Life at the Norman School
How lovely to have the sun to come out to greet our Easter Holiday.

The Norman School has been the usual busy place this month. We were delighted to welcome a Caribbean Steel band to the school. They entertained us with wonderful music that got everyone to their feet dancing. After the uplifting performance Marcelia, Junior and Inez let the children try out playing the drums. The children now know how an oil drum is turned into a beautiful shiny instrument. A very exciting afternoon for us all!

Throughout the last month, we have been celebrating RE Month. Each week the school has been filled with delicious smells of cooking food. The children cooked food from all around the world. Children have explored the faith of Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Christianity beginning their journey with a special food of different celebrations.

RE month culminated in our Easter Service at St. Andrews. We paraded to church with our palm leaves to remind ourselves of how the Easter story begins. Our service took us through the story via the stations of the cross, beautifully illustrated by the children. The service ended with a joyful rendition of Celebrate, which had the children singing and dancing in the pews, an appropriate response to the resurrection.

Our term could not be complete without the annual Easter Bonnet Parade. Having now experienced my first parade, I now understand why everyone kept telling me to prepare myself for anything. What a tribute to the creativity and sense of fun our school community has. The hats were colourful, fun and beautiful.

Our thanks to Carol Sharp for agreeing to judge the hats, I did not envy her but she rose to the challenge with her usual grace.

I hope that Easter will be a time for reflection and rest and that the new term will return us all to the varied demands of being in a primary school. Our Year 6 children will be sitting their SAT tests, a chance for them to bring together their learning throughout the primary phase and show they are ready for the new challenges of the high school.

Carole Reich - Head Teacher

Sats booster

This term year sixes have joined in after school classes to help them with their sats. We have concentrated on literacy and maths with Mrs Reich, Mrs Fysh, Mr Bowles and Miss Howlett. We have also been introduced to some fun activities on the computers and some old sats test papers.

Easter bonnets

On Friday the 8th of April our school had an Easter Bonnet Parade. All the children bring in an Easter Bonnet they have made. We get all the children to wear their Easter Bonnets and we do a parade round the school and the judge decides a winner out of each class.

The winners this year were:
Little Norman Nursery
1st Prize - Kian Nelson

Class One
1st Prize - Morgan Kidd
2nd Prize - Jack Greenacre
3rd Prize - Phoebe Sutton

Class Two
1st Prize - George Dunmore
2nd Prize - Mia Holley
3rd Prize - Tallulah Stocking

Class Three
1st Prize - Eboni McGurk
2nd Prize - Dylan Padfield
3rd Prize - Russell Missen

Adult - Miss Howlett

By Rosie Welsh (Year 5)

RE Month
We made Easter Eggs on cakes. They were very yummy.

In Class Three we had a story about Jesus when he was going to be dead. He passed around the bread and bit it. It was his body and he past around the wine and bit it. It was his blood and then he was arrested.

In Class One we got to draw, if we were allowed, on our hands and I really liked it.

We have been going around different classrooms learning about religions.

By Charley Raven (Year 3)

PLEASE BE AWARE AND ALERT

14th February @ 7pm’ish, a man pretending to be dealing with water problem broke into premises in Glebe Close while the person was out but he had called at a previous address but as no ID shown wisely the residence did not allow access, police were involved.

13th April – 3 men attempting to steal a trailer from driveway at side of house in West End but they were disturbed, police were involved.

Stephanie
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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.

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**ST. ANDREW’S CHURCH DIARY 2011**

**MAY**

**Sunday 1st**  
10.00am Benefice Service, Rector

**Sunday 8th**  
11.00am Matins, Rec’d Waters

**Sunday 15th**  
8.00am Holy Communion, Rector

**Sunday 22nd**  
11.00am Family Service, Rev’d Waters

**Sunday 29th**  
Deanery Open Air Service, Rector Stow Hall

If you have any questions or would like further information, The Churchwardens, Chris Collins and Carol Sharp, may be contacted on 728404 and 728227 respectively.

**THERE MAY BE CHANGES SO PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON THE NOTICE BOARDS**

**ST. ANDREW’S CHURCH**

**SPRING CLEAN 9TH-14TH MAY**

**CAN YOU HELP?**

**PLEASE SIGN THE CHART IN THE CHURCH OR JUST TURN UP**

**THANK YOU**

**BETTY AKERS - 727478**

**DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

This August Jim and I will have been married for 60 years. To celebrate we are intending to have an afternoon in the Village Hall on **Sunday July 31st** from 1 to 5pm.

All will be most welcome. No presents or cards thank you, but should you wish to contribute, there will be a collection box for the Air Ambulance Service.

**Barbara Booty**

**SCHOOL CARNIVAL SATURDAY 11TH JUNE**

Would any group/club/association please contact myself if you require a stall or are entering a float for this years event.

Please note vehicles will only be allowed on the field up to 2pm. No movement of any vehicle will be allowed until 5.30pm.

**Roger Preston**

---

**The Benefit of All Saints Wretton with Stoke Ferry and Christ Church Whittington**

*The Benefit is in interregnum.*

For queries, in the first instance, please contact Father David Evans, Rector of the Hilgay group.

The Rectory, Church Road, Hilgay, Downham Market.

Telephone 01366 384418 or email david.evans@ely.anglican.org

Licensed Lay Ministers:

Keith MacLeod - West Barn, Ryston Road, West Dereham. Telephone 01366 500960

Carol Nicholas-Letch - Honey Tree, Furlong Drove, Stoke Ferry. Telephone 01366 500704

For information concerning marriage, baptism or funerals, please contact The Churchwardens or Verger of the appropriate Parish.

**MAY**

**Sunday 9th**  
9.30am Morning Service - Carol Nicholas-Letch

**Sunday 15th**  
9.30am Morning Service - Carol Nicholas-Letch

**Thursday 19th**  
5.30pm Stoke Ferry Church

Compline Service - Carol Nicholas-Letch

**Sunday 29th**  
9.30am Morning Service

Keith MacLeod

If you need a lift to Church, please telephone the Churchwardens or Verger.

Churchwardens - Elaine Taylor - 01366 500948

Verger - Trish Willis, 01366 500138

Cleaning & Flower Rota - Mrs Jenny Elsey & Mrs Davina Eves

Whittington church now keeps a diary (on the table next to the visitors book) in which to put anniversary dates for loves ones; if you would like to enter a name in the appropriate date and put some flowers in the church with a card with their name on, we will make sure they are left for the anniversary. Please ring Jenny on 500143 for more details.

**THANK YOU**

Mark Elwes would like to thank everyone who came to his 80th Birthday party on April 3rd. Instead of present he encouraged donations to the church and £170 was collected and a cheque has been delivered to the treasurer.

Thank you to everyone who donated, maybe this will pay for a few tiles for the roof.
St. Andrew’s Bell Ringers
It’s that time when we need to strengthen our team of Northwold Bell Ringers with new trainee members.

First let’s just expel a few myths and give some guidance, just about anyone can ring a bell: you don’t have to be big and strong.

Age: is not important
Gender: we all compete as equals

We are not all religious, most bell ringers are not members of the congregation, we just wish to keep an old tradition going.

We teach on a one to one basis a few minutes at a time to build up confidence, once you have mastered control of the bell we slowly build the team around you. Most people become a competent ringer in under a year; although this may seem a long time once mastered it is a skill that will never be forgotten (just like riding a bike).

So the big thing you need is commitment, it takes time to learn, we practice from 7.30pm to 9.00pm on Thursday nights. If you would like to have a go please contact me.

Stephen Eyles
Tower Captain - Tel: 727525

50/50 AUCTION
SATURDAY 21st MAY
7pm
WHITTINGTON CHURCH
Come along & get lots of bargains
Viewing: Friday 20th May
6 – 7pm
If you any surplus items you want to sell then phone:
Jenny 01366 500143
Sylvia 01366 500062
Davina 01366 500517
You will receive half the proceeds and half will come to the church.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE
For Christians of all traditions
30 October – 16 November
Journey of a lifetime.
See the places, hear the sounds, experience the wonder.

Contact
Rev’d. Samuel Marsden, Feltwell,
(01842) 829772 for a free brochure.
E-mail: samuelmarsden@hotmail.com

ART @ Stoke Ferry
Church (PE33 9SF)
Saturday 21st May until
Sunday 5th June 2011
Free Admission Every Day
10am - 5pm
Adjacent Parking and Easy Access
Around 100 exciting new paintings at affordable prices - wildlife, flowers, abstracts, local scenes, sea and landscapes, still life and figures - watercolours, pastels, oils, acrylics, and pen and wash.
Limited edition prints and unique greetings cards
All are welcome.
Further details from Teresa Waller
01366 501369

THE CROWN INN

Please note on Saturday 7th May we will be closed for a Private Function.
Sorry for any inconvenience caused.
CHERYL & DAVE

Derek Johnson
PROPERTY & LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

Interior & exterior painting, wood or UPVC facia boards
- Guttering repaired, cleaned, replaced
- Roofing repairs, damaged tiles replaced
- Chimney pots & cowls fitted
- Chimney stacks and general re-pointing
- Blocked drains & sinks cleared
- General plumbing & drainage
- Roof, patio & driveway pressure washing
- Trees & conifers trimmed or removed
- Hedges, bushes and ivy trimmed
- Fencing & decking, landscape maintenance

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Program installations, Georgina Sims
COMMUNITY ACTION, NORTHWOLD

At its meeting on 11 April, CAN covered a number of topics, some of which are outlined below.

The Parish Council have confirmed their decision the notice board for Whittington should be situated on the grass verge at Norman Drive. Arrangements will be made for CAN members to carry out the installation.

The responses to the Questionnaires recently completed by residents had been collated and put on the Notice Boards and CAN website. The Parish Council had also been sent a copy of the document as a number of the responses referred to council matters. (If you did not complete the questionnaire it is not too late. Please contact Sharron on 727675 for a copy or visit the website, address given below.)

CAN wish to send their meeting minutes to other organisations in both Whittington and Northwold in order to share ideas and ensure that there is no duplication of effort re. events and activities in the Villages! (Please can the various Club Secretaries give Sue Bury, on 727943, their contact details?)

CAN’s website is up and running and we are now keen to develop a Village Diary. Again, please let us know if you have an event planned so that we can enter it in the diary. It means that everyone will be able to see what’s going on and avoid potential “date clashes”. Our website is www.northwoldcan.wordpress.com

Future projects for CAN include petitioning Royal Mail to reinstate the Post Boxes at Little London and Didlington (so please sign the petition when asked!), investigate the provision of a frame on the A134, for use by any group/organisation, as an advertisement hoarding for village activities (eg the Carnival, a Scarecrow week-end, Open Gardens event etc) and start a feasibility study into the provision of a Village Shop.

The next CAN meeting is scheduled for Monday, 13 June, at the Sports & Social Club, Hovells Lane, Northwold, from 8:00pm. CAN is open to all residents of Northwold and Whittington – so hope to see you there!

BUS TRANSPORT FROM/TO NORTHWOLD

Many residents will be aware that Northwold will have a very limited public bus service by the end of April. Community Action, Northwold has approached a couple of organisations who may be able to assist those who rely on public transport.

West Norfolk Community Transport (WNCT) operates a minibus, door-to-door, service for people in Northwold with mobility problems (including the disabled, frail and the elderly) into Downham Market every Thursday. Further details are available from Stephanie Squires (Village Life Editor), Sharron Freemantle (CAN), or the Northwold Care Group.

WNCT may have some spare capacity for their minibuses and they may be able to provide some further routes – but they need your input. Please tell Stephanie or Sharron where else you would like to go; e.g. King’s Lynn, Wisbech, Ely so that a joint response can be made to WNCT. If there are not enough comments, WNCT will judge that there is no demand ... so come on, get everyone to

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For more information or to make an appointment, please call
Tel: 01366 727 669
Mob: 07824 744 553
Registered member of The Society of Homeopaths
let us know what is needed!

In addition, Denman Travel has advertised services available to Northwold residents (e.g. a bus service to Bury once a month, a weekly trip to King’s Lynn), but they do need to know if there is enough support – so get on the phone and register your interest on 01760 336215!

Denman’s Travel
Foulden / Northwold to Kings Lynn & Watton & Bury Service

Wednesday’s to Bury w/c 20th April (every 3rd week there-after) £5 p.p.
Wednesday’s to Watton w/c 20th April £3 p.p.
Thursday’s to Kings Lynn w/c 28th April £5 p.p.
Saturday’s to Swaffham w/c 16th April
Pick-up’s 9.45am / 10am except Saturdays 9.00am / 9.15am

14 seater minibus’s available anytime

Swaffham
Tel/Fax 01760 336215
Email: denmantravel@hotmail.co.uk

Stephanie Squires – Tel: 728317
Sharron Freemantle – Tel: 727675

NORTHWOLD WI
HALL OF STALLS
SATURDAY 7TH MAY
2.00pm-4.30pm in the Village Hall

If you would like to raise money for your organisation or charity, or just for yourself from your hobby, why not have a stall.

We are hope to have as many different types of items on sale as possible. Please contact Brenda Ayres - 728565 or Glenda Burton - 727018 for further info. Stall will be £5 each - Limited spaces available.

VILLAGE CARNIVAL
A Plea From The PTFA

Hi there, just a note to say that we would love more people/groups to enter into the parade. we seem to be short of entrants this year which is a great shame as Northwold is known for its Carnival and the parade in particular, as we are one of the only villages to still have one. This Carnival has been going on for around 34 years now, and is a big part of the village life. It just would not be the same without the parade. Over the years many groups/organisations have dropped out of it due to various reasons. One group in particular have overcome the problem of not have a vehicle to drive them, and that is the fabulous WI. They for the last few years have entered a walking float, and have always come up with great ideas. Also we must say as did The Produce Show, sadly they will not be entering this year due to the loss of the organisation. Please help us to keep this event and tradition alive, if you are able to get together an entrant to the parade please contact me or Roger, also should you request a stall for the day again contact us as we need to organise the field plan. Please help us to keep Northwold on the map we NEED you...

Thank you
Sheena Randell 01366 727125
Roger Preston 01366 727694

The Gaywood Valley Project
and
Norfolk Wildlife Trust present
Sunday 8 May
11am to 4pm

The Walks, King’s Lynn

Take a guided walk or listen to a story in the most magical of settings. Experience the wildlife, landscape and history of King’s Lynn and the Gaywood Valley and discover what makes this area so special.

Activities for all ages including:
- Nest box making
- Story telling
- Dyke Dipping
- Minibeast hunting
- Art and craft activities
- Displays and Demonstrations
- Plus much, much more

It’s free!!
For further information on the event or walks phone 01603 598333 or visit www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Northwold Play Reading Group

The second and third meetings of the play reading group have taken place and the group is still at full capacity (30 members). The meeting on 21st February discussed the merits of The Crucible by Arthur Miller and it’s background history. Then one of our members read a piece from an Alan Bennett’s ‘Talking Heads’. You could have heard a pin drop. It was spellbinding. On the 21st March we all read A.A. Milne’s ‘Toad of Toad Hall’. Yes – it was from the sublime to the ridiculous and a great deal of fun was had by all. The standard of reading for best dramatic effect is really developing and the play was much enhanced by a superb sound effects department. The April meeting will discuss ‘Toad’ and there will be solo readings from two members. For the May meeting the play to be read will be ‘The Importance or being Earnest’ by Oscar Wilde – yes, it’s the ‘a handbag?’ one. The ‘campery’ ( if there is such a word) will no doubt abound.

Toni Arthur-Hay
Malcolm Hay
Jane Luckman
For more information contact 727199
**NORTHWOLD YOUTH CLUB**

“Spring has sprung” ... and we know that because the Youth Club was able to hold its activities outside for the first time this year! Those living near the recreation ground will have heard the shouts and whistles of the youth club members as they took part in agility races, quick cricket, space hopper races and all sorts of invented games for the evening.

Not all young members wanted to take part in the physical activities though - some of us played snakes and ladders or miniature Jenga (which is more difficult than the larger version, I can assure you!).

Readers of “Village Life” will have read about the Junior Achievement Awards being organised through the Youth Club; and of the Street Dancing event which was one of the challenges for some of those taking part. Other challenges included organising and cooking a “dinner party”, creating and presenting a puppet show, as well as organising, (and creating the art for) an exhibition in the Village Hall.

We are really proud of Megan Billmen, Ellie and Jack Hales, and Callum and Finley Roberts. They all succeeded in completing their five tasks and have gained their Junior Achievement Awards. This is the first time anyone from Northwold Youth Club had taken part in these Awards. Their work was superb and they have proved to be brilliant ambassadors for the Club. Well done!

Due to Easter Holidays the Youth Club now has a break, until 4th May, when we hope that the weather will be kind to us to allow more activities on the Rec.

The Youth Club is open to anyone between the ages of 7 – 14. Further details are available from Sharron (727675), or Jane (728921). If anyone wishes to take part in the Junior Achievement Awards, but are unable to come to the Club on Wednesdays, please contact Sharron to discuss alternative arrangements.

**NORTHWOLD TENNIS CLUB**

The tennis season begins on May 1st and the Tennis Club has an excellent non-slip hard court on the recreation ground in Hovells Lane. New members are always welcome whether you are a beginner or a seasoned player. Free coaching is available for both adults and juniors.

There is a weekly Club Night when you are able to play with a variety of members. Your visitors are welcome, as are holiday guests visiting the area. In May the Club Night is on a Tuesday starting at 6pm for juniors (7 – 14 years) and 7pm adults.

If you would like to join us or just come as a visitor please contact the Membership Secretary, Beverley Sue Leet, 3, Stablefields, Northwold - Tel: 727772

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**MODERN DAY WAR**

*All these people learn to fight*
*All people strong and full of might*
*All want to be on the front line*
*All strong minded will be fine*
*Everyday a person will die*
*The blood thirsty will not cry*
*Higher and higher up the ranks*
*With few casualties they give thanks*
*As people at home begin to weep*
*They alone are like a lonely sheep*
*When the enemy won't play fair*
*The soldiers will have to take great care*
*Although we are not winning*

This world will keep on spinning.

---

**VILLAGE HISTORY WEEKEND**

Join us in the Village Hall for a slice of cake and cup of tea or coffee from 7.30pm on Tuesday 17th May. Come and tell us your stories and share your photographs. If you would like to be more involved there are plenty of topics to research and we are also looking for people to put together stories and photos that we have already received.

Some of the topics we want to cover are, shops, businesses, places of worship, the school, ghost stories, weddings, christenings, village characters, anything else that we can think of.

Do you know anyone who used to live in Northwold and would be interested in joining us in September? There will be displays in the School Hall and the Church on Saturday and Sunday and the weekend will end with a Family Service of Remembrance to honour those who have lived and died in Northwold.

Please help us to make 3rd & 4th September 2011 a very special weekend to remember.

---

Ann Howarth
3, Stablefields, Northwold - Tel: 727772

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>&quot;Harness your own internal power&quot;</th>
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<td>At times everyone can feel low and if this continues it can build up as ‘stress’ moves in. We often make the mistake of thinking ‘that’s life’ we have to put up with it. Taking away our ‘joy of life,’ as we look to gain comfort from the emotional pain, we may experience this in a number of ways.</td>
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<td>This could be:</td>
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<td>Inability to concentrate/focus Disruptive sleep patterns/anxiety/ emotional/ tearful.</td>
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<td>Constantly on the go/Sickness from work/Irritable bowel syndrome/ Weight gain/ Diseases</td>
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<td>Aches and pains/Feeling of Loneliness even in the company of others/Poor relationships with self and others</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deep down you know life should be better. You can take the next step to living the life you deserve by contacting Sue Leet for an appointment in Northwold now 01366 727782 <a href="mailto:sue@thegreenbalance.co.uk">sue@thegreenbalance.co.uk</a> or visit <a href="http://www.hnlp.co.uk">www.hnlp.co.uk</a></td>
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<td>Gain vision and passion to achieve personal change in the direction you desire.</td>
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<td>Professional Registered Trainer and Therapist</td>
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<td>Master NLP/Advanced Hypnotherapy/Reiki Master/Thought Field Therapist/Life Coach/Indian Head Masseur</td>
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<td>Prices start from £35.00 per session.</td>
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Page 6
**2011 TOAD WATCH CAMPAIGN**

In the spring of 2010 I could not drive safely along the A134 at Cranwich after dark in wet conditions! In fact I could not bring myself to drive at all on one occasion, and had to pull over in tears, with my passenger offering to drive for me. I was desperately trying to avoid the toads that were trying to cross the road to get to their breeding pond. Each toad that I successfully avoided most probably hit by the impatient driver behind me.

My cries of horror were very often met with ‘humorous comments’ and ‘witty remarks’. Water off a ducks back as many years of saving tortoises from a life of rabbit runs and lettuce has hardened me to such humor. Thankfully when I put up posters this January asking for help to ‘do something about this annual massacre of our local toad population, I met likeminded people who were willing to give their time and ‘risk their lives’, in the case of the A134 site, to help ‘mere toads’.

So equipped with torches, high visibility clothing, free insurance from the frog life organization and on busy nights, buckets! We have spent many an evening on Toad Patrol. We have three sites to patrol. They are at Cranwich, Cockley Cley and Oxborough. All three are registered toad migration routes. Our most successful evening was February 25th, when conditions were perfect for toad movement. i.e. above 10 degrees and wet! 2,305 toads were moved safely in 3 hours across the 3 sites. Unfortunately just as many died that night!

Toads can travel large distances to breed. They spend most of the year in fields and gardens where they eat slugs and only really spend time in water during the breeding season. They can live up to 20 years and females are only mature enough to spawn at 4 years of age. The species is one of many struggling for survival in today’s world. By establishing these annual patrols Toad watch is attempting to prolong the survival of a fascinating native species for future generations to know, observe and enjoy. As a child I remember seeing newts in garden ponds, this is a rare sight these days. How many children actually know what a newt is or have ever seen one? Our aim is to encourage every village to start up its own patrol, where required, to ensure amphibian survival. In fact we found that whilst saving them we also became a toad dating agency! The males hang around on the roads waiting for a female to come along, much easier to find your mate on the open space of a road) by putting them into buckets with females we inadvertently became match makers.

To date we have moved 3,980 toads and 42 frogs to safety! With more hands we can hopefully save an even greater number next year. If you would like to join us please call Donna 01366 500835 or ask for Zoe at Stoke Ferry village shop. For more information on Toad watch visit the website at www.toadwatch.org or visit www.froglife.org for other ways in which to help our native amphibians. Our future aim is to push for toad tunnels (with fences to funnel them) at Cranwich, as the high numbers seem to cross throughout the night and traffic on the A134 is relentless. We will more than likely have to fund raise for this option but feel it is the only long term option for such a dangerous road.

Thank you to Accent Fresh for our photocopying and to Trevor at Raptor vinyls for the wonderful warning signs he donated to us. (I am very sorry to report one at Cockley Cley has been stolen already!) Thank you to K Plant at Stoke Ferry who have offered to loan us ‘Men at Work’ signs for our future patrols and to Paul Groom from highways who is having new toad warning signs installed for us at Oxborough and Cockley Cley. Thank you to all the motorists who slowed down for us and to those who stopped so we could use their head-lights, but most importantly THANKYOU Ellen Spain, Mary, Zoe Ager, Holly, Lucy and Jen Hogan, Ben Cannell, Kelly, Holly Sandford, Susie Emmett, Kim Emmett, Bronwen Brewer, Claire Heath, Sam Jones, Craig Ranshaw, Adam Bimpson, Mandy and Victoria Lavender, Jane Luckman, Sharon and Steve Freemantle, Derek Foulkes, Jill Fysh, Sheena Randell, Sid and Doreen Randell, Christine Gatlway, Janet Stocking, Chris and Tallulah Stocking, John Reeve, Lydia Beatty, Roger Keay, Shelley Farrow, Eddie Dack, Janis Hardwick, Robbie Robertson, John and Rita Davy for your heroic efforts and dedication. And didn’t we have fun!!!

DONNA

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*************
MINUTES OF NORTHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL TUESDAY March 1st 2011

Present: Mrs R Crisp, Mrs V Lynch, Mr M Peake, Mrs T Waller, Mr D George, Miss A Muir, Mr J Norris, Mr M Roberts, Mr F Eglington. 6 members of the public

PCSO Claire Law was in attendance at the beginning of the meeting and gave an update on Police matters in the village and surrounds. There have been more activities reported to the Police in recent weeks than are usually expected in the area. Residents were encouraged to be vigilant and report any suspicious vehicles to the Police. There have been two burglaries, one theft, a domestic incident and the theft of pigs from a local farm in recent weeks. Any member of the public can be alerted to happenings of concern in the local area by signing up with ‘Police Direct’ to receive messages from the police either by e-mail or phone. Information regarding this service will be published in the Village Life magazine.

PCSO Law was informed of speeding traffic at Whittington Hill and offered to pass this to the traffic police team. Any other areas of particular concern can be passed to the Parish Council to forward to PCSO Law.

Some discussion took place regarding the Community Speed Watch scheme. This has been successfully run in nearby villages where speed guns are operated by local volunteers. The future of this initiative is uncertain at present but PCSO Law will inform the Parish Council if the scheme is to continue should volunteers in the village be willing to participate.

Parking problems at drop off and collection times at the Primary School has been reported again.
1. No Apologies for absence received
2. No Declarations of Interest were made
3. The minutes of the meeting held on 01/02/11 were agreed as a true record
4. Matters Arising from previous meetings
Salt bins have been ordered for Methwold Road by the telephone box, by the A134 crossroads and for Whittington. The salt bin at Whittington is to be located by the entrance to the Church.

The Community Action Northwold group has successfully secured four parish notice boards which are in the process of being sited. The Parish Council was asked to identify a location for the notice board in Whittington and following much discussion it was agreed to locate the Whittington board by the telephone box along the A134 opposite the Church. Permission to use this location will be sought from Highways.

Some discussion took place regarding planning application 11/00089/F - conversion of workshop/barn to form 2 bedroom annexe at Lime Kiln Farm, 23 Church Lane, Whittington. Neighbours of this property have submitted letters of objection to the Borough Council and the Parish Council has reiterated comments voiced when a previous application was made for this site.

5. Reports
5.1 Chairman’s Report
The tenant is repairing the fence at the Old Chalk Pit.

Reports are continually being made regarding dog fouling in the village. It was agreed a second stronger notice informing dog owners that the Borough Coun-

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A tree has fallen in Whittington Playing Field. The meeting was briefly suspended to allow a resident of Whittington to speak. Mr. Warner has offered to clear the fallen tree and trim trees, if necessary, on the Playing Field which are adjacent to the boundary of his property. This assistance was gratefully accepted by the Parish Council.

Concern was raised regarding the safety of other trees on the Playing Field and enquiries will be made regarding the cost of a tree risk assessment being undertaken.

Mr George offered to look into repairing the Parish Council notice board located at the Village Hall. He is also hoping to repair the notice board in Little London. The cricket screen at Northwold Playing Field has been vandalised.

The gate on the toddlers play area will not close and a step on the slide is smashed. Mr Roberts offered to look into repairing the gate and the step of the slide.

Bogus officials claiming to be from the Water Board have been operating in the area but fortunately although one burglary was attempted nothing was stolen.

Rumours are that local bus services may be cut as Norfolk County Council attempts to reduce expenditure. To date the Parish Council has not received any official notification of cuts to bus services but enquiries will be made.

5.2 The Clerk had nothing to report that was not an agenda item.

5.3 Manor House Update
Mr M Peake reported that the Borough Council has reported that the owner of Manor House has said the property is not an agenda item.

5.4 A134 Crossroads Update – no further report.

OPEN FORUM
Mr Adrian Jenkinson has investigated what can be done to alleviate the problem of chafer bugs on Northwold Playing Field. It is possible the bugs could be successfully treated with a three year spraying program which would need to begin in July or August.

Alternative advice is to scrape the surface of the worst affected areas of the Playing Field, re-seed and roll to make the surface too hard for birds to forage for the chafer grubs. It is estimated 50% of the field may need treatment. Quotes will be sought to undertake the ground work suggested as soon as possible and a decision will be made at the April meeting of the Parish Council regarding how to proceed.

Mr Jenkinson was thanked for investigating how the problems at the Playing Field may be remedied. His advice was much appreciated.

The Norfolk Playing Fields Association will be approached for further advice.

It was noted that the chafer bug problem was only brought to the attention of the Parish Council in 2010 and that there is also a rabbit problem at the Playing Field.

Northwold Sports & Social Club is to hold its AGM on March 28th. The survival of the Club could depend on whether the Footballers and Cricketers continue to use Northwold Playing Field.

6. The following payments were agreed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Provided</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MHB Services (street lighting maintenance)</td>
<td>£50.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.on Energy (street light electric)</td>
<td>£149.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Hall Committee</td>
<td>£10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country Grounds Maintenance</td>
<td>£296.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>NRCC subs</td>
<td>£15.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clerk Salary</td>
<td>£133.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPFA subs</td>
<td>£20.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Correspondence

7.1 Playing Field Newsletter.

7.2 Letter from highways regarding local councils taking on some highway services. Several councils have expressed an interest and have asked for more information about the services provided in their areas.

7.3 Dawkins Covert, Northwold. The Woodland Trust owns and manages Darkins Covert and as the charity is reviewing its portfolio the Parish Council has been asked to consider taking on the site. It was agreed the Parish Council would not wish to do so.

7.4 Norfolk Age UK – campaign for later life in Norfolk

7.5 Norfolk Link etc

7.6 Minerals and Waste Core Strategy

8. Planning

Mr M Peake took no part in discussion relating to agenda item 8.

8.1 Single storey side extension at 62 School Lane, Northwold 11/00113/F

No comment

8.2 Proposed expansion to an existing free range unit (phase 1 and phase 2) at Chalkpit Field, Thetford Road, Northwold 10/02166/F and 10/02168/F

No comment

Parish Council elections
Present Councillors were all presented with an election pack.

The Clerk has attended an election training evening held by Norfolk Association of Local Councils and the following information was made available:

The normal 4 yearly round of parish elections is being held on May 5th and combined with elections for the Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk. The elections begin with the publication of the Notice of Election on Friday, 18 March.

The nomination period is from Monday 21 March to noon on Monday April 4th. Further information can be obtained from the Borough Council of King’s Lynn and West Norfolk.

Contact: Mary Colangelo, Electoral Services Manager – mary.colangelo@west-norfolk.gov.uk 01533 616281

10. Further reports/items for the next agenda

10.1 No meeting with Highways has taken place regarding drainage in the village but one landowner has spoken with the Highway engineer regarding clearing of ditches. The Highway Department has no money available to assist with clearing of ditches which are the responsibility of the landowner in most cases.

Mr Jenkinson has also informed Highways of flooding problems and that signs along the A134 have been hit.

10.2 It was reported that drain covers in School lane appear to have sunk.

Jane

CELEBRATE AT THE CROWN INN

Don’t forget

QUIZ NIGHTS - EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY

May 11th & 25th
June 8th & 22nd
RIVER WATCH
The new found warmth lingers and brings good cheer. A brightness gleams and sparkles on the water. The day is lazy and already there is a suggestion of summer. The weeds peacefully sway with the current and a multitude of fish busy themselves in the deep clear water. Early swallows swoop and dive in an endless circle. It is a perfect day to just watch and contemplate.

Here alongside the upper reaches of the river Wissey there is a particular fascination. It beholds a secret which has never been understood. The narrow stretch of water with its many meanders has a spot that always bubbles and boils with no explanation. It ripples and stirrs and cannot fail to attract attention. It draws the eye. The mind mesmerises and wanders to discover a reason. Thus my tale of long ago begins and you must read on.

Times were hard in the small village of Northwold and for sure every cupboard brought good cheer. A brightness gleams lagers all turned. A remedy to match. Every sickness and malady had its own secret cure. They were anxious to avoid recognition and retribution. Thus the matter was forgotten for almost 200 years and a link of history lost!

People may choose to ignore but the river was a party to the truth and will never again run normal at that very place. The unrest within the water continues both day and night and over the span of years. So now we have a legend to explain the very matter and it shall be new meaning but remember the truth is there and can never again run normal at that very place. The unrest within the water continues both day and night and over the span of years. So now we have a legend to explain the very matter and it shall be new meaning but remember the truth is there and can never again run normal at that very place.

Ivor Hook

Cream Teas

Please put this date in your diary – Thursday 9th June. Come and enjoy a delicious Cream Tea whilst helping to raise money for Cancer Research UK and for our own Village History Weekend. This event will take place at 3 Stablefields and there will be various stalls and competitions for you to enjoy. More details will appear in the next Village Life and on the Notice-boards.

Ann Howarth

FOOT HEALTH CLINIC
May we remind our readers that the next foot health clinic is as follows:-
Wednesday 4th, 11th May, 29th June & 6th July at the Village Hall, Surgery Room.
I also carry out home visits for treatment
For appointments tel. 01362 652757 David Noble. WMSch(Hons.), PSPract.,MVR.

WHAT DOES THE DOCTOR THINK THIS MONTH?
Would you like an inexpensive week in a luxury Madeira studio apartment?
For about 15 years, Head Office and I have owned two weeks in a luxury apartment on the beautiful island of Madeira. Technically, this is a timeshare but the whole experience is so far removed from the usual image of timeshare, with aggressive selling, rapidly increasing maintenance charges and virtually zero re-sale value, as to be part of a different world.

The Pestana Group is a Madeiran company who have developed a dozen or so 4 and 5 star resorts on the island, mostly in and around the main town of Funchal. The Pestana family lives in Funchal, next door to one of their developments, The Pestana Carlton Village. All of the resorts are built to an extremely high standard and all the accommodation is spacious and luxurious. When we first bought at The Village 15 years ago, the sell was extremely gentle and we were assured that the reasonable maintenance charges would only rise with Portuguese inflation. This has proved to be the case, with absolutely no hassle. When we decided to move to a new development being built on the sea front, Pestana actually gave us more for our old apartment than we had paid for it!

Anyway, to the point. The company has started a programme to give guests a taste of Madeira. For 150 Euros (£132) per week, they will put you up in a studio apartment which will sleep four and has a kitchen area, a bathroom, a dining / lounge area and a large balcony. (If Deannie and I, as owners, wanted to stay in one of these, the charge would be £130 per night!). All you have to pay

Northwold Spiritualists
Meet every other Friday in the Village hall at 7.30 pm and on other occasions.
Schedule.
20th May Jackie Lade
3rd June Ashley George
17th June Linda Lynette-Smith

ADDITIONAL EVENTS
14th May - Psychic Supper with Rachel Finbow, Linda Reade, Carole & Len Minnet, June Hughes and Richard Bartholomew
Enquiries to Eileen on (01366)727174
would be the air fares. Easy Jet fly every
morning at 7.15am from Stanstead and
cheap flights are usually available on the
website. You have to agree to meeting a
member of the Pestana team for half an
hour or so but there will be absolutely
no pressure to buy anything. Obviously,
Pestana are offering empty apartments at
cost in the hope that some folk visiting
will love the place and may buy some-
thing but, I repeat, there will be abso-
lutely no pressure. You do have to be
over 35 years of age and in employment
or retired to partake in this offer. The
choice of dates is up to you.

Access to this programme has to be
through an owner so, if you are inter-
ested or need more information, Email
me on ian@drnisbet.plus.com or tele-
phone on 01842 828956 and let me
know your names, address, Email and
telephone number. If you want to look at
a website, put Pestana Madeira Hotels in
your search engine and have a look
around. You will notice that the rooms
cost about £150 per night, so this offer is
well worthwhile.

Let’s have some fun; Padorski and Mi-
corowski had settled in England and had
been here for several years when they
saw a turf delivery lorry going past. Pad
said to Mic “When I have more money,
I shall use that service”. “What?” said
Mic “You are going to lay a new lawn?”
“No, when I am rich, I shall send my
linen to the laundry, my clothes to the
dry cleaners and, every week, I shall
send my lawn away to be cut”.

The friendly duo went to see a cowboy
film. Before the film, Pad says “I bet
you John Wayne falls off his horse dur-
ing this film” Mic replied “And I’ll bet
you £10 that he doesn’t”. Sure enough,
before the end of the film, John Wayne
falls off his horse and Mic has to give
Pad £10. Eventually, Mic confessed
“Actually, I’ve seen the film before and
I knew he would fall off” to which Mic
replied “Well, actually, I’ve seen it be-
fore as well and he did fall off his horse.
I just couldn’t believe he would be stu-
pid enough to do it twice!”

Best wishes to all

Ian G. Nesbit

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We have been running for a year.

We are a social group meeting at the Fenton
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10-3pm.

We have members from the surrounding
villages.

We do puzzles, quiz’s, table games and go on
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comes once a month for chair exercise which
we all enjoy.

There is also a chance of a hot meal and we
have trained carers to help with support and
activities.

We are looking for new member so why not
come along and have a look at us you will be
given a warm welcome.

Contact Anne Greenacre on 01366 727356 or
e-mail me at anne.greenacre@fsmail.net

DO YOU LIVE IN ONE OF
NORTHWOLD’S LISTED
BUILDINGS?

We are looking for information, stories
and pictures of Northwold’s listed build-
ings, to be included in the Village His-
tory Weekend. If you can help us in any
way we would be delighted to hear from
you. Any photographs that you may
have can be copied and returned to you
immediately

Ann Howarth

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**MAY and JUNE**
*At Whittington Church Social knitting group Every third Thursday 10am-12.00 @ 75p*
*Janet Burns 500757*

**BUS CUT BACKS**
*Before planning you days out on the buses check with Coach Services (01842 821509) to see which ones are still running to Thetford, King’s Lynn and Norwich etc., as the changes started from 24th April.*
*Downham Market (Eagles Coaches) Runs on a Friday. Leaves opposite Glebe Close approx. 9.20am*

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