceremony for the new building will be on Friday 26th November. As a thank you to the community (for tolerating the construction traffic, without complaint) and to enable all members of the community to look round the building will remain open from 3.15 - 5 p.m.

Marion Dawe

Requests for assistance

Northwold & Whittington Parish Council receive a number of requests for donations each month from local or regional groups.

In the past, funds have been available to support these groups, however the Parish Council now feel that it is not their position to "donate" taxes to these groups.

However, the Parish Council hope that residents may be in a position to make their own donations to support these groups.

In all cases, please make any donation directly to the group involved (please don't send donations to the Parish Council).



Norfolk Accident Rescue Service

Dear Parish Clerk,

The Norfolk Accident Rescue Service continues to provide immediate care to accident victims throughout the County, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Our doctors and paramedics offer their services on a voluntary basis and are called to duty only through the 999 system at the same time as the other emergency services.

Our responsibility is to provide them with the necessary up to date equipment and it is for this reason I am writing to ask if your Parish Council would seriously consider making a further donation this year.

David Thompson, Managing Director
Norfolk Accident Rescue Service
Hunters Lodge
145 Spixworth Road
Old Catton, Norwich NR6 7DU
Reg. Charity 261666

Victim Support Norfolk

Dear Parish Clerk,

I am writing to you on behalf of Victim Support Norfolk. We are a caring organisation helping and supporting victims of all types of crime in your area.

I am writing to ask you to support us by sending a donation to help us towards our volunteers' expenses such as travelling, telephone calls and training. Our volunteers give their time freely but we feel it is only fair to help them with any "out of pocket" expenses.

Sue Traferri
Branch Manager
Victim Support Norfolk
Town Hall
Queens Square
Attleborough
NR17 2AF
Reg. Charity 1091731

WHAT THE DOCTOR THINKS THIS MONTH...

ARE YOU A CARER?

At present, in the practice, we have decided to identify those who are carers. In this context, a carer is an untrained person, be they a relative, friend or neighbour, who looks after a person who is, in some way, physically or mentally handicapped. Some carers look after the infirm person on a full-time basis, often having put their own life "on hold" for the duration. Others visit once or twice daily, providing mental and physical support. In any event, being a carer can be physically and emotionally draining and we have come to realise that carers have significant needs of their own.

Once we have worked out which people are doing the caring out there in the community, we will be in a position to create a register of carers within the practice and to offer the carers, and those for whom they care, help, starting with a West Norfolk Carers' Support Pack and, if desired, Social Services assessments of the carer and the infirm person, either together or separately.

We are compiling a list of carers but we are aware that there will be many in the community of whom we are currently unaware. So, if you are a patient of ours who either **is** a carer or **has** carer, please give the receptionists a ring on 828481 and we shall add you to the list and try to help you.

If you have a carer who is not a patient of ours, please let us know. Once we have the carer's permission (Data Protection Act) we can keep their records on our computer and offer them help as the carer of one of our patients.

Obviously, between ourselves and the district nurses, we have identified many of the carers in the community but **we do need to hear from others who are caring or being cared for. Please contact us!**

'FLU VACCINATION

This year, we are writing to about 800 of our patients who should really have a 'flu vaccination. The letter will be on orange paper and will contain a lot of important information about special clinics, etc. Please read it carefully and either come for a jab or, if you really don't want one, send back the tear off slip at the bottom of the letter and we will leave you alone,

THE NEW PHARMACY

As many of you will have noticed, building work is taking place at the Feltwell surgery. Over the years, we have been threatened by pharmacists who have applied to open a pharmacy in the village. If one had opened, all Feltwell patients would have been denied the right to obtain their drugs from our dispensary and would have had to take a prescription to a pharmacy for dispensing. Patient power, in the form of outrage at the inevitable loss of their one-stop service, has enabled us to repel the attacks, but our credibility with the authorities is now exhausted and we would not be able to defend ourselves against another pharmacy application, even though an independent pharmacy would be financially unviable

As a result of this, we have decided to build a pharmacy and to rent the space to a friendly pharmacy company with whom we can have a good

relationship.

This will have a double benefit for the Feltwell patients, Firstly, after the consultation, they will be able to walk the 20 feet to the pharmacy to collect their medication, thus preserving the one-stop arrangement (See the doctor and get the medicine all at the same time). Secondly, and this also applies to all other patients from Methwold, Hockwold, Northwold, etc., for minor ailments and advice, they will have access to a local pharmacist as part of the practice "team". As time goes on, the pharmacist will become involved in other initiatives such a blood pressure and cholesterol management, the morning-after pill and so on. We are very excited about the entire concept and I myself am sure that the patients will benefit greatly from the expansion of services at the surgery. Although there will be some "over the counter" medicines available, it is not our intention to sell shampoos, soaps, nappies, etc. because we do not wish to damage the trade of the existing village stores.

I am sorry this article has all been a bit serious, but they are things you need to know!

"I try to take one day at a time but, sometimes, several days all attack me at once."

Q. How many men does it take to change a toilet roll?

A. We don't know - it has never happened!

Best wishes to you all,

Ian G. Nisbet



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A young girl with blonde hair and bangs, wearing a pink sleeveless top, is smiling and pointing towards a sculpture. The sculpture, which resembles a dog, is constructed from various fruits and vegetables, including a green bell pepper for the head, a cucumber for the body, and carrots for the legs. It is placed on a green plastic-covered table. The background features a green wall with large yellow floral decorations.

Katie Waddilove, 1st prize, Animal from Fruit/Veg.



Keith MacLeod’s monthly report

The Tragedy of Beslan

– Are we all Hypocrites?

As I write the Beslan Tragedy has disappeared off our newspapers and the TV news broadcasts, because we are now involved with the disaster of Hurricane Ivan wreaking havoc in the Caribbean. As ever, we are asking where God is at these times. He seems to have his back turned an awful lot. There have always been those who do not believe in any God and the West is particularly home to such at present.

I read an article in The Spectator over 3 years ago (before 9/11 incidentally) by Paul Johnson, to whom I apologise if I misrepresent him to you. The headline was ‘The notion that God permits atrocities is more bearable than the grim alternative’. Mr Johnson recognises that “*The licence God apparently gives to the commission of unpunished evil, and the infliction of pain on the innocent, is undoubtedly the commonest reason why intelligent men and women cease to believe in a deity*”. He goes on to discuss how in modern times *we have become aware of the sheer power and complexities of intelligence. Our minds are powerful enough to perceive the possibility of God’s existence and of the nature of an intelligence inconceivably greater than our own. BUT, knowing as yet only a fragment of the facets of existence, in the widest sense, we would indeed be foolish to pronounce judgement on a being whose workings we do not as yet – and may never – understand; or to dismiss him, in rage and despair, as non-existent.*

The alternative to suspending judgement is far more terrible. It is

to conclude that the amount of pain in the world serves no purpose at all; that the existence of the human race, with all its delights and dramas as well as suffering, is a meaningless accident; that life is totally without aim or principle, plan or design or explanation, beginning in pain, ending in pain and followed by senseless annihilation; that no one is in charge, ever has been or ever will be, and that life will continue its motiveless course until another meaningless accident extinguishes the whole. I find this explanation totally unbearable and far more merciless than the vision of a God who permits dreadful things to occur which we cannot understand but which one day we may come to comprehend as the wisdom which passeth all understanding.”

This negative ‘proof’ that God exists is very distressing, but nonetheless powerful. Members of recognised religions, such as Christians look for more positive evidence that God is there as well. I sometimes look at the Footsteps story, which has become very popular is recent years and which I assume most readers will know. What I find interesting in it is not so much the obvious message – that God carries you when you are in trouble, but the other side of the coin. There are many times when there TWO sets of footsteps – those are the times when God is not expecting to carry you but hopes that you are carrying yourself! We have to take responsibility for what goes on.

I have recently seen an impassioned cry against the passion with which we in this country and elsewhere rail against the perpetrators of the Beslan massacre, reminding us that it is we

who supply the weapons, it is we who were responsible for thousands of infant deaths in Iraq and so on. I don’t argue with that as a statement of fact, but I do feel that we have a duty to feel for tragedy when we can. If sometimes we fail, that is no excuse for failing for ever. It is also no good hiding behind the belief that where we act out of good intentions (eg Iraq) the ‘collateral’ damage is unfortunate but not our fault and then denying the ‘terrorists’ the same logic.

As I read what I have written, I wonder if words are ever any good. But that is the stuff of the beginnings of despair. At this precise moment all I have are words and I must go into battle with them – unfortunately perhaps using the language of war – but so did Jesus and so did Mohammed and so did Moses. There are those in our local villages who go to war-torn or recently war-torn parts and take with them some of our Western wealth and goods and try to make change for the better in a practical way. There are others who contribute money to the charities and organisations who try to relieve the starvation and disease of the Darfour victims or to dig up the landmines in the Congo. There is actually no limit to the ways in which we can try to alleviate the terrifying distress we see around us.

I believe, as do many others, that this is the hand of God at work though the agency of humankind to relieve the

effects of the disasters brought about by humankind and no effort is too little. This is, of course, the butterfly’s wing theory. A butterfly flapping its wings in Norfolk may cause a tornado in the Caribbean. Your little effort could be mind-blowingly effective.

Perhaps it is also necessary to remember that structure and organisation is something that humankind is good at – not the inevitable organisation of an ants’ nest, but the creative, dynamic organisation that can lead to an international phone system that no one has yet been able to map. 1 million people trying to help in Darfour individually will not work. But 1 million people combining their efforts through a small number of knowledgeable and efficient agencies

can perform miracles. Mother Theresa’s achievements were specially hers in quality, but in quantity were only possible through organisation.

So, if your gift is words, use them, not something else; if you are rich, put your wealth to use; if you are practical or a relevant specialist, lend your skills. If, however, you are committed to Paul Johnson’s dreadful alternative, it is difficult to see why you should try at all. If you are atheist or agnostic, but nonetheless you are impelled to love your neighbour anyway, then be of good cheer – hold on to what you perceive to be your beliefs/non-beliefs, but many like myself will think that God has found a way into your heart, even if he is keeping his face covered.

Keith MacLeod



Little Normans Northwold Pre-School

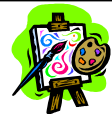
Everyone at Little Normans seems happy to be back into the swing of things after their long summer break. We returned to a very full register, even after we said farewell to a lot of children at the end of last term, as they moved onto Primary School. We are sure that they have settled in well, but would like to take this opportunity to wish them luck and to thank the parents/carers for any help they gave the Pre-School during their child’s time there.

Thank you also goes to the (very few!) parents/staff that gave their time on the Spring Clean evening. A special mention must go to Graeme and Paul, who on a very wet and thundery night, still proceeded to pressure wash the mobile, roof and gutters, a job well done. THANK YOU.

Autumn/Harvest is always an enjoyable time at the Pre-School. The children enjoyed entering the Produce Show, with their Sunflower pictures, made with lentils. Prizes were awarded to:- 1st Maisie, 2nd Harry, 3rd Alex. Well done to everyone that entered. We will also look forward to our trip to the Church on Friday 8th October for the Harvest Festival.

Next Committee Meeting:- TUESDAY 5th OCTOBER. 7.30pm @ 40 Methwold Road (Tina’s). We always

Art Exhibition



The second Northwold Art Exhibition took place over the weekend of 10th-12th September, and raised £580 towards Village Hall funds.

There was also a preview evening on Thursday 9th September - which raised money through ticket sales and sales of exhibits. Special thanks for help to:-

Sue and Jodie Spindley
Jenny Bunyan
Jenny Langley
Jackie Elliott
Brenda Ayres
Jim Booty
Michael Parfitt
John Haylock

Also, everyone else who donated raffle prizes or helped in any way.

Caroline Whiting

welcome new committee members. Thank you goes to Christine Gatward and Catherine Fisk who have now resigned from the committee, due to their children moving onto Primary School. Your time and dedication has been much appreciated.

The AGM will be held during the second half of the Autumn term, date to follow.

As always, if you wish to register your child for the Pre-School please contact us during opening hours:- Monday, Thursday, Friday: 9am-12noon, Tuesday & Wednesday: 9am-2pm. Telephone 01366 728804.

Half Term Hols. Thur 21st-Fri 29th Oct
Return to school Mon 1st Nov
End of Term Fri 17th Dec

Tina Billmen

Church Rotas

Christ Church - cleaning & flowers

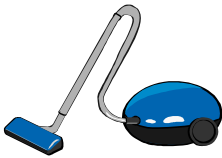
Oct Mrs D Eves & Mrs Jenny Elsie
Nov Mrs D Eves & Penny

All Saints’ - cleaning & flowers

Sept Mrs P Willis & Mrs H Durrance
Oct Mrs P Willis & Mrs H Durrance

St. Andrews - cleaning

Oct 8th Mrs J. Elliot, Mrs V. Hutchby
Oct 15th Mrs P. Coles, Mrs. B. Akers
Oct 22nd Mrs B. Ayres, Mrs. V. Legg
Oct 29th Mr & Mrs Everett
Nov 5th Miss J. Luckman,
Mrs S. Randell



Sunday School – All Welcome!

There is a Sunday School during the main 11am Sunday services at St. Andrew’s Church, Northwold (except for Sunday’s with All Age Worship).

This is open to any school age child living in the villages of Northwold, Wretton, Stoke Ferry, Whittington and Brookville. If you are not able to stay with your child please drop them off by 10.50 am and collect them by 12.15pm

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sweet side of the pastries we offer a large selected of Curtis of Lincoln cakes. British bacon, unsmoked and smoked, dry cured - **no added water**. A range of English and continental cheeses plus our usual range of cooked meats, once again cut to your requirements by our team of friendly staff.

Opening times are:

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Wednesday	8am-1pm
Thursday	8am-1pm, 2pm-5.30pm
Friday	8am-1pm, 2pm-5.30pm
Saturday	7.30am-1pm