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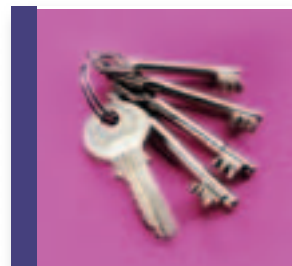
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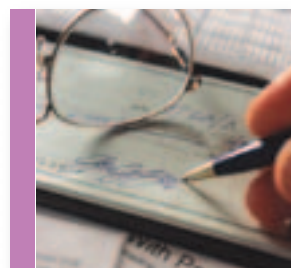
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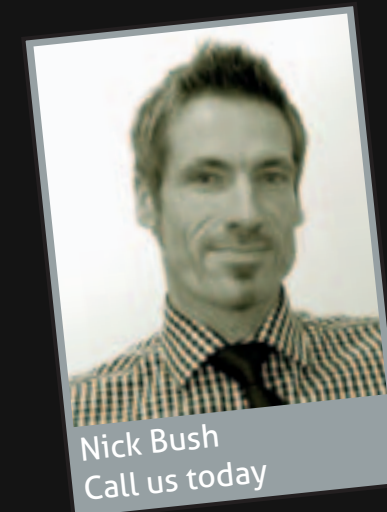
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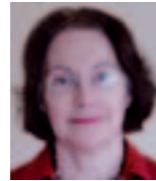
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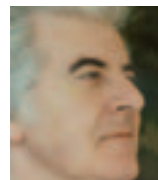
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CONTRIBUTIONS

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editorial@newportnews.org.uk

Digital submissions are preferred (digital photos and copy emailed or on disk). Articles should be approximately 250-1,500 words.

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Contents

REGULARS

- 3 Letter from the editors
- 8 Newport neighbours
- 18 Book reviews by local authors
- 19 Letters to the editor
- 19 Noticeboard
- 41 Good moaning, Newport
- 26 Parish Council Report
- 42 The farming year
- 49 Newport weddings
- 50 Newport fire station
- 55 Neighbourhood Watch
- 69 Newport babies
- 77 Kid's Korner
- 95 Cars of a certain age
- 96 Vic's favourite shrubs
- 105 Newport directory
- 110 Our representatives
- 110 Newport diary
- 111 Travel information
- 112 List of advertisers

THIS ISSUE CHARITY

- 48 Steve braves shark infested waters
- 56 With a little help from my friends
- 75 Macmillan coffee morning

CHURCH

- 45 Fundraising for St Mary's Church
- 47 St Mary's update

CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS

- 39 Newport Art Group
- 40 Jubilee Parties
- 62 1st Newport Brownies
- 68 Girls Go Out
- 70 1st Newport Scouts
- 72 Newport loses three male gorillas!
- 74 Newport Youth Centre

COMMUNITY

- 36 Save Newport Village
- 39 Blocked
- 75 Your voice in our community
- 78 VBS comes to Newport!
- 87 The Maltings
- 94 Village Fête – 25 years ago
- 100 Newport Treasure Hunt answers

EDUCATION

- 64 Newport Primary School
- 66 Newport Free Grammar School

EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

- 24 NATS 'There Goes the Bride'

HISTORY

- 17 Newport local history group
- 30 Newport Angels
- 84 Shortgrove Hall
- 98 Slug-a-beds and early risers

OBITUARIES

- 102 George Rand
- 103 Leslie Douce
- 104 John EA Marshall

OLYMPICS

- 5 Best decorated house
- 6 The Olympic Torch
- 14 Fun at the Fête
- 16 London Ambassador Volunteers
- 29 Tenterfields at the Paralympics
- 61 Beautifying Newport
- 88 Running the Olympics through Newport

PEOPLE

- 22 The author and the spy
- 46 Burywater Nursery and the Barba family
- 60 Reynolds Court Gardens
- 67 'Sparrows Hill' – A poem by David Thear
- 90 Voices of Newport – Dennis Saville
- 101 The French family

SPORT

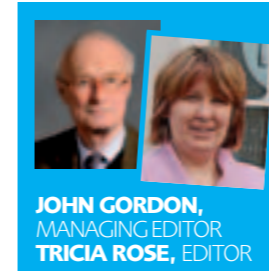
- 80 Newport Sports Committee
- 81 Tennis club
- 82 Newport Croquet Club
- 83 Newport Football Club

WORK

- 20 On course for a spell in Newport
- 28 Time for a clean sweep
- 32 More than just a petrol station
- 35 Helen retires
- 76 A Newport cottage industry
- 93 DIY Wills – A risky business



Letter from the editors



How quickly the clock ticks on and the 78th issue of *Newport News* is out. Our production cycle for this number started at our usual half yearly meeting on September 11th when we got together over a glass of wine to plan the next issue. Everyone pitched in with their own ideas, reactions to the last issue and argued over the finances and how much to charge for advertising. As usual we made no changes in our rates. We then all went forth with exactly a month to approach advertisers and supply Tricia Rose with articles and pictures. Miriam Pender has a difficult job in coordinating the advertising team, agreeing wording and layout and sending it to Barney Miller, our designer, by October 9th.

The History editors, Anthony Tuck and David Evans, in addition to researching and writing their own articles have to check any historical features from other contributors to try and ensure consistency and accuracy. Other demanding jobs are undertaken by John and Berenice Oswin Smith who compile and check the Information pages.

Tricia Rose has to consider all the material submitted and meld it into shape before sending it on to Barney Miller who, with his wife Hannah, designs the layout and puts it all into shape, rather like a three dimensional jigsaw as he once described it. It then goes off to the printers and comes back in time for Don Alexander and his team to distribute it by December 1st.

I have mentioned just a few of the people who create each issue every six months but in total there are some 40 people involved and without their help it just wouldn't happen.

The events of the past six months which most stick out in my memory



are the celebration of the Queen's Silver Jubilee on June 5th and the carrying of the Olympic Torch through the village on July 7th, together with the very successful Carnival procession and Fête which raised and distributed to participating village organisations

some £5,600, a massive amount remembering the appalling weather. It is said that some 6,000 people lined the streets of Newport, probably the largest number in its entire history.

Elsewhere on the palette of the last half year's happenings has been the

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re-emergence of the possibility of the expansion of Stansted airport in the longer term, which once again casts a long shadow before it. I don't suppose that we have heard the last of this ongoing scenario. When my wife and I first arrived in Newport in 1965 the battle was pitched against having it at Nuthampstead, and since then we have endured nearly 50 years of fluctuating uncertainty over the development of Stansted airport.

The subject of the expansion of the village continues. One of the interested parties, Bill Bampton of Pelham Structures, addressed a meeting of the Parish Council and assembled residents when his plans were vociferously rejected. Meanwhile the argument for and against having any development in one area or spread throughout the Uttlesford villages continues with some very effective views being expressed.

Turning to the Grammar School, I note that they have been granted Academy status as from September 1st. This gives them greater autonomy over their own affairs. The former

Head Teacher, Sean O'Hagan, has stepped down after six years at the helm after a rather disappointing OFSTED rating of 'satisfactory'. An acting head, Matt Gibson, has been appointed prior to the selection of the next Head Teacher. The school needs to have many good candidates to choose from as urgent and effective action is needed to bring the school up to 'outstanding' at the time of the next inspection.

I was disappointed that the number of Parish Councillors has fallen from 11 to 8 following the resignation of Richard Deamer, Denise Morris and Tristan Rose. Please consider putting yourself forward if you are interested in the future of Newport and can afford a little time. With the Localisation Act the Parish Council has greater powers and responsibilities. Your village needs you!

Whilst on the subject of the council I was delighted to see the four new flower beds in the High Street and Cambridge Road following the distribution by the District Council

of the New Homes Bonus. It certainly brightens up the village.

On my own patch we were very fortunate to have attracted 12 of the top players in the world to our Newport Croquet Club Open Tournament in May, which was a great honour. We have now been going nearly thirty years but sadly only two members actually live in the village. Do please come and join us.

Finally I note with concern that Meals on Wheels, formerly supplied by the WRVS in Saffron Walden, will now be produced by a French multinational company, Sodexo, with the meals coming from Enfield, Colchester and Basildon. I should be interested in hearing from residents what their verdict is as to the quality of the meals.

Please enjoy this issue. Please also support our advertisers upon whom we depend so much. This is really important as virtually our entire income is derived from those who pay to advertise in our pages and the best way of thanking them is to support their products and services.

Happy Christmas and New Year. **NN**

Best decorated house

LORNA WARD



1st PRIZE

During the Olympic torch relay & Carnival celebrations, Newport Village Stores ran a competition for the best decorated Olympic themed house in the village. The response was fantastic with many houses not only along the torch route but also around the village entering into the spirit of the occasion. The most original entry came from Angela & Bob Bengé of Frambury Lane. Their fence was not only adorned with Olympic related images but a life size Royal family sitting proudly at the top of the fence giving the impression of watching over the enthusiastic crowds. The cardboard cutouts certainly drew attention and smiles, and deservedly won the bottle of Champagne kindly donated by Alan Carr of Newport Village Stores. **NN**

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The Olympic Torch 7 JULY 2012



CAPTIONS BY ALISON LECKY PHOTOS VARIOUS

Weather did not dampen the spirits of the hundreds of people who lined the High Street to welcome the Olympic Torch on July 7th, Day 50 of the relay. Apart from local residents, crowds streamed into Newport from the train and surrounding villages. Onlookers sported flags and umbrellas to make a riot of colour along the route. A warm thanks to all the volunteers who helped make the occasion so memorable.



ELAINE MURPHY

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

We received many excellent photographs of the Olympic Torch Relay, the Carnival Procession and the Village Fête, some of which are shown on these pages. The winning entry, voted for by the 'Newport News' team, was taken by Andrew Blatt and appears on the front cover. Andrew has very generously donated his £25 prize to charity.



ANDREW BLATT



XXX



SANDRA AMOS



BERNIE FOX

FAR LEFT: Paul Barden, 50, Cambridge. He took up the flame in honour of his late wife, Helen Patterson, after she died three months before she was due to be a torchbearer. Helen, a mother of 5, was a lead clinician for prostate cancer at Addenbrooke's Hospital and a keen fund raiser.

LEFT: Ashley Dear, 14, an air cadet from Baldock who provided outstanding support for his younger brother who was badly bullied at school.



GORDON BROWN



JOHN GORDON



KAREN MUSGROVE



XXXX



KAREN HESKE

ABOVE LEFT: Jamie Oliver, 37, celebrity chef chosen for inspiring people to spend more time in the kitchen and growing their own food. He ran past Newport Grammar School where he was a former pupil. ABOVE: David Pickup, 34, Baldock – a voluntary worker who "brought fun and activities to children who do not have a role model in their life."



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Newport neighbours

FRAMBURY LANE CONTINUED



JOHN GORDON

I began my "Newport Neighbours" series in 1989, journeying around Newport with the aim of eventually visiting each house in the village. For this issue I continued with the west side of Frambury Lane, starting with the houses opposite the entrance to Cherry Garden Lane.

85 Frambury Lane

Robert and Sharon Davey After an initial setback when I couldn't make contact at numbers 89 and 87 I struck lucky at number 85. There I found Robert and Sharon Davey with their three children James, Hannah and Emily. I was invited in, given a mug of restorative coffee, and off we went.

Sharon told me that she was born in 1971 at Bishop's Stortford but brought up in Little Walden. She went to St.Mary's Primary School and then to the County High in Saffron Walden, leaving in 1988 aged 17. She then did secretarial work locally and in 1992 married Robert Davey and in 1995 bought a house in Cherry Garden Lane, moving to their present home in 2005 in order to get a larger property. In 2001 she bought an ironing business, The Ironing Bored, where she had already been working. She expanded this to ten employees but increasingly found herself running to stand still, so put in hand a radical scaling down and now works on her own with a limited number of customers and is much happier as a result.

Robert told me that he was born in 1970 at Hadstock, where his family had lived for at least two generations before him. He went to Ashdon Primary School followed by the County High. Leaving school at 16 he went to work in Little Walden for Michael Williams Agricultural Equipment as a project manager.



ROBERT AND SHARON DAVEY WITH THEIR DAUGHTERS, EMILY AND HANNAH

Then he moved to a firm involved in pumping equipment at Elsenham, and has been there for 20 years.

Turning to the three children, I learnt that James, born in 1997, went on from Newport Primary School to the Grammar School, whilst Hannah, born in 2001 and Emily, born in 2004 are both at the Primary School.

I had heard that Sharon was a leader at the Youth Club, and she explained that she goes there every Thursday evening, 6.30 to 8.30pm, for the 9 to 12 age group session. She is also the booking agent for Jikes Hall and the whole family belongs to NATS. All in all they are locked into Newport which they all said was 'A brilliant place to live'.

83 Frambury Lane

Ron and Beryl Woodthorpe Here I was welcomed in by Ron Woodthorpe, who led me through to the sitting room where I was introduced to his invalid wife Beryl. I learnt that he had arrived in Newport in 1988 from Harlow, where they had previously lived from 1970, the year they had married.



BERYL AND RON WOODTHORPE

Ron told me that he was born in Rainham in 1928, one of four children, but upon his mother's death aged 36 and his father's remarriage the family moved to East Ham. His father was a docker and life was hard. Ron left school at 14 in 1942 and went into the building trade before being called up in 1946 for two years' service in the Royal Artillery as a Gunner Signalman, serving mainly in Palestine. After demob Ron went to work at Fords at Dagenham, where he started at the equivalent of 11p an hour. He stayed there for five years, after which he had 17 different jobs in the engineering industry before his retirement in 1992.

He and his first wife, June Ramsden, had three children, Jane, born in 1955, Clifford in 1957 and John in 1959, all of whom live with their respective families in the South East and visit regularly. In 1970 the marriage unfortunately broke up and Ron married Beryl Heed, born in 1930, who had two daughters by a previous marriage. She was born in East Acton but in 1940 the family moved to Blackpool when her father got a job making Spitfires. She too left school at 14 in 1944 and became a dress machinist. In 1950 she married Ted Francis and they had two daughters, Linda and Karen, both now living with their families in East Anglia.

Beryl has sadly been a martyr to ill-health, having had cancer, pneumonia, salt deprivation and diabetes. Ron lovingly cares for her, doing her injections and generally ministering to her. They both spoke very highly of the local doctors and nurses who were brilliant in an emergency. They also praised the Papworth Trust Home Solutions, who had recently carried out some improvements to the house and garden which have made things much easier. They wouldn't ask for help but it is extraordinary how help comes just when you need it. They both enjoy life in a quiet way. They added that their neighbours were wonderful and that they loved Newport. I took my leave filled with admiration for Ron for his patient and hands-on care and for Beryl's stoical acceptance of her disabilities.

SHEILA WHYMAN (1929-1997) MARRIED GORDON HARVEY (1925-2006) IN 1948



NIGEL HARVEY AND MEYER

remember interviewing for the Winter edition of 1989. Nigel showed me into the house and I met his tame parrot, Meyer, one of the Senegal variety who keeps him company.

Nigel reminded me that he was born in 1957. He went to the village Primary School before going on to the County High, leaving in 1971 aged 15. After working in various local garages to qualify as a mechanic he started at the airport as an aircraft engineer, rising to leading mechanic. In 2004, after 27 years in the job he retrained as a plumber and operates locally, together



TOP: ROBERT JAMES HARVEY 1880-1952. (NIGEL'S GRANDFATHER) ABOVE: DAVID HARVEY, BORN 1950, BARRY HARVEY, BORN 1963 AND NIGEL HARVEY, BORN 1957

81 Frambury Lane

Nigel Harvey When I rang the bell at number 81 a familiar face came to the door - it was Nigel Harvey, the middle of the three sons of Gordon and Sheila Harvey, both now sadly deceased but whom I

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with his son Matthew. He much enjoys being a local business without the pressures of working for a large company.

Nigel married Linda Barnwell from Clavering in 1977 and they had two sons, Thomas, born in 1981 and Matthew, born in 1984. Sadly Nigel and Linda divorced in 2005 but Linda still lives in Gaces Acre with the boys, and the family see each other regularly. Nigel's hobby is collecting old motorcycles and he is very interested in Jeeps.

Nigel's elder brother is David, born in 1950. He lives up the road in Wendens Ambo with his wife and runs the Wenden Garage, whilst the youngest brother is Barry, born in 1963 who is married and lives in Australia, having roved the world.

Nigel's father was Gordon, who died in 2006 aged 81, and his mother was Sheila Whyman from Clavering, who passed away in 1997 aged 68. Gordon was a gardener at Shortgrove before the war and after serving in the army worked as a nurse at the Radwinter Road hospital. Gordon was descended from a long line of Harveys in Newport so Nigel represents one of the oldest families in the village, with two sons to carry on the line.

79 Frambury Lane

Denise (Jummie) Morris
On then to Number 79 where I was welcomed with a brilliant smile by Denise (Jummie) Morris. Here I struck a rich vein of gold in that Jummie is part of Newport's heritage with three generations of the family living in the village. Indeed, until six years ago it was four generations until Jummie's grandmother, Margaret Stone, died in 2006.

Jummie told me that her mother, Linda, was one of the seven children of Benjamin Stone (1916-2005) and his wife, Margaret (1923-2006). Benjamin was a gardener at Shortgrove and the family lived in a cottage near the cricket pavilion behind the hall. Linda's sister Margaret lives with her husband, Ron Haddock, in Wicken Road, whilst Linda lives in Gaces Acre.

Jummie herself was born in 1966, and when Linda and her three daughters moved back to Newport from Catmere End in 1975 Jummie went to the Primary School, followed by the

JUMMIE, DAISY AND PHOEBE MORRIS



County High, leaving at 16 in 1982. She then got a job at Millers, now Dorringtons in Saffron Walden for two years followed by a further two years in an electronics company. In 1986 Jummie married and had two daughters, Lucy in 1986 and Natalie in 1989, both of whom were tragically killed in a fire in 1992. That same year Jummie returned to Newport to live at 79 Frambury Lane and had twin sons, James and Benjamin, both of whom went to the Primary School followed by the Grammar School. Both have also just gone off to university, James to Anglia Ruskin to read music technology and Benjamin to Leeds Metropolitan to read music production.

Four years later in 1996 Jummie had a second pair of twins, this time two girls, Daisy and Lily. Again they went to the Primary School and the Grammar School, where they are still. Daisy is a keen sportswoman playing hockey, rounders and netball, whilst Lily lives for her music.

For most of her adult life Jummie has been a full time mother, a role which she loves. However four years ago she did a year at the Primary School as a learning support assistant before moving to the Grammar School for a similar role, but mainly with children with complex needs. I remarked that this must require great patience, with which she agreed but said that she absolutely loved the job.

Her other roles in village life include being vice chairman of the Youth Club, which she told me is proving a great success due to the hard work by the leaders and helpers. She has also just finished a two year stint as a member of the Parish Council, and this year gained a GCSE in Maths. She would

now like to move on to do a language or two.

At this point we were joined by Phoebe, born in 1996, the daughter of Jummie's sister Julie who was born in 1971. There is a third sister Jayne, born in 1983. Phoebe is in the sixth form at the County High, having previously been at the Grammar School.

Jummie makes an enormous contribution to village life at many levels and I was very pleased to have met her. As I left she reminded me that she had been at the Primary School with my second daughter, Arabella. I also winkled out of her that she had been the Carnival Queen in 1984, something which she had thoroughly enjoyed.

77 Frambury Lane

Trudy Corless
Jummie then kindly took me next door and introduced me to her neighbour, Trudy Corless, who lives there with her daughter, Jasmine and their Boxer dog, Cassie.

Trudy invited me in, and told me that she was born in Billericay in 1963 and went to school locally, leaving at 16 to work in the GPO in Customer Service for three years. In 1983 Trudy married Andy Corless and they set up home in Basildon and had two children, Scott, born in 1984 and Jasmine ten years later in 1994. In 2000 Trudy and Andy separated and they divorced two years later. In 2007 Trudy and her children moved to Newport, which they love. Trudy now works as deputy manager of the Coach and Horses at Thorley, where she does up to 50 hours a week. It is very hard work but she thoroughly enjoys it. Her daughter Jasmine works at the Premier Inn at the Airport, so they are both in the hospitality sector serving the public.



TRUDY CORLESS

SCHARROWNE AND CHARLOTTE FARMER



75 Frambury Lane

Scharrowne Farmer
Scharrowne was a great surprise. She is a keen animal lover and lives with her many chickens, ducks, dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, fish and other pets at number 75, besides keeping a horse and a pony in Littlebury. She kindly asked me in and told me that she was born in East London in 1968 to rather dysfunctional parents. At 14 she was put into care for a year in Norfolk but then returned to her mother briefly before leaving home and school. She then did a number of jobs and basically 'raised herself' as she said. For ten years from 1994 she worked in livery stables in Waltham Abbey and it was then that she went back to college and as the result of hard work gained seven good GCSEs, nearly all in the sciences. She just loves learning!

Scharrowne later met Gary Stark, and in 2007 they had a daughter, Charlotte, a pivotal event in her life. The following year Scharrowne and her daughter moved out to Thaxted before coming here last November, taking over the house from Julie Morris. She greatly enjoys living in Newport and Charlotte has settled in well at the Primary School. Scharrowne loves her animals and particularly enjoys being a member of Facebook, where she has up to 300 friends who provide her with a social life.

Scharrowne is a woman with a mission - to try and clear up all the poo messes in Newport, especially at the recreation ground. She says that most dog owners are very good about picking them up and depositing them in the red bins provided but that there is a significant minority who are not so conscientious. Apart from that she says Newport is super and she is very glad to be living here.

73 Frambury Lane

Ken Henderson
Here I was met by Ken Henderson. Detecting in his voice a northern accent I asked him where he hailed from - 'Sunderland' he replied. He was born in that town in 1928. His father was a miner, as indeed were the whole family, centred on the famous Wearmouth Colliery, mining coal up to three miles out under the sea. Tragically Ken's father had a very severe accident at work and as a result made Ken promise not to follow in the family tradition. Soon after he died, aged only 47. His ill health had been exacerbated by Ken's sister dying from pneumonia at the tender age of six.

Ken left school at 14 and joined the local lime quarry, one of the largest in Europe, in order to train as an engineer. In 1945 he was called up into the RAF where he worked at an enormous camp of some 34 square miles near Salisbury, where most of the explosives left over from the war were stored. It was Ken's job to help take the surplus explosives to Stranraer, from where they were shipped out to the



KEN HENDERSON

deep water at the Continental shelf and tipped into the sea.

Having served his two years Ken went back to the lime company but in 1970 came south to work in the United Match company in Bishop's Stortford, and it was about that time that his health began to deteriorate, due, he thinks, to his spine having been affected by an explosion in his RAF days.

In 1951 Ken had married Elizabeth Lumsden and they had four daughters. The family initially lived in Stortford but once their daughters had left home

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PEOPLE

Elizabeth and Ken moved to Newport around 1985. Sadly Elizabeth died in 1990 aged only 62, and is buried in the churchyard.

As mentioned above, Ken has suffered from ill health but recently, following some pioneering treatment at Papworth, he is able to lead a largely normal life, driving his car to Saffron Walden and doing his own shopping. His daughters are very supportive and keep an eye on him. He loves Newport and particularly praises the doctors and staff at the Surgery, besides being extremely grateful to Papworth for all the life-enhancing help which they have given him.

71 Frambury Lane

Irene, Mary and Jenny Warby
Walking through the immaculate garden of number 71 Frambury Lane I was met by Mary Warby, who welcomed me in to their very tidy home where I was introduced to Mary's mother, Irene Warby, and younger sister, Jenny. Irene told me that she was born in Lowestoft in 1928, one of the four children of a corn carter and his wife. Sadly Irene's father died aged 42 when she was only ten years old, leaving his widow with three children to support, one having died at two years old. Irene reminded me how hard life was in the prewar days when you hesitated to call out the doctor due to the expense, and life was a perpetual struggle. Assistance came in the form of a means tested token which you took down to the market and exchanged for food.

When the war broke out the family moved to Bury St. Edmunds, as Lowestoft with its docks was a target for German bombers. There Irene met her future husband, Cyril Warby, who had been posted to Bury during the war; originally from Bishop's Stortford, he had worked in the Co-op in Saffron Walden before serving in the forces for the duration of the war.

Irene and Cyril married in 1946 and that same year set up home on Elephant Green, Newport, renting Elephant Cottage with one room down and two up. In 1956 they moved to number 71 Frambury Lane, a new house in which the Warbys were the first residents. They really appreciated the three bedrooms and bathroom.

In 1947 Mary was born and went first of all to the old Primary School and then

MARY, JENNY AND IRENE



to the County High, leaving at 14 in 1963 when she went to work at Tube Investments at Great Chesterford, where she spent 16 happy years before moving to WPA in Walden as secretary to the directors, staying till she retired in 2002.

In 1961 Jenny was born. She also went to the Primary before moving to Tye Green, Harlow and later to adult training in Saffron Walden, sandwiched with two days a week at the Sir Peter Kirk college doing music and drama.

It was an enormous shock to the close knit family when Cyril died in 1972 aged only 57 - he had a sudden heart attack in the garden. He was still working at the Co-op, grew all his own vegetables and was extremely active.

Mary keeps very busy in her retirement, looking after her mother and sister. She is a great believer in internet shopping and their weekly order is delivered by Sainsbury's. Mary has played a full part in village life in the past, most particularly running a carers' group, helping in the old library at the Primary School and doing keep fit. All three of the family likes living in Newport though they said that they missed some of the old characters in the village. They also greatly appreciate the support and help at the Surgery. One downside of the growth of the village is that one knows fewer people. They said that in the old days you could walk down the High Street and know nearly everyone.

I left wondering at the enormous changes for the better in peoples' lives over the past years as exemplified by Irene's life and what difficulties she and her mother had coped with successfully. We have a lot to be grateful for.

69 Frambury Lane

Wardale and Mary Millward
Next I went to number 69 where I was welcomed by Mary and Wardale Millward and taken into their comfortable sitting room. They had kindly laid out a mass of old photographs which were fascinating, especially as they included dates, places



MARY AND JENNY WARBY

and above all, identifications. I took out my notebook and set to work.

I learnt that Mary was born in 1924 in Bradford, where her father was a motor engineer. Mary went to primary school followed by secondary school, leaving at 15. At this point her father sadly died from a burst appendix in 1939 and her widowed mother had to go out and get a job. As she was a trained caretaker telephone operator, she took a position as a caretaker operator in Newport which became available.

The exchange was then at the White House, opposite the Old Vicarage in the High Street. Mary's mother, Lillian Rushforth, arrived in 1941 with her two daughters, Mary who was 17 and Thelma, a year younger. The caretaker operator was on duty each day from 5.30pm till 9am the next morning. In those days people would often just pick up the phone and ask the operator for the person they wanted to contact by name, so the operators had to have excellent memories to memorise some 200 residents' numbers!

On 28th October 1944 Mary married Wardale Millward, a night telephonist at Bishop's Stortford, in a double wedding with her sister who was marrying a US serviceman, Gladstone Booher. It was said that it was the first double wedding ever to take place at Newport church.

After a brief intermission when they returned north, the young couple came to Newport and moved into their present home in 1957, the first people in to their recently built council house, and they have lived here ever since. They had three children, Sandra born in 1946, Janet in 1957 and Adrian in 1962. In due course Mary went back to work, firstly at the Primary School, then five years as a dental nurse, and later 14 years in charge of a Sheltered Housing Home in Dunmow, after which she happily retired.

I turned to Wardale, who told me that he was born in 1922 in Staffordsire, an only child. His father

PEOPLE

was a plate layer on the Earl of Dudley's private steam railway. He left school at 14 in 1936 and did a variety of jobs until he was called up into the Pioneer Corps and was demobbed in 1947. He then joined the GPO as a night operator at Bishop's Stortford, retiring in 1989.

He and Mary very much enjoy living in Newport. They are well looked after by their children and with them and their local friends they find that life passes very pleasantly. Rather to his surprise, Wardale will be 90 in December. They keep a car in which they go shopping and on little trips. I said that I would return one day to have a closer look at the photograph albums which look so intriguing.

Two other interesting facts emerged in our discussion. After Wardale's father became a widower he married Mary's widowed mother, though sadly she died soon afterwards. Secondly, Mary is descended from John Rushworth (1612-90), an English lawyer, historian and politician who compiled a series of works covering the history of the English Civil Wars and a well-known figure of the time.

MARY AND WARDALE MILLWARD



As I walked home I thought about the nine homes I had entered momentarily and was amazed as always at the sheer

variety of residents of Newport, their resilience in the face of many difficulties and above all how much better off in every material sense we are than those who lived before the war. Let us enjoy and appreciate it. **NN**



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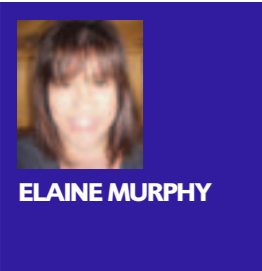
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Fun at the Fête! 7 JULY 2012



ELAINE MURPHY

During the Summer of 2012 we have witnessed a quite spectacular display of Olympian and Paralympian sporting brilliance, patriotism, pride and all round greatness, and no more so than in the village of Newport.

On Saturday 7th July 2012, I was privileged and very proud to be a part of a most wonderful celebration of the Olympic Torch Relay through the Village, which coincided with the Village Carnival, Fête and Concert on the Common. It was a day that I, and probably the whole of Newport will never forget. Although, the one thing I think we will all want to forget was the torrential downpours, but even they couldn't dampen the spirit and camaraderie of the massive crowds.

When we first decided to incorporate the Village celebrations with the arrival of the Torch, we had our reservations. Could we organise a carnival, would the fête be a triumph, would the weather be kind to us and would people come to the concert? We didn't know the answers however; we knew that if it all went to plan, it would be a day to remember.

The meetings started back in January of this year and everything we wanted to plan for the Carnival and Fête, had to be dependent on the arrival of the much celebrated Torch. At that point we were not even sure of its arrival time, so you can imagine the difficulties we faced; everything we did had to fit around that Torch! However, thanks to a sterling effort by the whole committee, who each took on massive responsibilities to ensure everything ran smoothly, all the queries, problems and intricate details were sorted and every possible eventuality was accounted for - we were finally ready.

In the run up to the Weekend the weather had been horrendous, with the



SUE BROWN



XXXX

Common actually flooding on two separate occasions. This was not ideal considering we had a scaffolding firm arriving on the Thursday to erect a giant stage for the Concert. Thankfully the rain held off whilst it was being built and we even managed to get the common cut and swept before any more rain could fall. The stage was set (and decorated with bunting and flags galore) and the most anticipated weekend of the summer finally dawned.

After a fabulous Live Race Night in the Village Hall on the Friday night, Saturday arrived, as did the rain and the common although not flooded, was very wet around the stage. Still, not to be downhearted we arrived bright and early to start setting up - it wasn't just the committee members involved now - so many kind and willing volunteers appeared on the common that morning all offering their services and help. The sun was shining brilliantly and the common began to transform from a damp empty field, into an arena of colour and splendour. Music resounded from our bunting clad stage, as our entertainment for the afternoon, the fabulous Scratch Band, carried out their sound checks. It was getting exciting now and as the arrival of the torch neared, I noticed hoards of people pouring from the train station and walking down station road towards the high street. Never before had I seen

Newport so full of smiling people all waiting for one special event. The Torch finally passed through the village amidst huge cheers from the ever-so-wet but ever-so-jubilant crowds. Now it was our turn to put on a show - the Carnival procession was a huge success and the sound of the cheering crowds and honking horns along the route was totally uplifting. It had been a long time since a Carnival has taken place in the village - and what a fitting day to reinstate this joyous parade!

At last ... the Fête could begin. The crowds poured onto the Common and it was a sight to see so many people enjoying the now blazing sunshine and exploring all the different and exciting stalls. The Scratch Band was in full swing with quite an audience and finally we could start to relax and enjoy the afternoon. But alas, dark skies were approaching and a massive downpour hit the common at full pelt. My heart went out to the crowds who were just starting to dry out from the earlier showers. But it didn't deter them one little bit. People sheltered under the gazebos and headed off to the Village Hall for a nice cup of tea. Everyone was in such high spirits that a bit of rain was not going to put them off and eventually the sun decided to show its face again.

As the afternoon progressed the Scouts were doing a roaring trade at the BBQ and Alan Carr and his mighty team were pulling pints and pouring wine like it was going out of fashion. The mighty Dennis Stratton Story were next up on stage and what a great set they performed - a real crowd pleaser.

There were so many fantastic stalls at the fête that it is impossible to mention them all, but a few that stick in my mind include the NATS Human Fruit Machine which had children and adults alike mesmerised, such a simple idea, yet so clever and such a crowd puller. The huge inflatables, which by now were soaking, were also hugely popular, albeit many of the damp children were now both damp and covered in mud but they didn't care. Girls Go Out were running a Pimms Stall which went down a treat and I have to say I did enjoy a glass or two - well you have to don't you? The Tombola, run by the ever supportive Newport Primary School, was drawing in the crowds a plenty.

As the afternoon drew to a close and people started to make their way home, it was business as usual for the Committee members and many of the volunteers who had helped throughout the day, as the evening entertainment was due to start at 7.30. The scouts had a quick break and yet again the BBQ was fired up for yet more burgers and hot dogs to feed the masses. The bar was restocked and the stage was ready for the first of the evening's acts. Even the sun managed to break through.

The Concert on the Common was a new venture for us and although some had slight reservations about its success, we needn't have worried. As we watched the ever faithful crowds arriving we breathed a sigh of relief. It was no Glastonbury, although with all the wellies and mud around, you could have been mistaken, but it was a jolly entertaining evening and to see everyone dancing and enjoying the sounds of Charlie Vincent, Fat Bloke and Slim and Van Gogh's Ear was prove enough that it was going down well.

All in all the whole weekend was a glorious success but it wouldn't have been anything without all the amazing people who offered their help so willingly and gave up so much of their time to make it happen. Thank you to you all and not forgetting the residents of and visitors to Newport that day who stuck out the rain and helped us to raise a staggering £5,600. Thank you Newport for all your support. **NN**

Newport Carnival Committee are: Neil Saville, Kenny Vincent, Andrew Yarwood, Mark Murphy, Sharon Bonnington, Mike Hannant, Alan Carr, and myself (Elaine Murphy).



SANDRA AMOS



SUE BROWN



LES MASON



SUE BROWN



SUE BROWN



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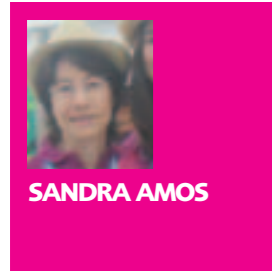


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London Ambassador Volunteers



SANDRA AMOS

My daughter Helen, and I applied to become London Ambassadors in the summer of 2010. Applicants were whittled down to 16,000 and we were all interviewed during the spring and summer of 2011. Helen and I were two of the lucky 8,000 chosen. We were CRB checked and from February 2012 to June 2012 we were all trained for our role in the games.

Straight away we found the other volunteers a friendly band of people, and the trainers were mainly from large companies or highly experienced retired volunteers. The whole group was obviously completely inclusive. All walks, cultures, abilities and disabilities. Everyone's needs were met and everything was very well organised, down to the last detail. Uniforms arrived in June and we were ready to go.

Right from the beginning we were told that there were no privileges or special ticket allocation for volunteers. However, 2 weeks before the Olympic Opening, there was suddenly an opportunity to win a ticket to the technical rehearsal of the opening ceremony. I was lucky enough to win



SANDRA & HELEN

a ticket in the ballot, and I shall never forget that night. The transition from the "Village Scene" to the "Industrial Revolution" was just amazing, not only visually but the whole atmosphere and aroma was something special.

From before the start of the Olympics to the end of the Paralympics, groups of London Ambassadors were stationed in Airports, mainline stations and various busy tourist areas of London. Helen and I had volunteered for a week, meeting and greeting arrivals at Stansted Airport, and on 1st August 2012 we were dressed up and ready for all the Olympic visitors.

The majority of passengers were well organised but it was surprising how many turned up with no accommodation booked and expecting to pop down to the stadium to buy a ticket!

We thoroughly enjoyed every step of our volunteering from the first interview to the Athletes Parade. The conversations with complete strangers on the tube and in the cafes, particularly one gentleman who came from a village I would never have known called Elsenham! The Olympics just highlighted the amount of generosity and goodwill there is in our communities and I was very glad to have been part of it.

My daughter Helen started a new job teaching in Spain in January 2012 but was determined not to miss this opportunity. She flew over each time we had training days and for the Olympic period. She says, "I am immensely proud to have been part of the London Ambassador Volunteers. Since my return to Spain I have been using my pink and fuchsia backpack. It has been recognised by students and colleagues alike! Several people have told me they wished they had got involved because it was such an amazing Olympics". **NN**

Footlights Christmas Fayre

Newport Village Hall, Station Road
Sunday 16th December 2-4.30pm

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Newport local history group



ANTHONY TUCK,
CHAIRMAN

In a summer which will long be remembered for once-in-a-lifetime events - the Diamond Jubilee, the Olympic Torch procession, and the Games themselves - and for once-in-a-lifetime wet weather, the Group did not organise its usual programme of excursions. We had a visit to the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, but because we had to book up nearly a year in advance we later discovered that the visit would coincide with the Olympic Torch procession through the village. This was disappointing, but the visit itself was well worth while. The Foundry has cast bells for churches and other institutions all over the world, and it combines the industrial process of casting with the delicate task of tuning each bell. It also produces sets of hand bells.

Over the weekend of September 8th-9th we held an exhibition in the village hall, consisting in large part of the photographs, artefacts and other memorabilia from Terry Searle's collection, which had not been on display to the public for several years. Saffron Walden Museum also lent us some exhibits with a Newport provenance, and we are very grateful to the Curator, Carolyn Wingfield, for her help. Over the two days about 200 people visited the exhibition and also took the opportunity to visit the Grammar School Library, which was opened especially for the occasion to show some of the material from the school archives. Our thanks go to Mary Wilcox, Assistant Headteacher and to Keith Huddleston,

Honorary Secretary of the Old Newportian Society, for their help in arranging this. The weekend was the first time Newport had participated in the annual Heritage Open Days festival, the largest heritage event of its kind in the country, which attracts over a million visitors nationwide each year.

In September we had a talk from Malcolm White, formerly Town Clerk of Saffron Walden, on the place names of Saffron Walden. He included some Newport place names, and gave us an interesting insight into the way in which names for new roads and features are chosen: something to be borne in mind, perhaps, if there is substantial development in Newport. In October David Sherlock is returning to Newport to talk about the conservation of Prior's Hall Barn, Widdington, and at the end of November Rachel Clarke, from Oxford Archaeology East, will talk about Tilty Abbey, near Dunmow. We hope to arrange a visit to what remains of the Abbey sometime before the talk.

We have arranged a full programme of talks for 2013, which appears in the panel on this page. The talk in October 2013, by members of the Newport Victoria County History Group, will give members and visitors a chance to hear about some of the work the Group has been doing, and particularly the light they have thrown on some of the most interesting people from Newport's past. Much of the VCH project is approaching completion, and by the end of the year we hope that the process of editing will be under way. **NN**

Programme of Meetings for 2013

Thursday 31 January. Georgina Green: Dick Turpin.

Thursday 28 February. Iain Stevenson: Postal Services in the Newport area from 18th century to present day.

Thursday 21 March. Liz Allan: Saffron Walden in the 15th and 16th centuries.

Thursday 19 September. Maria Medlycott: Historic Landscapes and Settlements in Uttlesford.

Thursday 24 October. Members of the Newport Victoria County History Group: New Light on Newport's History.

Thursday 21 November. Vic Gray: "My Darling Daisy" - The Countess of Warwick and her circle.

All meetings are at 8.00pm in Church House.

Admission is £2, but free to members.

Please contact Anthony Tuck, telephone 543833 for further information.

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Books by local authors

Clavering at War – an Essex village

1939-1945 by Jacqueline Cooper
 “Clavering at War recounts the experiences of the people of a village in north-west Essex during the Second World War. Colourful strands – taken from recorded memories, local newspaper stories, parish magazine articles, diaries and other documentary material – are woven into the inspirational writings of the village’s wartime vicar.

“This unusual combination brings the Home Front to life, with written and oral sources on events side by side with observations by the man who gave moral leadership to the village at the time. More than 100 men and women from Clavering served with the King’s Forces, and many of their experiences, so very different from their earlier lives, are also included.”

So runs the ‘blurb’ on the back of this book, and it is a correct description. I began by dipping into it but soon found myself engrossed. It has to be said that reproduction of the photographs and cuttings is variable, but no doubt this is due to the quality of the originals.

I would suggest that the book is of much wider interest than the merely local – the atmosphere it evokes and the experiences it records must have been nearly replicated in villages throughout the country. And if you lived in Newport at that time, you may even remember some of the events described.

This would be an excellent Christmas present for anyone, anywhere and of any age, who has an interest in the England of 70 years ago. Price £10.

Review by Angela Archer

The Spy Who Loved

by Clare Mulley of Saffron Walden (see page 22)
 This is a factual book about the life of the female, Polish born British secret agent known as Christine Granville, (one of her many pseudonyms) who ‘loved’ her way in order to achieve outstanding results for the British during the war. The involvement of the Poles in the Second World War is of particular interest to me and should receive greater recognition, this book should help to do this. Christine (born Krystyna Skarbek) was of aristocratic descent, she regularly helped many to escape from Poland during the early months of German occupation with the help of her husband,

Jerzy Gizycki (alias George Norton) and her lover Andrzej Kowerskij (alias Andrew Kennedy). Later, Gizycki, who was a diplomat, took up a post abroad but Kennedy and Granville (known to the British Special Operations Executive as ‘Forcible’ and ‘Willing’ respectively, served British Intelligence extremely well for the remainder of the war. Christine was awarded the George Medal for her services, one of Britain’s highest bravery awards, an OBE and a French Croix de Guerre. Peacetime never suited her and she was only able to obtain work as a stewardess on board a passenger ship. Tragically, and despite the dangers she had lived through, she met her death suddenly and violently when she was murdered in the nineteen fifties by someone we would now call a stalker.

This book sub-titled ‘The Secrets and Lives of Christine Granville, Britain’s First Female Special Agent of World War Two’, is an excellent read, especially for anyone interested in the subject and indeed, for anyone who wants a biographical book about someone whose exploits are astounding, almost to the point of being unbelievable at times. I assure you, however, they are not unbelievable but totally factual. Winston Churchill once said, ‘In the high ranges of Secrets Service work the actual facts in many cases were in every respect equal to the most fantastic inventions of romance and melodrama.’ The reader will not be surprised to learn therefore, that Christine was reputed to have been called Churchill’s favourite spy.

This is Clare Mulley’s second book. Her first ‘The Woman Who Saved the Children: A Biography of Eglantine Jebb’ published in 2009, tells the story of the woman who founded the Save the Children Fund. It won the Daily Mail Biographers’ Club prize.

Review by Jeff Bines

Flare, an Australian Adventure Story

by Mike Williamson of Newport
 We have all, no doubt, been into Costcutter during a power cut and found the staff unable to serve us because the tills no longer worked. These tills, linked to a central hub, not only accounted for the sale but also automatically ordered stock to replace that which had just been sold. A marvel of technology in our High Street?

Mike Williamson takes this problem

to a higher level in his book ‘Flare’. It is the story of a massive solar flare (from which he gets the title) sending out a pulse of electro-magnetic energy that caused all computer controlled electrical circuits to fail, from aircraft control systems and astronomical telescopes to similar computer chip systems on cars and indeed local shop tills. In this story computers and telephones were useful only for gathering dust. This is a tale to get you thinking about what would happen and how you would cope if a similar thing happened sometime in the future.

Williamson looks at the problem in considerable accurate technical depth (this is not surprising as he spent a great deal of his working life in the aerospace industry) whilst, at the same time, keeping the story interesting to the non-technical reader. The story starts in a small Australian town, and explores the way in which the townspeople managed to make contact with the outside world. One by horseback, others by using old cars that were fitted with more simple electrical circuits. Later an obsolete bi-plane was put into service and yachts were observed as another form of transport. With no telephone, television or radio no-one knew whether the problem was local or worldwide. The risk of anarchy breaking out was another problem to be faced by the police and military. Williamson describes all details in a well thought out and intelligent way making this both an interesting and easy to follow story. I won’t spoil this very good read by revealing the end. I will only say that recently I suffered a similar situation when the immobiliser on my car decided not to recognise the signal from the key fob transmitter. I almost had a car that was in otherwise perfect working order but one that was useless because it wouldn’t start! I have no idea what cause the key fob to fail. Who knows, perhaps there was a solar flare.....?

Mike Williamson is the nom de plume of Mike Allen of 96 Frambury Lane. He is a retired aeronautical engineer who is now a prolific author. This year, besides ‘Flare’ he has written two other paper backs, ‘The Genesis Bug’ and ‘The Centauri Scrolls’. All three can be obtained from Amazon at £6.34, £5.95 and £6.93 respectively and on Kindle at £2.33, £2.99 and £4.66 each
 Review by Jeff Bines

Letters to the editor

Dear editor

I would like to congratulate all those concerned in making such a success of the Carnival and Fête, as well as the evening entertainment, on 7th July. It was a magnificent effort and must have involved a tremendous amount of hard work. We were given a day to remember, and although some of us got very wet, the rain certainly didn’t dampen spirits. Everyone concerned deserves a pat on the back. Thank you all, very much indeed!

Angela Archer

Dear editor

Once again I must make contact to congratulate you on another excellent edition of Newport News. I have seen many village and town magazines over the years but none has ever approached yours for content and presentation.

John, Walden Local

Dear editor

I am horrified at the amount of dog poo left behind by irresponsible dog owners here in Newport. I am trying to set up a poo watch month and would like as many volunteers as possible to help me leaflet households in Newport. We will also hand out dog poo bags free to dog walkers who pass by and help educate those who are not aware of their responsibilities as a dog owner. I am approaching the parish council as we speak to get their help and support. If anyone is interested in helping join me on my crusade to clean up Newport then please get in touch with me on 01799 542977.

Scharrowne Farmer

Please send your letters or notices to the editor or email them to: editorial@newportnews.org.uk

Noticeboard

ARE YOU RESEARCHING YOUR FAMILY HISTORY?

I have quarterly publications from the following Family History Societies: ‘Origins’ – Buckinghamshire ‘The Banyan Tree’ – East Yorkshire ‘The Shropshire FHS’ From years 2005 to 2010

I also have copies of the Widdington Magazine from June 2002 (Issue 205) to December 2005 (Issue 219).

Free to anyone interested. Margaret Bowker (540737)

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

A Christmas Fayre is to take place at Newport Village hall on 16th December where we are inviting local businesses to come and hire a stall to promote, display and sell their work to make people aware of all the great local products arts, crafts and gifts for Christmas and any other time of the year before going online to the larger companies. I am told this is a first for the village.

As well as the items for sale and promoting products we are having loads of fun things for the kids such as their favourite costume characters (Minnie Mouse/Peppa Pig etc), Santa’s Grotto, Magic shows and our Singers are going to do a small carol demonstration so it really is a fun family event.

Please call Emma on 07921350468 if you require more information.

NEWPORT VILLAGE BEAT SURGERY

A member of Thaxted Neighbourhood Policing Team will be available at Newport Post Office on the following dates in 2012/13 from 1000-1200.

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On course for a **spell** in Newport



ANDY SIVELL

As a writer, being complimented as a pedant is a bit like, as an artist, being told that you're really good at sharpening pencils. So the offer from *Newport News*' editor Tricia Rose to attend an NCTJ course entitled 'Grammar and proof-reading skills' and then write about it, "Because, you know, you're really picky and that" probably left me with the kind of frozen grin one associates with a TOWIE cast member being asked to spell their own name.

The fact was, I was secretly delighted to get the chance to test my grammar and proof-reading skills. My habit of belligerently pointing out errors in road signs, television commercials and news bulletins has long been tolerated by loved ones. ("It's not 'amount of...' unless you'd normally weigh it. It's 'number of people!'" being a rant with which my children are now

particularly well-acquainted). So the opportunity to debate the use of dash versus comma and initial capitals in job titles struck me as fun. ...Oh God, perhaps I am good at sharpening pencils.

The National Council for the Training of Journalists – NCTJ for short – is another of those little gems that most Newportians are completely unaware of. Housed in the former granary in Station Road, right next to the Village Hall, it is the leading accreditation body for journalism training in this country. An NCTJ qualification is a quality standard recognised around the world. The trouble is, the recent Leveson Inquiry has ensured that the words 'journalism' and 'standard' are not often associated with one another right now. Which is grossly unfair. Free speech and the right to question power are two of the most important freedoms we enjoy in the West. And it's often only good journalism, with its determination to keep its foot wedged firmly in the door of those who would otherwise prefer to deny our prying eyes, that exposes corruption and incompetence. There have been times – quite recently even – when good journalism has replaced weak parliamentary opposition in this country. Governments rarely cast light on the downtrodden and exploited; good journalists do. Good journalism is our conscience, and across the globe good journalists sometimes risk life and liberty to tell us what's really happening around us. Even at a local level, good journalism helps foster a sense of community. Local development plans, new supermarkets and road initiatives are all brought to life for us by good journalists. And for many an aspiring writer, the first and most significant step towards becoming a good journalist starts with an NCTJ qualification.

But I digress.

In addition to its role as a training body, the NCTJ runs a plethora of short courses open to anyone wanting to improve their understanding of media law, their ability to write press releases, or just needing to brush up on their editing skills. Bubbling with enthusiasm at the prospect of mixing it up with fellow i-dotters I therefore duly presented myself at the NCTJ's beautifully converted headquarters – only to be told that I was a day early.

Ah.

The next day I duly presented myself at the NCTJ's beautifully converted headquarters, this time a little more reticent about expounding on the importance of written accuracy. Having spent all of ten minutes on the journey by foot from my house to Station Road it was easy enough anyway to listen with quiet sympathy to others' tales of five o'clock starts and queues on the M25. Among them were a solicitor from Brixton, a civil servant from Westminster Council and a communications manager from Surrey. None of them seemed unhealthily picky, but then none had taken two attempts to get there on time either.

Our tutor was Steve Dyson, an award-winning journalist and regular on BBC TV and radio. After coffee and the usual introductions he wasted little time extolling the virtues of writing clearly and simply, reinforcing his message with some well-known examples of good oratory. (Among them one of my favourites, the final section of Dr Martin Luther King's 'I have a

dream' speech which, although he certainly penned it years earlier, was largely ad-libbed when delivered on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial). Steve then borrowed from the archives of the Plain English Campaign to bring us some choice examples of literary gobbledegook. This was followed by a quick refresher in the identification and use of nouns, verbs, descriptors and conjunctions, followed by a test.

The routine of demonstration, exploration and explanation – followed by a test – was enough to satisfy even my worst Monica Geller-esk tendencies, although it was reassuring to note that I wasn't the only one very obviously keeping score. And so we covered the differences in story structure between news, features and writing for the web, the essentials of proofreading and editing, writing headlines for print and online use, and the importance of style guides. To give him his due, Steve expertly balanced the need to maintain the necessary pace to get through the

material, with a calm flexibility that ensured that all questions were answered and no-one felt rushed.

I already had a pretty high opinion of NCTJ courses before I attended this one, but it was nice to be reminded just how useful they can be to anyone whose job involves communicating with others – and who doesn't that apply to? As someone who edits others' copy for a living, in addition to writing my own, it was also comforting to discover that I wasn't doing anything dramatically wrong.

Did I learn something new? Absolutely. That I didn't get a perfect score in every test proved that my pedantry still has some way to go. I also obtained details of some very useful reference books and online resources. Finally, I learned that when recording dates in your diary, make sure you get the day right.

More information about NCTJ long and short courses can be found at www.nctj.com. NN

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The author and the spy



See book review on page 18

Is it easy to write a book? No – and yes – is the answer. There are certain rules which this author has imposed upon herself. 'Do not stop writing at the end of a chapter since that makes restarting a harder job' is one of them and 'do not make yourself feel too guilty about handing over your childcare' is another. She admits that all working mothers share this latter feeling but she mitigates it by including the school run in her working day. She hopes that her girls will be proud of her.

Clare Mulley is an author who lives in the oldest part of Saffron Walden with her husband, Ian Wolter, their three lively (and lovely) daughters, 11, 9 and 4 years old, and an au pair. The latter keeps the show on the road whilst Clare becomes ever more engrossed in her writing and Ian throws himself into his degree in arts at Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge and his sculpture classes with Anne Curry. He also keeps a weather eye on business interests in the City. Ian's sculpture shows no sign of being the work of a beginner and Clare's books have the air of academia about them. When she laid down her pen in April 2012 at the end of her latest book it signified the end of two years of intensive research on a subject which had become an all absorbing mission for her. And it is an all absorbing book

Entitled 'The Spy Who Loved' the words make a tantalising and probably not accidental reference to the fictional spy, James Bond who this year celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of his first film outing. There is, however, only a hint of a connection as there is no concrete evidence that Ian Fleming and Christine

Granville (Clare's Spy) ever did meet even though there are lots of dates and places where they could easily have overlapped. Fleming is certainly quoted as speaking admiringly of Christine and

there is every possibility that she inspired his portrayal of the alluring female spies in his tales. Christine Granville was a very real person, famous in her own time and among her Polish compatriots as a fearless secret agent in the Second World War and an aristocratic beauty to boot! Her outstanding and generally hair-raising feats of courage and derring-do and her ability to think and act fast under pressure were legendary. Clare became utterly caught up in her subject and amused her girls with 'Christine stories' on long car journeys as one adventure after another floated into focus during the detailed research which was fast taking over her life.

Clare has already written one successful biography, 'The Woman Who Saved the Children' which details the life of Eglantyne Jebb, the controversial founder of the Charity 'Save the Children'. Her current agent is the well known Andrew Lownie and it was he who suggested that she write a new biography of the once famous but now all but forgotten Christine Granville. This was not her only name but one of her many assumed personae in the course of her war work. She was born Krystyna Skarbek, to Polish parents, both of them Roman Catholics. Her mother came from an eminent and wealthy Jewish family. This last fact sometimes worked against Christine in the undercurrent of anti-Semitism which prevailed at the time and she often found herself on the edge of acceptance by aristocratic groups or when in the centre of Diplomatic intrigue. She was brought up on a prosperous estate deep in the countryside where she developed her deep love of animals – dogs and horses in particular – and became an excellent skier. She was twice married, to Poles, but ended her life living under her assumed name in the rather run down Shelbourne Hotel, Kensington, among the flotsam and jetsam of Polish émigrés – many of them war heroes who could also sadly no longer return to their beloved Poland now in Communist grip. She continued to dazzle and attract admirers a British one of whom stabbed her to death. He was tried, found guilty



'Ian, Clare's husband, keeps encouraging her to write a best seller. Perhaps she just has.

of the crime and afterwards hanged. Christine had been just forty four years old.

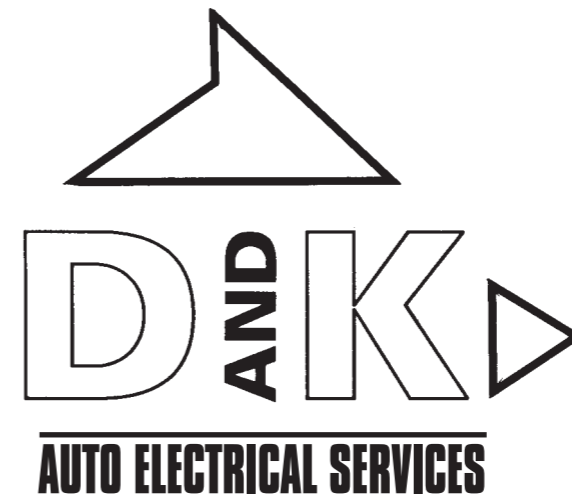
This seemed like a pretty good subject but it came with a time limit of two years. Clare accepted this challenge. For the past twenty-four months she has inhabited archives, requested hitherto secret documents now become accessible under the Freedom of

Information Act, followed up every lead, met the descendants of close associates of Christine, read her letters to them, handled her jewellery and spent time in Poland with an interpreter to try to trace the intricate pattern of Christine's wartime life. The book is referenced and annotated on every page so that each and every incident can be tracked back to its source for verification. Since there are many twists and turns in the story and the Polish names are a complete tongue twister to read (even in one's head) it at times feels more like an exam simply to follow in which country and with which lover the current scenario is taking place! Clare rattles off the names fluently in her 'speed speak' manner. She tells of staying in a flat in reconstructed Old Warsaw belonging to a Count Ledochowski (son of Christine's lover of the same name). The elder Count had written an unpublished memoir of Christine which Clare was allowed to read – a moving and

enlightening experience. Still wrapped up in those powerful and evocative tales Clare ventured out of the front door of the flat only to find an officer in Gestapo uniform pressing the barrel of his machine gun into her. She experienced a flash of sheer terror such as she imagined Christine would have had many a time and wondered if she were in the middle of a 'time slip'. But no, it happened that the street was being used as the set for a World War II film and, unable to read the Polish notices warning occupants not to emerge into the street that day, she had inadvertently stepped straight into a movie!

Clare's background is not directly that of a writer. She has a degree from Sheffield University in Politics and History and later took a Masters in Social and Cultural History at Birkbeck College, London. She had spent six weeks in Poland teaching English as a foreign language so was already drawn to the country but can only speak a few

words of Polish herself. The story of the fascinating femme fatale Christine fast enveloped her and she has managed to pass that enthusiasm on to the reader in spite of the academic annotations and references she has been compelled to add in order to authenticate the story. The decision was taken to anglicise only Christine's name as that was the one she proudly adopted after the War and was on her death certificate but all other names of places and people are left in their Polish form – a fair challenge to the proof readers! Of her work on the book Clare says simply "I lived it, I loved it". The research was an adventure for her and she went all over Poland and France retracing her heroine's steps. The book has been very well reviewed, is being translated into Chinese and, a great compliment to Clare, into Polish as well and will be published in America in 2013. Ian, Clare's husband, keeps encouraging her to write a best-seller. Perhaps she just has. **NN**



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NATS 'There Goes the Bride'



JANE MURPHY

The NATS summer production had the audience laughing from start to finish with all the usual elements of a great farce - mistaken identities, confused characters, slamming doors etc., but with the brilliant twist of an imaginary individual who appears to only one character on stage.

We sensed impending disaster when introduced to the father of the bride Timothy Westerby, (played by Matthew Fyleman with his usual energy and enthusiasm, whilst cleverly leading his cast at a brisk pace from start to finish,



with barely any time off stage). On the morning of his daughter's wedding day, he attempts to juggle business with paternal duty, as he works on his



twenties flapper advertising campaign for a new design of bra, while trying to get to the church on time ...

An accidental knock on the head causes him to hallucinate and his beautiful flapper model comes to life as Polly - (a part very skillfully played by Lisa Hannant). Will Murray adds weight and humour as Bill Shorter, Timothy's business partner with an eye for the bride's mother, who is just as baffled as the rest when it becomes all too clear that no-one else can see or hear Polly.

My favourite part of the play was in Act 2 when Timothy gets another bump on the head and is transported back to 1926 and the Savoy hotel. Timothy



imagines that his daughter's prospective father-in-law, over from Australia for the wedding, is a Hollywood producer. Mr Babcock subsequently becomes increasingly irate and threatens to call the whole thing off. (Andy McMillan plays Charles Babcock, with a very convincing accent. His confident performance integrated with the chaos that went on in the production helped maintain the pace.)

The carefully laid wedding preparations disintegrate into chaos and we are treated to song and dance routines from Polly and Tim trying to convince the 'film producer' that they are Britain's answer to Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire - hilarious! Polly's asides and facial expressions to the audience are well timed and so funny.

Poor Becky Monk as an increasingly distraught Judy Westerby, is suitably hysterical at the prospect of getting married without her father to give her away at the altar She has a great rapport with Yvonne Hannant - as Ursula, the very glamorous mother of the bride, who patiently copes with all that is thrown at her, particularly as Judy goes from being 'dreamy' to the



whole experience of being married to the love of her life, to completely hysterical and rushing off to lock herself in her bedroom at every twist and turn of the plot: "there goes the bride!!"

Lyndsay Millington's is wonderful as the bride's grandmother. Her costume suited her part to a tee and she gave a really strong performance, as well as co-directing with Alan Bywaters who played her husband, a splendidly bewildered, slightly eccentric 'grandfather of the bride'.

NATS has set a truly high standard of production - definitely no wobbly sets when doors are slammed! The sound and lighting designs are simple but used cleverly to enhance the action on stage, really adding to the effect of the production. A 'NATS' production is something that you don't want to miss, as can be wholeheartedly substantiated by more than a few individuals who had to be persuaded to hit the record button for the Champions League Final, playing at the same time on Saturday night! So, well done and huge thanks for another great evening, to all involved. NN



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Parish council report

THE COMMON, 3 MAY 2012



ANDREW
YARWOOD,
CHAIRMAN

Olympic Torch, Fête and Carnival

As I put pen to paper, or rather fingers to keyboard, it doesn't really seem that it's over two months since the Olympic flame came through Newport. Despite the rain the crowds were huge, flags were waved, and people cheered (and Newport got onto the TV thanks to Jamie Oliver being a torch bearer). Newport also had a Carnival procession for the first time for many years which ran smoothly, straight after the torch, and despite more rain the efforts of those who took part making floats and costumes could be seen by us all.

The Carnival and Fête were a great financial success for Newport too with funds totalling £5,600 being raised for village



clubs and organisations, whilst the bands played. Thanks to Mike, Elaine, Mark, Neil, Sharon, Alan, Ken, who with myself made up the organising committee. And to all the groups who helped us by getting involved in the run up, suppliers of vehicles, marquees and all the volunteers on the day.

And the Newport History Group ran a historical event that marked the end of the Olympic period.

Development in Newport?

2012 will go down in my memory as the year when Uttlesford District Council defined its development plan consultation and galvanised many people into action, including one pressure group, 'Save Newport Village'. The Parish Council also conducted a consultation (to which 366 residents responded – thank you), to ascertain public opinion. The results of this made it abundantly clear that the vast majority, though accepting that some small development may be acceptable, do not want large numbers of homes to be built in Newport.

It was clear though that a 'minimum of 370 homes' proposed by the district council was **NOT acceptable** to Newport Residents who responded.

Members of the council, together with several residents have attended meetings at Saffron Walden, and left feeling distinctly unimpressed with the whole experience.

The Parish Council made it clear that we wanted the views of residents to be taken into consideration, though we are yet to see the evidence of this actually happening. We will continue to put forward the views of the residents of Newport.

Flooding

Earlier this year saw a large amount of flooding in the village, especially London Road, and bottom of School Lane (see photographs). Howard Bowman, helped me clear obstructions down the river, at the Common and Bridge End. And my son Matthew, and particularly one resident, Peter Arscott and helped me at School Lane. The floods emphasised that the village water system cannot really cope with current weather problems, and would much less cope with the effects of a large number of homes that would add to the problem at the existing "pinch points". This was also not helped by the amount of debris that we noted when clearing; it was actually cut vegetation that had obviously been left near to the river courses in several locations.

Affordable Housing development

We are still waiting for a date for a public meeting when plans of this proposal are due to be made available. We continue to press Hastoe Housing Association for a date for this, and have put forward the views of residents to the company at the council meeting in August.

The council would like to have an indication of the number of residents currently interested in renting or buying a share of an affordable property. If you are interested please write to the parish office Newport, or email, newportparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk.

New Pedestrian Crossing at Belmont Hill

For the last six years the council have been working with ECC on a new pedestrian crossing. This has finally been approved and installation is planned for October.

Garden Waste Collections

Garden waste collections next year will continue from the Spring to Autumn (dates to be confirmed), using the current arrangements, though now your Parish Council must meet the cost. This is expensive, but we listened to those who asked that we maintain the service.

The Parish Office is Moving

The Parish Office is moving across the road to operate from the shop at Saggars. The move will happen in the New Year, with phone and email details remaining the same.

Break-ins at the Recreation Ground

It was sad to note that there have now been a number of break-ins at the recreation ground. Theft and damage has caused much pain to the volunteers who run the activities there. Please can users of the rec. be observant and report matters to the police if you see something.

Thank you and Welcome

Thank you to Denise Morris, Richard Deamer and Tristan Rose, who have recently resigned from the Parish Council. We have appreciated your input and effort. Also to Julia Peachey who resigned after 3 years as Treasurer.

Welcome to Jessica Bowen who replaces Julia as Treasurer, and Joanna Parry, who was co-opted to the council.

Thank you also to: Malcolm Sell and Derrick Giffin, for helping the council repair and maintain the playground in Gaces Acre; Duncan Priest for making a new rubbish bin and installing this at the Croat; Neil Hargreaves for painting the railings on Belmont Hill, and; All residents who helped the council by completing questionnaires and engaging with us during the consultation period of the Uttlesford Development Framework.

And thank you again to Mike, Elaine, Mark, Neil, Sharon, Alan and Ken for making the Carnival and Fête happen, and Ben, and Anthony (amongst others) from the Newport History Group for organising the Heritage Open Days Weekend. **NN**

FLOODING IN THE CROAT, APRIL 29 2012



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Time for a **clean sweep**




JESSICA HAYES



Autumn is creeping up on us and that's the beginning of the busiest times for chimney sweeps, so its good news for SW and the surrounding villages because this year I have become the Guild of Master Chimney Sweeps 5th woman sweep. My business will take in all the surrounding villages "I've had a fantastic reception already, local wood burner retailers, installers, log sellers and builders are all supportive and believe that some customers will be delighted to have the

choice of having a woman sweep in their homes. I am fully accredited and have been trained by one of the most respected Cambridge Sweeps, Lawson Wright. There have been some terrible chimney fires in our area last winter and I urge everyone to take the fire brigades advise and have their chimney swept professionally at least once a year or twice if they have a

wood burner. What I hope sets me apart is that I now know so much about getting the most from your fire, and more importantly from your fuel, and I can pass this on to my customers so they can save money and look after their appliances better. I also have a cracking presentation about wood, fuel, chimneys and woodburners if any organisation would like to book me to do a talk! **NN**




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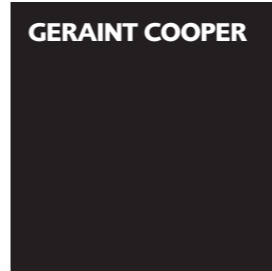
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Tenterfields at the **Paralympics**



On 6 September, Kay and I had tickets to see the Paralympic athletics at the Olympic stadium. We set off early from Newport station and made our way to the Olympic Park. We settled down in our seats and thoroughly enjoyed watching the events. The major highlight was watching David Weir race in the 800m and receive his gold medal from the 1500m. Singing your national anthem at the Olympics is quite a special moment!!

All too soon the athletics had finished and we wandered out of the stadium. We met Katrina Hart who was proudly posing for photos with her bronze medal and then went for some lunch. It was a glorious afternoon and so tempting to take a glass of wine and just sit in the park and enjoy the atmosphere. So we did. I said to Kay that there were all these people here and we did not know any of them or so we thought. "That's Peter and Janet from next door!" I exclaimed as they walked past our table. We called them over and we started to chat. Then we heard another familiar voice, "What are you doing here?" It was Chris and Alan from No 4. What a coincidence!! None of us knew the others were going to the Games that day. We also had travelled to the park on different routes.



Tenterfields is one of the smallest roads in Newport and only has 4 houses. So what were the odds of 75% of a street's inhabitants meeting at the Games? We enjoyed meeting our neighbours at the Games - it showed the strong bonds that can be created from living in Newport. **NN**



LASTING POWERS OF ATTORNEY

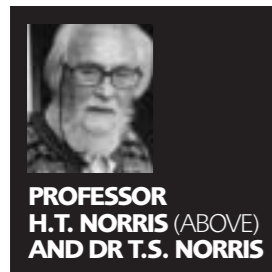
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Alexandra is married with teenage children. She was a partner in a London law firm for 14 years before leaving the City to spend more time with her family.

Newport Angels



RIGHT: NEWPORT ANGEL



from a period when a tower was first built at the West end of Newport Church.

Each angel at Newport Church has a length of approximately 1 metre. Moreover, these angels are mutually different, wherein certain of the angels bear shields in their hands, whereas

others have their hands clenched close to their chests. All of the angels are depicted dressed in flowing robes extending down to their feet. Their wings are substantially of similar height to their bodies. Behind heads of the angels are included decorative triangulated boards. Furthermore, some angels appear to be elderly women and men, whereas others appear more youthful. The detail in the carving is very fine, especially the depiction of hand details, and the flowing robes include depictions of various complex folds of fabric. Angels are found in other locations in Newport. For example, carvings of an angel playing a harp and an angel playing a portative organ are to be seen on a front exterior of Monks Barn, situated along Newport High Street; between the two angels is a depiction of Mary Queen of Heaven.

Angels are mentioned one hundred and eight times in the Old Testament and one hundred and sixty five times in the New Testament. Many churches are dedicated to angels, for example 'St Michael and the Archangels', Booton, Norfolk. Various decorative angels are also to be seen on interior panels of the lantern in Ely Cathedral. There are nine types of angel, and the angels are placed upon a hierarchical scale and grouped into spheres or choirs.

The first sphere includes Seraphim, Cherubim and Thrones. There are four Seraphim which are closest to God, and their primary mission is to protect the throne of God (Isaiah 6:2). They have six wings, namely two which cover their faces, two which cover their bodies and two which cover their feet. In contradistinction, the Cherubim (Genesis 3:24 and Ezekial 10:1-22) are fierce angels and have great power of an apocalyptic nature.



MONKS BARN, NEWPORT: ANGEL PLAYING A PORTATIVE ORGAN

The expression 'angels' is well known in contemporary connotations such as 'business angels' which support newly established enterprises in Newport, and 'Hells Angels' who may occasionally ride their motorcycles through Newport. However, Newport Church also includes in its roof interior a representation of a throng (i.e. a plurality) of angels by way of two rows of four angels interspersed between five transverse beams of the nave of Newport Church. The angels are believed to date from around the 15th Century or the 16th Century, namely

The second sphere includes Dominions (Colossians 1:16), Virtues (1 Peter 3:22) and Powers (Colossians 1:16). Finally, the third sphere includes Principalities (Colossians 1:16), Archangels (1 Thessalonians 4:16) and Angels (mentioned throughout the Bible from Genesis to Revelation). The Archangels are guardians of people and all things physical, and have a task of being God's messenger to people at critical times of need.

Angels have a task of nurturing, counselling and healing humanity. Moreover, angels cannot become human because they are purely spiritual beings with intelligence and free will. There are of course 'fallen angels' which have occasionally become a theme for various Hollywood films.

The angels at Newport Church have only a single set of wings and are hence at a low level in the aforementioned hierarchy. One can speculate whether or not the faces of these angels resembled members of the congregation at Newport Church in the 15th or the 16th Century?

Within the religion of Zoroaster, which left a considerable influence on Judaism and Christianity, angels were created spirits with a fully personal existence. Six of them were derived from the 'Gathas' where they are faculties of the one God – the God Mind – Righteousness of the Kingdom, Right-mindedness, Wholesomeness and Immortality [1, Zaehner].

Angel lofts are to be found especially in Norfolk, for example on the pilgrim route to Walsingham which was one of the major pilgrim centres in England in mediaeval times. For example, a colourful angel roof is to be found at Furneaux Pelham, Hertfordshire, which includes angels with outstretched wings; the original wings have recently been replaced with Honduran mahogany copies because woodworm had rendered the original wings peppered with holes, namely of *holely* state.

Angels are also to be seen at St. Wendreda's Church, March, Cambridgeshire where four hundred and thirty eight angels with spread-out wings decorate an interior of the church, arranged in three tiers; St. Wendreda is a dedication deriving from the early Anglo-Celtic church which preceded the establishment of the Church of England. Angels are also to be found at Earl



ANGEL AT FURNEAUX PELHAM

Stonham Church, Suffolk. However, the angels at Newport Church modestly gaze down upon the congregation at Newport, keeping watch and bringing blessings and protection. This is captured in a first verse of a well-known hymn sung from time-to-time at Newport Church. **NN**

Angel voices ever singing,
round your throne of light,
angels' music ever ringing,
rests not day or night,
thousands only live to bless you
and confess you Lord of might.

(F. Pott, 1832 – 1909)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Concise Encyclopedia of Living Faith, edited by R.C. Zaehner, pub. Hutchinson 1959, pp. 220. Zaehner (pp. 53) also adds Biblical references Mark 8:38 and Luke 12:8: "The Son of Man also shall be ashamed of him, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels".

FOOTNOTE

On p72 of A Village in Time. The History of Newport, Essex (ISBN 10: 0951460110 / ISBN 13: 9780951460115) by Bernard Nurse, Joy Pugh and Imogen Mollett [Angela Archer, Ed.] there is mention of heads of angels in the church being chopped off by an attacker who considered them idolatrous. Tim says "I am unaware of the attacker, although the implication is that the heads of the angels in the church are of a different time to their bodies? For the eight angels presently in the church loft, the style of carving of the heads is so similar to their bodies that I envisage that these eight angels were spared such onslaught."

CLAVERING

In Clavering Church, only a few kilometres from Newport Church, there is to be found a 15th Century nave roof which includes seven carvings of feathered seraphim. The carvings of the feathered seraphim are cruder in detail than the carvings of angels in Newport Church, suggesting that the seraphim carvings at Clavering Church date from an earlier era, for example 13th Century or 14th Century and were incorporated when the nave roof was implemented in the 15th Century. On a South side of Clavering Church, there are corbels, namely smaller statues, some of which are holding archaic musical instruments, for example a portative organ held at waist height.



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Sandy and Ossie who run the forecourt and all live in the village.

Cynthia has lived in the village for 29 years and is married to Richard and

has two daughters, Melissa and Leanne. In addition to her hard work at the garage she also finds time to help Leanne run 1st Newport Brownies on a Friday evening.

Ossie has lived in the village for 36 years, married to Angela and has two daughters and one son who has been in the army for 12 years. When not working the early shift at the garage he enjoys spending time with his grandchildren, fishing and gardening.

Sandy is the newest addition to the team, married to Ray, she has lived in the village for 27 years. When not working she enjoys walking her dog, and spending time with her 4 grandchildren. She is known for bringing in delicious cakes to work so we all have to work that bit harder to keep slim!

As the petrol station has grown and gone from strength to strength, we are delighted to be able to offer so much more than just petrol. Customers are now able to benefit from: The National Lottery, hot/cold drinks, sandwiches, sweets, ice creams, motoring accessories, coal, logs, and Salt tablets.

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WORK

Helen retires



On July 20th Helen O'Brien stepped down from the headship of Rickling and Farnham Primary schools. Older readers will remember Helen, at that time Helen Robertson, for her great contribution to Newport life in the 1980s.

Helen and her former husband Mike Robertson, arrived in Newport to live in The Old Post Office in 1980. She had been born in 1952 in Suffolk and upon leaving school did a three year Certificate of Education course at what is now the Oxford Brookes university. She married Mike and after a stint in Yorkshire came to Newport and almost immediately threw herself into village life, being variously a Parent Governor at the Primary School, running the play group for three years, teaching at the Sunday School and being a member of the PCC, plus a member of the Village Hall Committee. However, it was for her ten year contribution to *Newport News* that I best remember her, a cheerful, contributive and fun member of the team, producing a stream of articles and ideas.

Sadly she and Mike parted in 1990 and the following year she and her three daughters, Rachel, born in 1976, Anna in 1978 and Amy in 1982 moved to Saffron Walden. At the same time she began teaching at Rickling in 1992, after breaking herself back in with a stint at Newport.

In 1996 she was appointed as Head Teacher of Rickling and later, in 2007, also took on the headship of Farnham, dividing her time between the two. In Rickling the numbers virtually doubled to 100 by the time she left and standards rose equally. When I went to her leaving party I was enormously impressed by the sadness of the parents at her departure and their



gratitude for all that she had achieved. A truly inspiring head was the general opinion.

I later interviewed her and she told me that her second husband, Brendan O'Brien, had been an enormous help to her and had given her the confidence to apply for the headship in 1996. Brendan is a solicitor in Hertford and they live near Radwinter, where they have a half acre garden which Helen has great plans for in her retirement, together with learning to paint and buying a new puppy. Both she and Brendan will continue their close involvement with Radwinter Church where they are both on the PCC.

And the children you ask? Well Rachel is married and lives in Brighton with her husband and two year old son. They both teach English as a foreign language. Anna is unmarried and lives and works in London for a charity, whilst Amy is also single and is a very successful management accountant.

Happy retirement Helen. **NN**

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Save Newport Village



History

SNV was formed early in 2012 in response to a developer proposing to build hundreds of houses and commercial and retail outlets at Newport Free Grammar School (NFGS), and even to demolish the school and rebuild it elsewhere. A Facebook group was created to help co-ordinate information, opinions and actions

About the same time Uttlesford District Council (UDC) began their consultation into building several thousand homes in the district and in particular on sites all around Newport. SNV set up a committee under the chairmanship of Jo Parry and encouraged everyone in Newport to participate in the consultation.

Newport has about 950 houses. The village was filled out in the 1970s to the limits of the valley, and of its roads and infrastructure. We believe that development on the scale proposed by those working with NFGS and other landowners would devastate Newport. The proposals are in total contradiction of the wishes of residents expressed in the Village Plan published by the Parish Council (PC) at the end of 2010 and reinforced by the result of the survey of every Newport household carried out by the PC earlier this year.

Consultation

The outcome of the first UDC consultation in Newport was in line with the Village Plan – residents largely said No to greenfield development and Yes to brownfield development on the quarry site. But in our opinion UDC did not have a grip over the running of its consultations; at the display at Church House someone was seen visiting the consultation more than once and putting green ‘build here’ dots onto his site on the map, and Mr Bampton of Pelham Structures was handing out business cards. When it was pointed



ABOVE: THE BANK OF COW PARSLEY WOULD BE REMOVED TO WIDEN SCHOOL LANE.
BELOW: FOR THE PANORAMA 'NEWPORT FROM THE SOUTH, LIKE OTHER SETTLEMENTS IN THE DISTRICT, HIDDEN IN THE VALLEY. SITE 1 WOULD COVER THE FIELD IN THE MIDDLE. DESCRIBED BY THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT AS VISUALLY INTRUSIVE'.

out to the officials that no-one should be doing business there, they refused to take action.

UDC then selected preferred sites for development, for a second consultation, which took place in July. Amazingly their choice was two very large greenfield sites strongly rejected by the village in the first consultation. They proposed a minimum of 370 houses, with no maximum specified. This would be a minimum 40% increase in the size of Newport, and the largest site (for over 300 houses), we consider utterly unsuitable. It is at Whiteditch Lane/Burywater Lane and is too far from the station and the primary school for people to walk there, and would also funnel traffic through the middle of NFGS. Site 2, below the primary school, although more central, still has serious infrastructure issues.

SNV tried to ascertain from UDC why Newport was proposed for such a disproportionately large increase, and why on such unsuitable sites. Their responses were unconvincing, so the SNV committee took a more direct

approach and members attended the UDC Scrutiny Committee, whose function is to review complex material before submission to the Cabinet. We were allowed to speak, but the chair refused to allow the committee to answer our questions; we were ignored, and we watched the proposed plans pushed through to the next stage

We persevered but after several requests UDC produced no understandable planning rationale for its treatment of Newport. Their ‘planning’ involved asking developers and landowners to put forward sites which they could activate. They then picked enough of these around the district to meet the totals they were seeking. For large planning applications a Sustainability Assessment is required. SNV reviewed the Assessment for Site 1 and found many material errors, omissions and, in our opinion, invalid conclusions. Here are two examples: the Assessment says there is no primary school in Newport, thus avoiding having to say the site is too far away from it; and the answer to the question

about increased traffic, pollution and congestion is left blank even though it could clearly add about 1,000 vehicle movements a day through the village. The Planning Dept has not responded to our criticism of their document and so we cannot ascertain if these faults were introduced to bias the results towards development, or were poor workmanship and lack of quality control. We did however obtain one admission – they agree the site would be visually intrusive.

Survey

For the July consultation SNV distributed fliers to all homes in Newport encouraging residents to visit the display in Church House, and to respond in writing. We also prepared handouts covering key issues and manned a stall at the Carnival (where one of the organisers stopped us walking around the Common asking people if they wanted to sign a petition opposing the proposed large scale development in Newport). As the PC was still holding a position of neutrality it was suggested that they survey village opinion, which to their credit they did. And Jo Parry took the vacant seat on the PC to ensure that SNV has “a voice at the table”.

The second consultation at Church House all seemed civilised. There was a display inside, and out in the courtyard the PC handed out survey sheets, and SNV handed out leaflets. Then UDC staff tried to remove the SNV material and hide it. When that failed two senior UDC officials forced Jo Parry out of the courtyard. We complained to the UDC Chief Executive about this stifling of local views, and other maladministration at the display, but were dismissed by him in a letter as ‘opinionated’ and a ‘single issue group’.

Successes

The PC survey confirmed that the village is overwhelmingly against the proposed major developments. So in their consultation response Newport PC strongly rejected the proposals, as did other town and parish councils. A large number of critical responses were made by Newport residents, and thousands by others across the district. A representative of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE), invited to Newport by SNV, made a posting against Site 1 and suggested UDC look instead at the quarry site.

To keep matters in the public mind SNV regularly sent letters on a series of topics to the local media (who have been brilliant). These included water (none to spare), sewage (too much already) and safety (why should Newport take major developments in order to fund safety improvements at NFGS?). Letters were copied to our district councillors, Andrew Taylor (Head of the Planning Dept) and Cllr Susan Barker (portfolio holder for the Plan). We also complained

COMMITTEE MEMBERS JO PARRY AND SUSAN CAMERON HANDING OUT LEAFLETS AT THE CHURCH HOUSE CONSULTATION.



about the favouritism of UDC to developers and landowners. For example Pelham Structures submitted documents dated after the consultation close date that should have been rejected, but instead were fast tracked onto the website ahead of hundreds of other submissions.

Despite the barrage of arguments against the UDC proposals as unpopular, undeliverable and unsustainable, and despite serious accusations in the papers that a few councillors held un-recorded meetings at which they completely changed the plan, UDC leadership appear determined that it will go ahead. They have however delayed the next phase. A ‘final’ plan will now be presented for consultation in January 2013.

Encouraged

We were most encouraged by the response of the village at the September meeting of the Parish Council at which Mr Bampton presented plans relating to Site 1. These included three roundabouts (two on School Lane and one at the



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THE ROW OF PROTECTED TREES OPPOSITE THE ENTRANCE TO NFGS WOULD BE CUT DOWN, AND A BRIDGE AND ROUNDABOUT INSTALLED

junction of Bury Water Land and Cambridge Road), road widenings and a bridge between the two sides of the Grammar School, all of which he admitted he couldn't finance. There was an excellent attendance and District Councillor Jeremy Rose led a very strong attack on the plan, clearly in line with the feeling of the meeting.

To keep up the pressure on UDC to produce an acceptable plan SNV has teamed up with other groups in the district.

These are the Saffron Walden group WeAreResidents, Listen to Dunmow Residents, and Thaxted Voice. Our cooperation includes joint press statements, the sharing of knowledge and attendance at UDC meetings. And we have a page on the WeAreResidents website: <http://newport.weareresidents.org>

Get Involved

"Thank you for doing this" is a sentiment we have often heard since starting our campaign. But if you want the village to be protected from unsuitable development, it needs everyone's help. For example we need letters written under names that aren't always the SNV committee (we can provide material for these if that helps) and occasionally we will need larger groups of people to attend UDC meetings to show councillors that voters oppose their plans. Or maybe you can deliver leaflets? Or even take one of the spare seats on the Parish Council?

Please contact savenewportvillage@gmail.com to offer support. If you haven't joined us at www.facebook.com/savenewportvillage then please consider doing so - that way you can keep up with all the latest information. Lastly, we have raised some funds among the Group and from supporters to cover current costs. However, if we have to present a case at the Planning Inspectorate we may need substantial funds to pay for professional support. If you can make a donation, however small, please contact us for our bank details or write a cheque payable to "Save Newport Village" and deliver it to Midsummer House, Belmont Hill.

We've made progress. But the threat is still present and there is much more work for ALL of us to do to keep Newport as a village rather than a town! NN

The Save Newport Village campaign committee:

Susan Cameron, Matthew Davidson, Neil Hargreaves, Mandy Ingham, Roy Ingham, Jo Parry and Tristan Rose

BLOCKED



What on earth was this mega large lorry doing in

Newport High Street at 9.30 on a summer's morning, holding up the traffic and blocking our driveway? I presumed the driver felt peckish and stopped to get sustenance from Dorringtons,

ignoring the fact that he was obscuring an access on the grounds that 'he'd only be a minute'. In fact he was there long enough for my husband to get his camera and take this photograph.



When Dorringtons opened in 1984 and we first encountered the problem of cars obstructing our driveway we rang the Highways Department in Bury Water and asked for help. They kindly arranged for H bar lines to be painted across the access and the difference it made was instant. A few thoughtless people still parked there occasionally but the situation was much improved.

Today those lines have virtually disappeared. Earlier this year the Highways men came to repaint the pedestrian crossing. Naively, I imagined they would run some paint over our line while they were at it. No such luck. I was told they didn't do H lines any longer and I should get in touch with Uttlesford Council if I wished to question it. Uttlesford Council confirmed that the decision was taken because of the need to save money for other things.

Three letters of polite request to reconsider our particular situation went to the big chief at Chelmsford, followed by a letter to our county councilor (all unacknowledged and unanswered) and lastly one to our district councilor Jeremy Rose - who was the only person who had the courtesy to reply. He put me on to the North Essex: Parking Partnership where, after a game of pass the parcel I finally ended up with someone who seemed to know what was happening. When I told him we would be willing to pay for it ourselves he said that would not be possible as the policy was the same for everyone throughout North Essex and allowed a fair and consistent approach to residents.

I know when I am beaten. All those who live in the High Street have the same problems from time to time but some driveways are more vulnerable than others. I should have stolen out at dead of night and done the deed myself rather than go to the authorities. Especially when those authorities do not consider one's letter worthy of a reply. **NN**

Newport Art Group

BY JANE NASH

The Newport Art Group continues to grow and there can be from fifteen to twenty-five people in the Village Hall on Wednesday mornings working on a wide variety of paintings and drawings.

We had a very enjoyable and successful exhibition in June where many of our pictures were on display and for sale. Next year we have chosen an earlier date for the Exhibition, which will take place on 27th and 28th April. Look out for our advertising signs after Easter!

We have also produced a 2013 calendar including work produced by many of our artists. While copies last you can buy one at Newport Post Office, or direct from me. Just phone Jane Nash 01799 540716 for details. **NN**



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Jubilee Parties

The Tenterfields' Jubilee Street Party

On 4th June we read the weather forecast with some alarm. Heavy rain was forecast for lunchtime, not a surprise this summer but not welcome on the day of a street party. Sixty people expected in Tenterfields and a monsoon forecast. It was time for plan 'B' but we did not have one! So what to do?

Alan from No 4 who had organised the party had a new gazebo which he had planned to use but it wasn't big enough for sixty. I rummaged in our garage for a gazebo and I started to build it, cursing that I had lost the instructions. A passer-by called Terry stopped to chat. "Can I help? We were coming later and I have a gazebo in my garage you can use". Plan B began to form in my mind. Could we build a row of gazebos and still have the party? Peter from No2 came out and retrieved a gazebo from his garage. We now had 4! Alan then remembered that his friends in Widdington would lend him another gazebo and a frantic dash ensued. We had 5 gazebos and we started to build and tie them together in a row. We had a shelter big enough for sixty people and a place to put out the food. The street party was on!

Jane from across the way and Chris from No 4 had organised bunting and table cloths in suitable patriotic colours and with tables and chairs from the village hall we were good to go. But would people come out in the awful weather?

People came from the surrounding roads bringing food and drink and an excellent buffet was prepared. Salads and pies and puddings fit for a queen. Everyone started to chat and soon we were all getting on famously. We all enjoyed the food and spent a great afternoon together. A fabulous street party! Thanks to all who came and brought food but especially to Alan and the group who organised it all. Here's to the next one!

By Geraint Cooper



High Street Jubilee Street Party

Not to be out done, residents in the High Street celebrated the Jubilee in Isabella Willan's beautiful garden at The White Cottage, High street. Some 40 people plus their children turned up bearing a veritable feast of goodies.

By John Gordon



ABOVE: ISABELLA WILLAN WITH A NEIGHBOUR, FLORENCE MILLER



RIGHT: ANNIKA AND NETE BOGAARD MACZKA AND PAUL

Cherry Garden Lane Jubilee Street Party

On Jubilee Tuesday Val & myself held a BBQ in our garden at 125 Cherry Garden Lane, to celebrate the Queens Diamond Jubilee.

We invited our local neighbours and friends for the BBQ, we had a fancy dress for the children and a quiz for the adults.

Jason did all the BBQ cooking and the Quiz master was Mike. We had 44 people attend and we had a large marquee in the garden for when the rain arrived.

All the children received a prize for the fancy dress, we also laid on food, and the neighbours also brought plenty of drink. We used the event to try and raise money for Newport Primary School, with the help of all our guests we managed to raise £192.00 which we presented to the school on the 6th of July (see photo).

By Dave Clark



Good moaning, Newport

GOOD MOANING NEWPORT is asking all readers who may have minor or major irritations concerning the village to write in & express their thoughts, opinions and suggestions on how they can be resolved. A lot of the time these can be sorted by just letting people know how we feel. Please no personal vendettas, or issues that should only be discussed with the local authorities or Police. No names or addresses will be published.

Email: goodmoaning@newportnews.org.uk

Many of us have read in the local papers about new developments planned in our area. It is proposed that minimum of 370 houses are to be built in Newport. Although there is a real need for affordable housing in the area the proposed houses will more than likely be current market value dwellings.

We are lead to believe that local councils are having their hands forced by Government but the reality is residents and local councils do not want such developments. Developers may paint a positive picture by promising to improve roads and pedestrian safety but it is the infrastructure that will be impacted on most. It is not enough for a developer to propose more retail outlets, such as a Tesco Express or industrial units for businesses to provide local work. This is

not going to resolve the issues that are impacted by such developments.

With the possibility of over 370 new homes come many more cars on our roads, we will have to provide primary and secondary school places and health care. All utilities will have to be put in place gas, electric and water. Can you imagine the damage and disruption to our village once the developers, builders, utility suppliers with all the trucks and materials that will be needed descend on it? And that will just be the beginning!

We know we have no choice but to accept development but most of us live in a village because we want to, if we had wanted to live in a town we would have moved into a town. We must all stand up and be heard, otherwise Newport as we know and love it will be ruined and local businesses destroyed. Newport will not be improved by large-scale development.

We already have problems with parking in the village; we already have problems with heavy traffic at peak times. We have many empty industrial units large and small in Newport and the surrounding villages, why would we want more? Do we want to morph into Stansted? Let your voices be heard!

Keep our village a village and all the security, green space and relative peace and quiet that go with it. NN

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The farming year



KAREN FISKE

CANARY GRASS BEING COMBINED



Once again the good old British weather has had a huge impact on the outcome of this year's harvest. So much can hang on the timing of rain and sun. During the spring of 2012 we had rain, that was good but then the sun never really came out enough.

HARVEST

The wheat stood tall and straight, the ears bunched together looking full of promise. Combines rolled and as the first tankful was emptied into the trailer we felt just a little smug, the conditions were perfect. When a hopeful arm was lowered into the trailer to take a sample the smugness turned into disbelief, the grains had been starved of sun and were small and shrivelled, they weighed half of what they should, not a complete disaster but very disappointing. Thankfully only some soil types had

been affected, and as most farms have several different ones, generally all was not lost. We are a few hundred tonne down on last year with the wheat, the Oil Seed Rape did better than ever before and we grew Canary Seed for the first time and that did really well. So we can only complain a little bit, put into perspective other parts of the country were far worse off, and some parts of the world ravished by drought and flood have lost far more. In the USA 80% of agricultural land has been badly affected by drought, this is fanning the flames of a tight global feed (animal) grain market. This coupled with other events, including the Eurozone crisis and the unusual weather patterns in Europe, are taking their toll on the grain markets, this can only mean one thing, higher prices in the shops.



ROWING UP HAYLAGE
LEFT: HAYLAGE MAKING IN DEBDEN



BALING AND WRAPPING HAYLAGE



UNLOADING WHEAT

DRILLING

Autumn brings us shorter days, and as the leaves turn our attention changes to preparing the crops for next year. The oil seed rape is drilled first in September, then by the end of the month we start the wheat. This year we have good conditions for drilling, with a bit of moisture and some lovely sunny days.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

We are now in the sixth year of our contract with Natural England and DEFRA, and we have watched the farm change, becoming a joint venture between commercial farming and a genuine care for the environment and wildlife. We started with mainly just grass margins surrounding the arable fields, creating a buffer between the crop and its strict regime and the hedgerows with its fragile ecosystem. We have changed and expanded some



LEFT: DRILLING WHEAT
BELOW: SEAGULLS FEASTING ON NEWPORT WORMS
BOTTOM: RAKING STUBBLE



of these grass margins to pollen and nectar mix or wild bird mixes, designed to give all the birds food throughout the winter. These mixes are full of a variety of plants which can withstand most of the winter weather, including kale, buckwheat, sunflower seed, triticale and millet. Many more 'field corners' have been put down to grass and then left untouched, within



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RIGHT: SPECIAL COVER FOR WILD BIRDS
BELOW: THE SUN SETTING ON ANOTHER SUMMERS DAY

crops we have been leaving 'skylark plots' where the drill had been lifted for a few meters to leave a bare patch for these shy birds to make a home, just as they like it. Some of these areas we have had to fence just to keep walkers dogs out, a dog running regularly through these sanctuaries can do more damage than you realise, so a plea to keep your dogs on leads, thank you!

UNWELCOME VISITORS

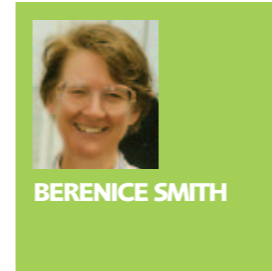
We felt very patriotic this year, the Union Jack Flag has been flown proudly on many gateways, in cars, on clothes and even food, (don't forget to buy British!) and been waved on many occasions during this fantastic Jubilee and Olympic year. Our own flag looked stunning flying on a pole at the entrance to our farm, it would still be there had someone not snapped the pole and stolen it.

Rural areas are always targets for

theft, metal is popular due to the high scrap prices. Diesel is almost as expensive as liquid gold so needs to be kept locked away, lawnmowers and quad bikes are easy to move on as are tools and saddles. Sadly we are all possible victims, so be vigilant and report suspicious activity to the new police non-emergency number 101. **NN**



Fundraising for St Mary's Church



Several events have been held to raise funds for The Church (running the Church) and for The Friends of St Mary's (restoring the fabric of the building). There is still a large amount of work to be done to keep the church in a safe condition and prevent further deterioration. Over the last 10 years we have conserved the tower and re-roofed the nave. We must now deal with the last large part of the upper works – the chancel roof. No work has been done on the chancel structure since 1911 and the lead roof is over 200 years old. Including this, we will have spent £556,000 on major projects in this period

We have had some grant successes recently with awards from Garfield Weston (£3,500), Viridor (£10,000) and Friends of Essex Churches (£10,000). More applications are in hand but we remain significantly short of the total of £196,000 needed to do the chancel roof, staircase and other works planned for early 2013. As at the end of September we are £30,000 short of the target.

In June we held a ladies tea afternoon which raised just over £200 for the Friends of St Mary's. Ladies dressed up in their glad rags and enjoyed tea comprising sandwiches, scones with jam and cream followed by a variety of cakes.

A flower festival combined with paintings and photographs was held in August. About 180 people came to look around the Church which was beautifully decorated with flowers thanks to Valerie Bright and members of the flower club. The flowers were partly sponsored by local businesses and we are grateful to R and R Sagers, Newport Stores, Premier Garage, Hilbery Turf and H.Manley (builders). Church members and the local art group provided the photos and paintings. This event raised £700 over three days.

In November a talent show is being held and will have taken place by the time *Newport News* is published; watch this space for a report in the next issue.

In 2013 we are planning Newport Open Gardens for the weekend July 20th and 21st to raise funds for The Friends of St Mary's. If anyone thinks they would like to open their garden please contact me on 541498 and I will explain what is involved. There are some stunning gardens large and small in Newport and we would love to see them. A BBQ will be running at the Church so good weather is guaranteed!

Regular events are being planned to which everyone is welcome. These include a men's breakfast club, ladies afternoon teas and Saturday afternoon beetle drives. The beetle drives will be held every other month in Church House, and refreshments will be provided. Please join us for a relaxed and sociable afternoon. Notices of dates will be put on the

village notice board, in Church House window and at the Post Office. For further details of any of these events please contact Cheryl Monk (fundraising co-ordinator) either by email cheryljm@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 01799 541463. **NN**

ABOVE LEFT: LADIES TEA AFTERNOON
ABOVE: FLOWER FESTIVAL

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Burywater Nursery and the Barba family



JOHN GORDON

With the possibility of substantial development in the Burywater and Whiteditch Lane area I went to see Tony and Vina Barba at their home in Burywater Lane, the entrance to their nursery being in Whiteditch Lane. I wanted to record the old greenhouses and other buildings before they are demolished. I knocked on the door and



ABOVE: TONY, VINA AND FRANCESCA BARBA. NUMBER 1 AND 2 HILLSIDE - THE BARBA'S HOMES.



THE EXTERIOR & INTERIOR OF ONE OF THE GREENHOUSES

was invited in by Vina who introduced me to her husband Tony and her daughter Francesca who lives next door with her husband Francesco Mannino and their three children who go to school in the village.

I first of all asked them a little about themselves and Vina told me that she had been born in Sicily in 1951 but had come to this country when she was aged five. Tony, born in 1945 came here as a young man in 1963 and had met and married Vina and they produced four children, Elio, born in 1969, Jimmy in 1971, Francesca in 1974 and lastly young Jo in 1985.

Tony and Vina arrived here in 1982, buying the five-acre nursery from Mr. W.H. Bigg, who I think had started the nursery in 1953. Tony's skill was in growing cucumbers and over the years they built up an excellent business. Recently however Tony's health has been poor and what with the rapid rise in heavy oil the profitability declined and around 2010 they decided to cease operations. I asked Tony if he would show me the metal framed greenhouses, which he had lovingly erected in place of



the old wooden framed ones. We walked out into the nursery and first of all viewed the old computer room which controlled the supply of water, oil and air. Then on to the massive boiler house and vast water tank, the storage houses and all the ancillary equipment, all now sadly abandoned. What a massive amount of work must have gone into the business over the years with the whole family involved.

As I said goodbye to Tony and Vina I expressed my sympathy - Vina responded saying that they had no regrets. They had enjoyed all the hard work and had made many good friends. They loved Newport and looked forward to continuing to live in the new development, should it come. **NN**



TOP: THE BOILER HOUSE
BELOW: THE 6,000 GALLON WATER TANK

St Mary's UPDATE



REVD NEIL MCLEOD

The first six months of my licensed ministry here in Newport, and neighbouring Widdington, has flown by. That is one sure sign that I am a) enjoying it and b) I am certainly where God wants me to be. As I look back there are so many highlights but I would like to pick one out. Despite the weather, I really enjoyed how the village came together on the weekend of the Olympic Flame. I thought that the fête went very well - when the heavens opened the church tea & coffee stall in the village hall was inundated.

On the Sunday morning our planned open air service moved into the village hall due to the rain. We were joined by a gospel choir from Bishop's Stortford and children from Rickling school. They all sung beautifully. In between I did my famous Rolf Harris impression painting up the Olympic Rings. The five Olympic Rings were used to represent Father, Son & Holy Spirit, and our relationship with them. I was also very lucky to interview a local Olympian athlete who had taken part in the Barcelona Olympics. In the future I'd like to hold more services outside the church building which will be experimental - keep an eye out for what we are doing.

Messy Church is now a regular feature of the church which we will be running on the 4th Sunday of every month. It is a real family church with no heavy prayers or hymns. Instead there are crafts, fun songs and a short talk. It is something that all of the family can enjoy together. Come along and try it!

I am also starting to think about my first Christmas here in Newport & Widdington. I think it is great when we can remind ourselves of what Christmas is all about - not the tinsel, not the tree, not the mince pies and



not the presents; although all of these things are good. Christmas is about the Son of God, Jesus, being given to us as a baby - born to Mary in a stable in Bethlehem. It is a story of hope, and in these days of austerity we all need something to hope for. The church will be publishing the full list of services that we are holding - there is something for everyone whether you are 8 weeks old, 8 years old, 80 years old or somewhere in between. Please make space for Jesus this Christmas. I look forward to welcoming you into church and seeing you over the festive season. **NN**

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Steve swims for BLESMA



STEVE WHITE

Steve White will be thanked for his charity fundraising efforts by the Duke of Westminster, who has invited him and other dedicated fundraisers to a special reception in the Capital.

Steve has successfully completed two open water swim challenges in the US over the past two months – the latest being a 10km swim in the Hudson River in Manhattan (Saturday 22 September), to raise awareness and funds for the national charity British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association, BLESMA – The Limbless Veterans, of

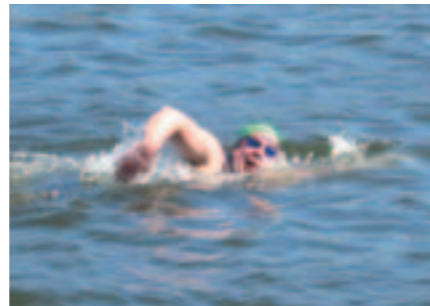
which Steve is an active member.

Steve is the only above the knee amputee from the UK to have taken on the challenges, which also included a 1.5 mile swim from the jetty of the infamous Alcatraz prison in San Francisco to the mainland, back in August.

He met the Duke, who is national President of BLESMA, in September at an evening 'thank you' reception for fundraisers and Paralympians in recognition of their work for the Duke's charity.

Steve's latest effort saw him take on the Little Red Lighthouse Swim in New York – a 6 mile swim up the Hudson River, which took him alongside some of the city's famous landmarks, which he completed in 2 hours and 59 minutes.

Steve, who has been open water training for the past nine months, including taking part in two competitions in London and Ipswich, decided to take up swimming again, four years after losing his leg due to infection



following surgery.

From Newport, Steve, age 47, is CEO of the housing provider, the Hyde Group, where he has been in the post since January 2011.

He said: "I wanted to do a challenge that was a bit different but for a charity that is very personal to me. To be recognised and thanked by the Duke of Westminster is incredible but I am just really happy to have completed both swims and to have raised as much as I have for BLESMA."

Steve has raised more than £1,500 to date. **NN**

Newport **weddings** and civil partnerships



Louise Connell, formerly of Newport, married Phillip Knight on 8th September 2012 at St Mary's Church Newport.



Steve Leys of Newport and Clare Bayford of Saffron Walden were married on the 24th August at St Marys Church Saffron Walden followed by a reception at Parklands, The happy couple then went on honeymoon to Mexico.



Joel Priest formerly of Newport and Carrie Williamson formerly of Ryde, were married at Landguard Manor, Ventnor, Isle of Wight on May 14th 2011. The couple spent their honeymoon in Hawaii.



James Smith of Newport, married Emily O'Shea from Poole, at the Haven Hotel in Sandbanks, Dorset on the 14th July 2012. Many friends and family from Newport made the trip to Sandbanks. The happy couple honeymooned in Sorrento.

WEDDINGS! If you live in Newport and would like your photograph to appear in 'Newport News', please get in touch with John Gordon (542090).

On Saturday, June 2nd Laurie Poole of The Toll House married Carole Tyler and they kindly asked me to join them at the reception in their lovely garden, a party which I much enjoyed.

Laurie was born in Dagenham in 1942, one of three children. He left school at 15 in 1957 and worked in a garage and then in the excavation business until he found his main career when at the age of 29 he joined the London Fire Brigade at East Ham and stayed for 17 years.

Finally he worked at Stansted airport until he retired. He and Carole now have a thriving Bed and Breakfast business at their home at the Toll House, a house to which Laurie had originally come to in 1976.

We then moved on to Laurie's family situation and he told me that he had first of all married Janet Stanton in 1963 and they had three children, Mandy, David and Wendy. Sadly he and Janet divorced in 1995 and he then married Doreen Eckersley in 1998. She had been born in 1944 but tragically died in 2009 of cancer and Motor Neurone Disease.

Carole Tyler, a friend of Doreen's had then entered Laurie's life. Carole had been born in 1955 at Caerphilly. She married Tony Pigram but they divorced in 2005 having had two daughters, Jo, born in 1984, who very sadly died in 2007 aged only 22 and Jennifer, born in 1989 and who lives in Saffron Walden. Carole and Laurie enjoy running the B & B together. I asked them where their clientele came from and they responded from a variety of sources, the Internet, the Tourist Office and local contacts. They love the Toll House, an early 18th century building with a great deal of history. Laurie has greatly extended and improved the garden over the years. I left them with my best wishes for a long and happy marriage.

By John Gordon



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JANUARY – JUNE 2012



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At the risk of sounding like a stuck record, **YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!** Yes, we still urgently need a couple of new recruits who can give us cover during the working week, do you have time on your hands during the day, want to do

something worthwhile and often exciting, then go on, come down and see us and see what its all about. At present there are only four of us (which is the minimum crew) that can give cover during the working day. This puts a huge strain on us as we always strive to keep the appliance on the run, as soon as one of us has to leave the village the appliance has to come off the run, during the last couple of months we have sometimes been off the run for two or three days in a row. So go on, come down and see us, **YOU** could make all the difference.

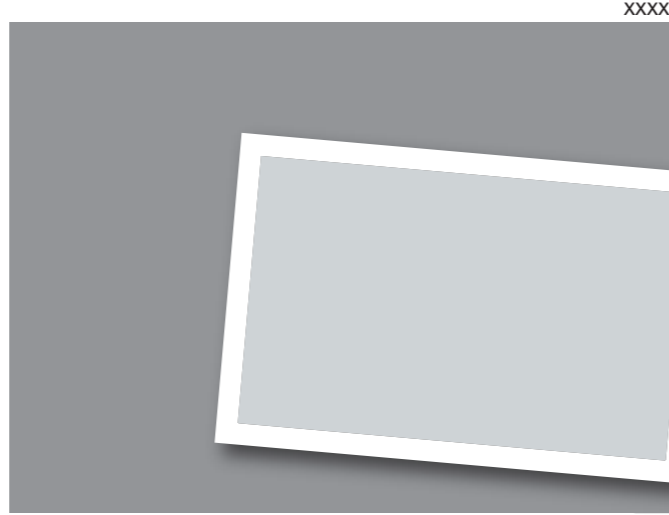
JANUARY

January started in spectacular fashion when an arsonist struck at industrial premises in Gt Chesterford, 2 crews from Saffron Walden were initially sent but due to the number of calls received we were also dispatched.

As we approached we could see the orange glow in the sky and knew we had a working job to deal with. Saffron Walden's crews had already got a couple of jets on the go and we were tasked with securing a water supply and then taking over on the jets wearing breathing apparatus.

Three Lorries that had been parked up in the yard for the Christmas break were well alight and the outside of the building was now also starting to catch alight. Our priority was to prevent the fire spreading into the building and to bring the main fire under control; this was achieved successfully due to the hard work of all the crews involved.

Two people had to be extricated from a van that crashed on the M11 in the early hours at the Newport gates. The van had ended up on its side with the two people trapped inside; we managed to empty the contents of the van and then got to the casualties through the back.



Ourselves and Stansted were sent to a 'House Fire Persons Reported' in Elsenham on a Saturday evening, when we arrived smoke was billowing out of every window and a crowd had gathered outside, they were doing what they could with a garden hose. We were informed that everyone was out of the house but we still have to treat it as 'persons reported' until we are completely satisfied. Crews knocked the fire out on the ground floor enough for a team in breathing apparatus from Stansted to climb the stairs and search the first floor, they located an unconscious male in one of the bedrooms and passed him over to the officer in charge of stansteds appliance and our own Mark Murphy, they both performed CPR on him until the arrival of an ambulance but unfortunately he was pronounced dead at the scene.

ECFRS is continually trying to drive out fire deaths and to have a zero rate, unfortunately they are still occurring.

FEBRUARY

February saw the arrival of some snow and this caused chaos on the M11 one night when a number of vehicles collided. The snow had come down so fast that it had settled before any salt had time to work. There were a number of vehicles involved but thankfully no serious injuries.

A couple of days later we attended a more serious RTC, this time on Sparrows End Hill. A car had collided head on with a van and then gone into the flint wall, ourselves and an appliance from Saffron Walden were sent. A lady was trapped in the drivers seat and had suffered serious internal injuries and was very distressed, this is where the extra training some of the crew have had for the Co Responder work came into its own. They were able to calm and stabilize the lady and make an accurate diagnosis of her injuries, before passing this all onto the Paramedics and Doctor who arrived in the air ambulance.

The extrication was quite involved as she was well and truly trapped, the Doctor expressed to us that her injuries were time critical and both crews worked extremely well to perform the extrication as quick and safe as possible. Once she was out of the car our crews were asked by the ambulance service to assist them further as they attempted to stabilize her as it was too risky to move her until a further full assessment had been completed. Later on we found out that the lady was pregnant

at the time and both she and her baby are now well.

A couple of days later we were back working alongside Saffron Walden's crews at a house fire in town. Whilst thawing out some pipe work in his garage, the owner managed to ignite some materials in his garage, resulting in the fire destroying the garage and flames burning up through the roof and into the living area of the house, whoops, and just as we were leaving some three hours later, guess what, the water started to run.

Just after midnight we were called to a car on fire in Chalk Farm Lane, this was where the cars park for the Rail Station, one car was well alight and the car next to it had just started to become involved, we called for the Police to attend as there were signs of a break in on the vehicles.

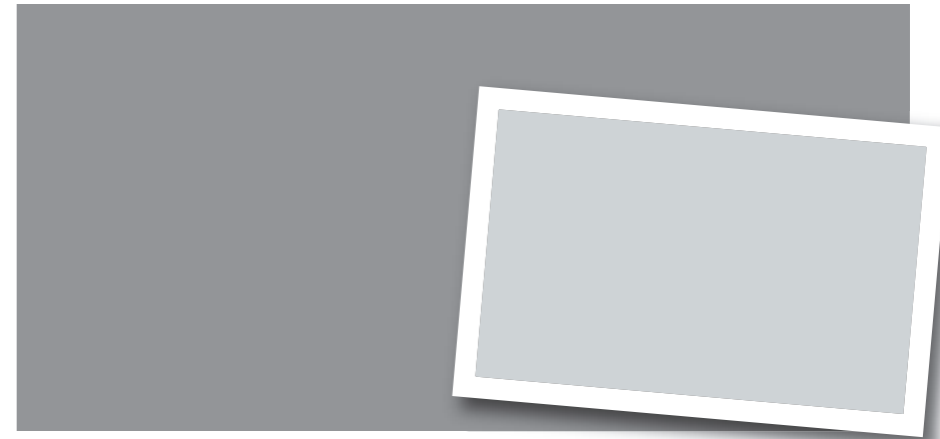
Due to the cold snap we also attended a number of chimney fires this month, but the biggest fire was yet to come.

It was being reported on the national news that there was a serious fire developing on the 8th floor of Tilbury Power Station, 20 appliances had been at the scene since 10am and the fire was still not under control, when our alerters went off at 1pm the tip sheet stated we were to attend as part of a 20 pump relief. With an hours drive time in front of us we called in at Dorringtons and stocked up with some food as we knew it would be some time before we got back. We eventually found our way down to the docks and parked up at the appliance holding area, I went and reported to the Incident Command Unit 'ICU' and then went back to the appliance to wait for instructions. The priority at these relief change overs is to make it as smooth as possible and to keep the continuity of fire fighting going, rather than all appliances changing over at the same time it is staged so that firefighting can continue effectively. We were eventually tasked to go to the front of the building and the crew helped move large numbers of foam barrels up to the scene of the fire where it was being fought from, we managed to get back to the station about 9pm.

MARCH

A Postman knocking on his door alerted a Clavering resident to the fact that his car was merrily burning away on his

XXXX



driveway early one morning, luckily the postman had spotted it when he did and had it been much later then it would of involved the house also due to the close proximity that it was parked.

A joy rider decided it would be good fun to steal a car and race it around the grounds of Quendon Hall Estate before crashing it and setting it on fire, I'm sure the owner didn't find it quite so funny.

We attended a serious RTC on the motorway early in the morning when a lorry had collided with the back of another and then traveled down the embankment into some trees just past

the recreation ground. When we arrived we found the two occupants of the lorry trapped in the cab. The problem facing us was the fact it was on unsteady ground at an angle, and also the height of the cab and working with our cutting equipment at head height is extremely strenuous due to its weight, as many of you may have experienced if you have held the cutting equipment when attending our annual open day or when we have attended local fetes.

Once we had made preliminary cuts to the cab and released some pressure off the casualties the paramedics requested

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some specialist equipment to protect the driver's spine which was causing some concern. As the situation was not now time critical it was decided to wait for the equipment to arrive before continuing the extrication. Once everything was in place we managed to push the cab away enough to extricate them.

It isn't unusual to attend chimney fires in late March, but we were a bit surprised to receive a call due to the fact that the

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temperature on the day was in the high 70's and the occupants were also having a barbeque in the garden, our interaction with the occupants in Clavering was quite amusing.

APRIL

Now that our region had been declared a drought area we were attending quite a large number of grass and hedge fires, nothing very big but just quite a few of them, little did we know that in a few weeks time it was going to rain and never stop.

We got called to a house fire in a remote area of Berden, Little London about 10.30 in the evening, control passed us on information that they were an elderly couple and the fact that the husband wasn't very mobile and the wife said she can't get him out of the house. This is the time when seconds do really count and the sooner we can be on the scene the better, when we arrived at the top of their drive we could see the flames coming out of the kitchen area like a blow torch, then to the side, just emerging from the smoke were the elderly couple, he clinging to his Zimmer frame and she to his arm, a true partnership.

When I asked the gentleman if he was ok he told me in no uncertain terms that 'of course he was, he managed to get through the war ok and a bit of bloody smoke wasn't going to stop him', we did get an ambulance to check him over just in case.

When the temperature dropped on a Saturday afternoon a farmer in Clavering thought he would do a good thing by putting the heaters on for his young lambs in their barn, unfortunately one of the ewes decided to jump into her neighbours pen, and in doing so knocked over the heater that then ignited the straw. Within seconds the whole barn was alight and the screams from the ewes and lambs is not something you want to hear. It was quickly established that the barn wasn't savable so our attention was diverted to protecting the surrounding barns and properties. We returned later that evening just to check over any hotspots.

An alarm sounding at the wedding venue at Parklands saw us racing there at 3 in the morning, only to find that the now torrential rain that we were experiencing was leaking through the roof and into one of the detectors.

MAY

Road rage was thought to be the cause of an RTC that we attended on the M11 near the Newport Gates late one afternoon. When we arrived we found a van overturned on the embankment with two people suffering quite severe cuts and abrasions, they had managed to climb out through the top of the van before we arrived. From speaking to them and others at the scene it transpired that a pick up truck and the van had been swapping lanes and goading each other for a few miles before the collision, the pick up truck didn't stop, once we had treated the casualties and handed them over to the paramedics we left the police to find out the rest.

The next afternoon we got called to a car transporter on fire, fortunately the driver had time to unload the cars he was carrying, thus preventing a much more serious incident, the only problem now was that he had six cars on the hard shoulder to move, and only one of him.

Ourselves and crews from Saffron Walden were called to assist Cambridgeshire at a house fire persons reported at



XXXX

Ickleton around lunchtime. When the first appliances arrived from Cambridgeshire they were faced with a severe developing fire in a large bungalow. Their quick intervention managed to save the life of an elderly lady who was located by a crew searching in the kitchen area, she was brought outside and treated by Paramedics, thankfully in time she made a full recovery.

A large fire at a local recycling yard tied up four fire engines and a water bowser following numerous calls from drivers on the M11 who were concerned about what was on fire. After attending it once at 9pm and informing control it was a bonfire we were called back again at 11pm as motorists were reporting a large fire in the distance with description from a 'barn fire, building fire to house fire'. Control can not assume that it is the same bonfire so we turned out again and this time we had to extinguish it to stop all the calls continually coming in.

When we attended a call to the smell of burning at a house in a nearby village

we raised some concerns about their fire safety precautions. We entered the property and could smell a trace of an electrical type fire, we used our thermal image camera to try and locate the source after looking in all the usual places we drew a blank, then I pointed it towards a pile of items at the top of the landing and hey presto it showed a hot spot in the middle of it. After pulling the pile apart we found a small oil filled electrical radiator was switched on and in a pile of clothes on top of a toy pram, the plastic on the pram had begun to melt and that is what we could smell. Small children were also living in the house so we explained about fire safety and offered some advice on help to prevent these types of situations occurring.

JUNE

Tragedy came to a local road this month when two vehicles collided head on resulting in the death of one of the drivers, both of the drivers were known by some members of the crews that attended from ourselves and Saffron

Walden. This is always a fear that is with us when we attend local RTC's .

We also attended a number of minor RTC's on the motorway this month, but thankfully they resulted in nothing more than cuts and bruises.

Travelling up my drive at 4 in the morning following my alerter screeching into life, I could see a large column of black smoke rising in the direction of Saffron Walden. I assumed it was possibly a fire in Shire Hill industrial estate. When I arrived at the station it turned out we were being sent to standby at Saffron Walden, this is a procedure that comes into place if both of Saffron Walden's appliances are going to be out for a considerable time or they are going over the border, and in this instance it was both of these. They had been called to a large fire at Chilford Hall, Linton, the fire featured on all the local news programs and destroyed the wedding venue that was a popular choice for many couples getting married.

That covers most of the more interesting calls that we attended during the past six months, apart from one last point of interest, remember we welcomed Paul Waters and his family back from Cornwall ... guess what, they have gone back to Cornwall.

Good luck Paul, we all wish you well.

I would like to finish by urging anyone who thinks they can give some cover during the working day or if you know of anyone, come down the Fire Station on a Thursday evening and have an informal chat. **NN**

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See the village website for current meeting dates: www.newportvillage.co.uk
All meetings are held in Church House and commence at 7.30pm

Neighbourhood Watch

COMMUNITY



ALAN JOHNSON & DERRICK GIFFIN

NEWPORT NHW VILLAGE CO-ORDINATORS

More changes in Essex Police

Six months after the biggest shake up in the way we are policed, Essex Police have recently reviewed the impact these changes have made and have made further adjustments to the service they provide. Most of these are operational changes, but those that affect us most are related to the combining of Uttlesford and Braintree in a single district. This means that we will have to share two keys posts; the Crime Reduction Advisor and the Essex Watch Liaison Officer. The job of the CRA is self-explanatory, but EWLO needs to be explained.

This is the post that was first held by Lindsay Baillie (who was a Newport resident until she moved away to Scotland). Since then the post has been covered by a number of temporary staff, and the present job holder is supplied by an agency. From December this will change and we will be supported by an EWLO based in Chelmsford and our challenge is to ensure that the service we have enjoyed since 2008 will continue at the current level.

Crime Trends

There are three types of crime that Essex Police are targeting at the moment. These are Burglary, Car Theft and Scams.

Throughout the year there has been an increasing level of burglary, both from peoples' homes and from sheds and garages. It seems that many of these are pre-planned and the thieves are targeting high value items such as tools and garden equipment. Although sometimes this is carried out by a forced entry, in many cases there is little or no security in place and remote locations are particularly vulnerable. **If you need security advice, contact the Crime Reduction Advisor by calling 101.**

The situation regarding car theft is

even more alarming. The police tell us that they regularly check car doors and find that 1 in 5 is not secure. The excuse is that drivers want to avoid their car being damaged as result of a forced entry. But that is not the way these thieves work; they work in gangs for a 'Mr Big' who sets them a daily target and they achieve this be simply trying door handles and pillaging the contents of the unlocked ones. This way, they do not cause any noise or commotion that would result in drawing attention to their activities, and can carry on until they reach their target. So the two most important things you can do to help reduce your chances of becoming a victim of this type of crime are:

- Please remember to take out any items of value with you when you park your vehicle for any length of time or at least store it away in the boot where it can't be seen.
- Always lock your vehicle and be mindful of where you park it.

Scams are a consequence of the technology age on which we increasingly depend. But many of us feel uncertain and vulnerable as we try to keep abreast of so much change. Even if we rely solely on a telephone, as many of us do, we can fall victim to calls that are designed to take money out of our bank accounts, or buy something that we don't want at too high a price. There are a number of things you can do to reduce your risk:

1. Use the telephone preference service (call **0845 070 0707** or see www.tpsonline.org.uk)
2. Never give your bank account or card details to anyone who calls you
3. Report anything you are not sure about to the police and the company that the caller mentioned

We can help

One of the services provided by our EWLO is a weekly Neighbourhood Watch Bulletin. This is circulated by email and is sent to all Co-ordinators who have access to the internet. We encourage Co-ordinators to pass this on to the residents who have agreed to receive the Bulletin, but not all are able to offer this service. So, if you would like to receive the Newport edition of the Bulletin. Please email nhw@acjohnson4.plus.com and we will



add you to the circulation list and you can then pass on this useful information to your friends and relations wherever they live.

And finally, a reminder that we hold regular Neighbourhood Panel meetings with the Police where local issues are identified and actions are agreed. If you would like to be involved with Panel please contact Derrick, who chairs these meetings, on 543622 or d.giffin@btinternet.com

Thankfully we live in a low crime area and we can all help in keeping it that way. Please remember **TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER. NN**

IN

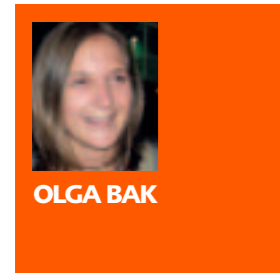
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FRAME

With a little help from my friends



I am so excited about this article that I simply cannot wait to share my thoughts with you. I could have just put a little thank you note somewhere on the school door, but that would not be fair because you Newportonians deserve better. I want to tell you how wonderful and how generous you are. Let me start from the beginning ...

Some of you know that last year I was trying to raise money for my summer charity project. My idea was to go to Nepal with my 5 years old daughter Mia and my dearest friend from Poland, Kasia, to help one of the very poor primary schools up in the mountains. Why? Because I simply fell in love with that



country after my first trekking trip to Langtang Valley and wanted to make a difference to the children who live in poverty up in the mountains. From the very beginning it

sounded crazy, but doable... Yogesh, my other, better half is the first one to thank. He not only didn't try to stop me, but was on my side from the very beginning (with his plastic card handy ;-). Thank you Yogesh!

After speaking to some of my friends, I organised a cake sale at NFGS. I would like to say a massive thank you to Lorraine Harlow, an amazing woman, who sadly couldn't go with us, but she decided to participate in the project by baking the most delicious cakes, which I could then sell in the NFGS staff room. Thank you Lorraine.

A big thank you goes to the NFGS teachers for having such a sweet tooth and being very generous donating cakes. Thank you teachers :-), what would I do without you?

The Headmaster from Newport Primary School, Mr John Howett, allowed me to explain to the pupils during the assembly what we were trying to do and to ask for donations. The response was amazing! Thank you to all the parents and pupils of Newport Primary School not just for the money you gave us, but also for such lovely and warm support. It was very uplifting, kind of you and most needed. Thank you, you are fantastic!

There is one more, very important person, who contributed to our project by organising money collection and supporting every step we took to make it happen. She doesn't live in Newport, but she is a big fan of our village and she loves coming over. Her name is Krystyna, and she is my Mum. Her endless energy and positive attitude was amazing. Thank you Mum, dziękuję.

After getting off the bus which took us from Kathmandu to the middle of nowhere, it took 5 porters to carry the staff and Mia up the mountains. Mia was travelling in a basket on one of the porters backs! She was very brave and I am very proud



of her. After 8 hours walking, sometimes in pouring rain as it was still the end of the monsoon season, tired, hungry, but happy we had reached the Fujel village. Local people made us feel very welcome and they were very excited to see us, as some of them have never seen a white person! We stayed in my Nepalese friend's house with his parents for about a week. Children simply gravitated from all over the place to play with Mia. The house was full of laughter and fun. Next day we went higher up to meet the teacher and the children in Batuki Primary School and to give them stuff we had brought. It was so moving to be there, to be blessed with tikka on our foreheads, and to see children's faces smiley and happy.

With your help and generosity we managed to collect 32.000 rupees, which allowed us to buy the following:

- 2 exercise books for every child
- A pencil for every child
- Crayons for youngest pupils
- A fountain pen for older pupils
- Pens
- Sharpeners
- Educational boards
- 3 footballs
- 3 volleyballs
- A volleyball net
- A ball pump
- A badminton set
- Spare shuttle corks
- Skipping ropes
- Rubber balls for the youngest
- 2 calculators
- Notebooks for teachers
- Bags for teachers
- English book for English teacher

You made a lot of children very, very happy. They all send their love to you and bless you with the warmest Namaste.



MIA, READY FOR THE ADVENTURE!

We were very lucky to spend over a week in the Fujel village trying to teach some English in Batuka Primary School and playing volleyball with them. It was an amazing experience for all of us and my daughter Mia deserves a medal for being absolutely wonderful, smiley, friendly and very brave. Thank you Sweetheart, I love you.

Kasia ... they say "Surround yourself with the people who believe in your dreams". We went through so much in our life. I feel privileged to have you as a friend. Without your commitment the whole thing would not be possible. Thank you for believing in my dream. NN

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Newport Business Association

Creating a bee-line for Newport station



NBA launched The Lavender Line project to re-enforce the bee and butterfly friendly landscaping of Newport railway station, an NBA business in the community initiative.

NBA member and Newport beekeeper Andy Sivell said: "Bees have had an appalling time this year. Beside our railway we have an immense nature reserve, and we need to preserve that. NBA's initiative will help achieve a Bee friendly habitat."

Jeremy Rose, Newport Business Association's founder, said: "The NBA initiative is to sow over 3,500 Bee and Butterfly friendly plants to create a habitat to help bees flourish. Our aim is to sow lavender and other plants to create an important green corridor from Cambridge to Liverpool Street. We want this green corridor to radiate out from Newport to help bees flourish in our rural countryside. A Lavender Line for Bees."



Great community work: Business help from Ben Mercer, Mercer Trees and Audley End Concerts for the wood chippings; Mark Hardy, Ridgeons, for loaning the skidster and Tarquin Ellington, TKE Landscaping, for getting it there, along with the black membrane; Bryan from Essex Probation Service for a top team



Thank you for your support

The Walden Local ran a newspaper story on Newport Business Association [NBA] Lavender Line initiative, and ever since we've had contributions buzzing in. Personal pledges of support, plants given in at the station and lots of anonymous donations in the post. We've been very grateful for the show of unity from local people around Newport. From lavender seeds to an array of donated lavender plants - we're grateful. Thank you. We'd like more. Please grow, buy or donate lavender plants and make a bee-line to give all you can spare to: Jeremy Rose, NBA Founder, Creative Solutions [<<< see address on the left]

Deryck Johnson, Essex Bee Keeping Association, suggested the idea in a recent radio interview with Ian Wyatt, BBC Essex: "We've had an appalling year for Bees - even worse than 1948. The rain and poor weather has meant colonies are already failing. I'd lost three colonies either because the queen had died or they become drone layers. Worker bees are committing regicide and failing because of the rain. After four weeks of rain their behaviour has been so erratic that the bees have died."

Help Newport Business Association to create "The Lavender Line" by donating £5 to buy NBA a Lavender plant, or £2 to buy a packet of lavender seeds [We'll send you this in Jan/Feb 2013 to sow for planting in the summer - you could even donate the plant back to us next year]: Jeremy Rose, Newport Business Association, The Office, Brown House, The High Street, Newport Essex CB11 3BQ or nba.bees@c-lutions.co.uk

A community contribution:

much appreciated



Newport News team: Tricia tidying up after the school - one week after school begins - five sacks of cans and refuse cleared



Thank you Newport Carnival team for giving us a stand: we collected over 470 pledges of support and 158 survey reports for the NBA station initiative



Our thanks for the continued support from John Wenham, left, the fabulous work from Fiona Strachan and Steve Todd, right, who have helped tirelessly on all that pesky weeding; Ross Sagers for planting tips and Gillian Warburton for weeding, planting and caring for Newport station



A coffee King: Nigel Sault, N&S Services, helps us through the day with coffee



Much appreciated: William Brown, always helps with tools when ours get blunt or we need the right one



Steve Minchin: perfect timing - our strimmer broke down and the train team hadn't got one. Who do I call? The Minchins came to the rescue. Thanks



Reynolds Court Gardens



JOHN GORDON

RIGHT: PETER SAVILLE, 75, OUTSIDE REYNOLDS COURT TENDING THE GARDEN WHICH HE DESIGNED.



Uttlesford District Council recently held a competition for ideas to improve the gardens for the various properties which it administers, including Reynolds Court, Newport. Peter Saville, one of the residents and part of the Newport Saville clan pricked up his ears when he heard about it, got out his pencil and paints and designed a plan of improvement for the lawns in front of the residents' main entrance which he then sent to the Council. Lo and behold his entry won the first prize of a token for £1,000. This was spent in digging out the new beds and installing some 600 plants, the hard work being done by Peter's nephew, Neil Saville and his team.

Peter now looks after the beds and you can see him in the photo at work. He is a long term gardener having started at the age of seven working at Parsonage House for Mrs Ravenscroft

for two hours on Saturday mornings for a shilling an hour, (5p). At 15 he moved on to Tudor House, Bridge End working for Mrs Dixie for 2/6d(12 and a halfpenny). In addition to the beds at Reynolds Court he also tends 11 graves besides making the most beautiful models from matchsticks. He has also won prizes in the past for his garden produce, tapestry work and models. **NN**

Beautifying Newport



Our Parish council thought long and hard as how to use the New Homes bonus, distributed by the District Council, for the benefit of Newport residents and in the event they decided to spend it on four robust flower beds to embellish the roadside verges in the High Street. They also plan to provide additional litter, grit and dog bins. This money is very much appreciated as amounts like this make an enormous difference to improving the appearance of the village. **NN**

LEFT: ON MAY 29TH HILBERY'S MEN, JAMIE AND MARIUS FILLING THE BEDS WITH SOIL. ON THE FOLLOWING DAY WE SEE ROZ SAGGERS PLANTING UP THE BOXES WHILST ROGER IS WATERING THE PLANTS.



Big thank you to Wayne Harris
One of the unsung hero's of the Torch and Carnival weekend was Wayne Harris. He was busy on the eve of the Torch procession making Newport look its best. Wayne emptied all the public bins ready for the huge crowds which descended on Newport and cleared the roads of litter.



Gace's Farmhouse, demolished in 1880.
Reproduced by courtesy of the Essex Record Office.

GACE'S CHARITY

This charity exists for the welfare of Newport parishioners. We would like to invite applications for small sums of money to assist Newport residents looking for help with worthy causes. Each application will be thoughtfully considered in strict confidence.

Please apply to Margaret Bowker, 45 Cherry Garden Lane,
Newport, CBI 1 3QA (secretary to Gace's Charity).

Charity no. 212284



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1st Newport Brownies

LEANNE AND CYNTHIA

The 1st Newport Brownies have had a very exciting and busy summer term. It started with our annual Pack Holiday weekend away at Thriftwood scout Campsite in Brentwood Essex. Our theme this year was 'I'm a brownie get me out of here!'

Although the weather wasn't on our side for the weekend it didn't stop us having fun and getting covered in mud!

On Saturday we started the day with a game of earth ball which is a giant ball we played different games with. Human Skittles was fun! We had to push the ball to see if it touched the other team. If it did they won a point for their team.

We then 'walked on water' with the water roller on the lake. The brownies looked like little hamsters running in a ball! After lunch we enjoyed the adventure playground and trampolines.

In the evening we all got changed into bug outfits for our Ugly Bug Ball. During the evening the brownies enjoyed our own special Bush Tucker Trials! We had different challenges for the girls to do to win stars for their teams.

Our first trial was 'stars in your eyes'. The girls had a plate of spaghetti and had one minute to collect stars with their mouth. 'Touch and tell' was next - we had 3 different boxes containing different items and the girls had to guess what was inside. The one that challenged them the most was an old potato! Then 'A quick Dip' - the girls where blind folded and had to collect as many stars from a box using one hand. Inside the box were different slimy critters.

'Bug Bowling' is not the normal game of bowling! Each pin had different points on some being plus numbers and some being minus meaning points where deducted from their teams score. We are so mean!!

The best Bush Tucker trial was 'Ant and Dec's Diner' - yes you guessed an eating trial. We organised different foods for the girls to eat to gain more stars for their team. We had frogs spawn (tapioca pudding), cockroach cocktail (banana milkshake with chocolate sprinkles), wiggity grub



(gnocchi on lettuce), and crocodile eye (pickled onion covered in icing)! The brownies that took part in the challenge did very well and found it hilarious once they found out what it really was - the one that got them the most was the cockroach cocktail! They where pinching their nose to drink it ... it's amazing how your mind can play tricks on you.

On Sunday we enjoyed a woodland walk and a session on the Inflate-a-bull. The Inflate-a-bull is a big inflatable bull that you sit on and the rest of the brownies had to pull the straps to knock them off.

As always the brownies favourite part of the holiday was spending their pocket money in the tuck shop. They have to spend every penny!

At Brownies we have been working towards the Home safety badge. The girls learnt how hot is 'hot enough to burn' and how many things in the home could cause a burn or scald. The girls were shocked at some everyday items and how hot they really get. The girls had to draw a giant thermometer and place pictures of house hold items on the temperature they thought it was.

We then taught the brownies how to boil a kettle and make a hot drink safely. They girls then had a challenge to take home and make their mum's and dad's a nice cup of tea. We had some very happy (although slightly nervous) parents!

They then had a check list to do at home to see if there house was safe. Which I am pleased to say most houses were, if they were not, then the parents had a brownie telling them off!

To finish off our badge in September we visited Newport fire Station and a visit from PC Hannah Griffith from Saffron Walden Police Station to learn some more about home safety.

1st Newport Brownies have been working extremely hard building and making things for our Environmental walking Float for Newport Carnival which took place on 7th July. The girls made their own posters, signs, bunting and bugs for our float.

On the day of the carnival the Olympic Torch come through the Village and we were lucky enough to see Jamie Oliver holding the torch though the village. Whilst waiting for the torch to pass, two lucky Brownies and Brown Owl where



interviewed for Anglia News, which was very exciting.

A big Thankyou to the man in Hayling house who gave us some umbrellas to keep us dry.

After the torch had passed we made our way to our carnival float to start the procession. Thankyou Maria Birch for helping us get the Brownies there in a flash.

We carried our float dressed in our bug outfits to Newport Common. We had a great response from the crowds and the Brownies had a fantastic time.

1st Newport Brownies would like to say a Special THANKYOU to:

- Richard Jennings for building our carnival Float.
- Wickes in Bishops Stortford for donating all of the materials for our float.
- Central garage in Newport for letting us use the workshop to build and store the float.
- Rob the Hog for helping transport the float to the start position.
- Mick & Maria Birch for helping keep the float and the Brownies dry on the day!
- Stansted Airport Community Fund for their kind donation. And a BIG THANKYOU to all of the Brownies that attended. WELL DONE GIRLS - you did us proud! **NN**



If your daughter is between 7-10 years old and interested in joining 1st Newport Brownies, please contact Leanne 01799 543606 or Cynthia 01799 541408. Email: leanne1stnewportbrownies@hotmail.com We meet on Friday's at Newport Scout Hut. We currently have a waiting list for under 7's. Put your daughter's name down today to avoid disappointment.



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Newport primary school

YEAR R – FOREST SCHOOLS

In July, pupils in Reception had the opportunity to learn about Forest Schools whose philosophy is to encourage and inspire individuals of any age through positive outdoor experiences.

Liz Bucknell, a Forest School Practitioner, came along to talk about the project which promotes self awareness, empathy, independence and a positive mental attitude along with self-esteem and confidence. In our woody area the children had great fun pond dipping, den building, climbing trees, bug hunting and mud painting.

They even built a rope swing in a tree. It was very muddy but everyone thoroughly enjoyed the morning.

Elements of Forest Schools continue to be undertaken as an ongoing theme. To find out more go to www.forestschools.com



ABOVE: YEAR R TALK ABOUT WHAT THEY HAVE FOUND AND WHAT THEY HAVE ENJOYED THE MOST.
LEFT: MIA, CHARLOTTE AND EMMA SEARCH FOR BUGS.



OLYMPIC TORCH, NEWPORT CARNIVAL AND FÊTE

Despite the weather, the Olympic torch procession, carnival and fete were a great success and it was fabulous to see so many pupils and parents there. The school ran two tombola stalls which were a complete sell out - the adult tombola even had to be restocked as it proved so popular! We received a donation of £900 from the combined events over the 3 days which will go towards the creation of the new Study Centre at the school.

Following these events Clare Thompson, who was a torchbearer through Saffron Walden, came to visit us with her Olympic torch. The whole school gathered as Clare explained how and why she was selected and her experience of being part of the relay and her 'Moment to Shine.'

Continuing the Olympic theme, Ali Wood, our School Business Manager, became a Gamesmaker at the Olympic Park as part of the VIP transport division. She met politicians, presidents and pop stars and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience.

TOP LEFT: MRS RATCLIFFE RIDES ON OUR FLOAT WITH SOME OF THE CHILDREN.

TOP RIGHT: CLARE THOMPSON WITH HEADTEACHER, JOHN HOWETT.

MIDDLE: PUPILS AWAIT THE ARRIVAL OF THE OLYMPIC TORCH.

BOTTOM LEFT: OUR GAMESMAKER, MRS WOOD, AT THE OLYMPIC PARK.

BOTTOM RIGHT: PUPILS WITH CLARE THOMPSON AND HER OLYMPIC TORCH.



YEARS 5 & 6 BRADWELL OUTDOORS

In June, Years 5 & 6 spent a week sailing, canoeing, high roping, all-terrain biking, crabbing, learning archery skills and experiencing living together in a large group. The children were split into 3 teams with different activities each day under the care of a member of staff and a qualified instructor.

The groups were awarded points at the end of each session for listening, helping & achieving, plus additional points for tidiness of bedrooms and going to sleep quietly and quickly.

They were COMPETITIVE!! On the final morning, the Bradwell Olympics were held and additional points accrued for each discipline completed. Group 2 were the overall winners with Groups 1 & 3 tying for 2nd place.

It was a lovely week, with well behaved, caring and adventurous children who were a credit to our school.

Sincere thanks go to all the parents who supported the 'Bradwell Fund Raising Week' and to Gaces Acre for their kind and charitable donations in the past.



The Friends of Newport Primary held a very successful 'Thank Goodness It's Friday' (TGIF) Pamper Evening at the end of May. The school hall had a fantastic atmosphere, filled with stalls selling sweet smelling products and fabulous gifts.

The therapists turned classrooms into zones of tranquillity offering massages, manicures and pedicures, reflexology, Alexander Technique etc. A whopping £401.96 was raised from this first time event.

A BIG thank you to everyone who organised, helped and attended this event and made it such a success. Another Pamper Evening will be held at the school on Friday 1st February 2013.

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Newport Free Grammar school

SHAKILA KARIM – SONG FOR THE PARALYMPICS

I used to spend my summer holidays much like most young people, enjoying the freedom to socialise with friends and relax, but since I started to concentrate on my music, I been spending my time trying to improve as a singer-songwriter and musician. So this summer, like the last two summers before, I spent a lot of time working on my music. I recorded two original songs and released one of them. My song 'Are You All Ready' was released for the Paralympics Games.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W_464sz2WYg

I was very happy with the response to this song and I also had the opportunity to perform twice in Stratford Park, very close to the Olympic venues. Both days the weather was lovely and the people were so kind. I also performed in Hertford Music Festival and was very pleased as I had three slots, in three different venues to perform in. The response from the people who came was thankfully very good.

I was also interviewed by many radio stations for my Paralympics song, which included BBC Three Counties, 106Jack FM, BBC Asian Network and I was interviewed by Herts & Essex Observer. I am now working on releasing other songs. One day I hope to make all my friends, teachers and everyone in school proud of my work in music.

By Shakila Karim Year 10



CLAIRE'S AFRICAN ADVENTURE

During the summer a 15 year old student from Newport Free Grammar School spent 3 weeks in Tanzania. Claire Wyatt volunteered in an orphanage of 30 children from aged 4 months to 6.

Before Claire went to Tanzania, she organised charity events to raise money to help send one 6 year old girl, Pendo, to school enabling her to further her education. Claire spoke in school assemblies and used donation buckets, a talent show and a non-uniform day to raise over £800. Pendo is now attending USA river academy.

Whilst in Tanzania Claire had the chance to bond with Pendo and recognised the difference made by Pendo having the opportunity to attend school. Claire said, "It was great to be able to see the school she is going to and being here makes me realise how fortunate we are and how we take education and the basic necessities we use every day for granted". If you are interested in the orphanage please visit www.themallthings.org

By Claire Wyatt Year 12

NEPAL 2012

Monsoon downpours, leeches and basic toilet facilities didn't stop the Nepal Trip 2012 being the experience of a lifetime. 18 months of preparation and planning finally swung into action on 12th July 2012 as 22 NFGS students and 3 members of staff travelled to Nepal. After spending an evening experiencing the bustle of Kathmandu, the group travelled to a small village where they would spend the next few days. Four days of a difficult trek followed, much of it being undertaken in the rain through breathtaking scenery at 3,000 metres. This involved travelling across deep gorges over across swaying bridges, an experience that I would have



missed given a choice! Two groups undertook their Gold D of E expeditions and every member passed after the gruelling four days. Then it was onto an isolated village school for the community project.

Working with pupils from a school in Kathmandu and local children, we built a boundary fence around the school's land and also had the opportunity to work alongside villagers in their paddy fields



and with their animals, teaching classes of school pupils. The trip finished with a visit to Pokhara and Kathmandu, where we visited a Hindu temple and a Buddhist temple and learnt about the two different religions which dominate Nepalese society. At the end of the 17 days the whole group was sad to leave this incredible country but were secretly looking forward to returning to the modern facilities in England. The 17 days were an incredible experience and one that I, or the others, won't forget.

By Alexia Michaelides Year 13

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Sparrows Hill

A poem by David Thear

I have never known this elsewhere.
 The town stops dead, and
 After the brambled banks of chalk,
 And opening of the fields
 The wood.

I crest the tree-laced hill
 And descend as the bare trees scatter
 Beneath a pewter sky
 Then a streak of silver parts the cloud
 And light bursts through
 Onto the fields below.

Oh please shine on me
 I am February inside and need the sun.

Because you think it's curtains

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Girls Go Out



CHRIS MURPHY

This has been a super summer to end our 9th year. When the torch came through Newport in July the Girls Go Out held a stall at the village fête to help celebrate the start of the Olympics. Many of the ladies donated chocolates, flowers, wine, days out and cakes to the celebration tombola, which a group of our ladies manned all afternoon come rain and shine. The club also donated bottles of fizzy wine and at the request

of the organisers served Pimms as well. In all the Girls Go Out donated nearly £500 to the Newport village causes. We were very pleased to be able to make such a wonderful contribution to the village and thanks to all the ladies involved.

We also held a celebration of the Jubilympics in June in Church House with an amazing buffet and quiz for 24 ladies.

In late August a group of ladies and friends took a river cruise on the Cam on the Riverboat Georgina. A very calm and pleasant evening was enjoyed by all.

Other events included a visit to the Fry Art Gallery in Saffron Walden and a trip to the local museum at Ashdon. And despite a lot of rain a group travelled by the guided bus to St Ives for lunch and a look round the market and another group visited gardens



near Coggleshall.

If you would like to join in any of our activities please join our mailing list by contacting Jane Murphy (email: janemurphy11@aol.com). We don't have a regular meeting day or a fee for being involved. **NN**

BELOW: A TRIP ON THE CAM BY RIVERBOAT WITH FRIENDS AND PARTNERS
BOTTOM: OUR JUBILYMPICS CELEBRATIONS IN CHURCH HOUSE
LEFT: GIRLS ON A GARDEN VISIT IN THE RAIN



ROSIE COPY CUT

Newport babies



Rosie Jean Sims

Back in February our second child Rosie was born. We had planned a home birth and were all prepared with my mum due to fly in from Australia a few days before the due date. However, the weather reports were forecasting heavy snow.

That evening the snow began to fall, and then my waters broke at 11.30pm. I was pretty calm, however my husband Mark was not so calm, the reality setting in of the prospect of a home birth. The midwife was called, however we were informed she was stuck somewhere between Thaxted and Saffron Walden, and the second midwife, who was due to come from Epping had no chance of getting to us. Driving to the hospital was out of the question!

It was time to call an ambulance, however about 10 minutes later I was screaming that I was ready to push! Mum was ordered to the 'business end' by my wise husband while he spoke to the dispatcher and took command. Mercifully it was a quick birth and luckily there were no complications, and our beautiful little daughter was delivered safe into the hands of my mum. With the cord still attached we waited for the ambulance to arrive, which took about another 20 minutes. It was decided to transfer me and the baby to Addenbrooke's to get us checked out, but it meant having to trudge through the snow in my dressing gown and boots to the ambulance. It had stopped snowing by then, but still took us an hour to get to Addenbrooke's, passing trapped cars and lorries on the way!

We were able to come home the next day, with both mother and baby doing very well. **By Jessica Sims**



BABIES! If you live in Newport and would like your baby's photograph to appear in Newport News, please get in touch with Gina Holley (543046).

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1st Newport Scouts



BEAVERS

This year has seen the Beaver Colony go from strength-to-strength and there are now about 30 children enjoying a fun filled programme each week, led by a new leadership team of Tarquin Ellington, Claire Denyer and Andrew Blatt.

Over the past year we have completed several badges and have enjoyed junk modelling, volcano making, and paper aeroplane flying. We have also been finding out about the wider world in which we live and of course the always enjoyable end of term water fight!

We had a terrific evening at Audley End Airfield where the Beavers were able to sit in the planes. We learnt a bit about how the planes were made and what different craft were used for. Unfortunately the weather prevented us from being able to take to the air, but maybe next time.

In May we joined the cubs for the day on their annual Cub Camp. The Beavers had a fantastic time cooking dough twists over the campfire, climbing trees and again joining in the water fight! Before we left we joined the cubs for the campfire singsong which was a perfect way to end the day. This year we are hoping to take them away again and would like to camp overnight with them if possible.

The new leadership team are excited about taking the colony forward and have lots of fun ideas planned including a summer camp and a return visit to the airfield. Come and join us for 'fun and friends'!



CUBS

The cub pack have enjoyed many exciting activities this year from cooking, fire lighting, climbing and pioneering. We also retained the District Handicraft shield, Skills day trophy and came jointly first in the District Sports day. A very successful year!

Camp this year was held at Belchamps campsite, Hockley, on the weekend the 25th, 26th and 27th May. Sunshine was in abundance as the cubs enjoyed various activities throughout the pirate themed camp. High all aboard, water volleyball, water slide and pirate themed crafts were just some of the exciting activities on offer to the cubs during the weekend. Charlotte Saville, Camp Leader, said that the camp was a great success, with everyone participating in the activities and enjoying the sunshine.

The leaders would like to thank everyone for volunteering their time, as without it Cub camp would not happen.

The Cub leadership team consist of Helen Howett, Charlotte Saville, Andy Bowker, Rachel Smith, Matt Tookey and Hayden Plumb.



SCOUTS

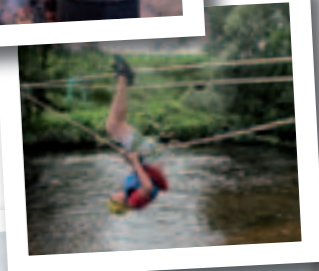
This year the Scouts have enjoyed various activities such as shooting, canoeing, climbing, pioneering and cooking challenges.

The 1st Newport Scouts and VCP Horstel Scouts were in Scotland for a week on their annual summer camp. The friendship between 1st Newport Scouts and German VCP Horstel Scouts started back in 1996 and has continued over many years. VCP Horstel arrived in England two days prior to leaving for Scotland, in this time they explored Saffron Walden and Newport. Our thanks goes to Emma Cotterill, Dave Cotterill, Andy Taylor and Andy Cook for organising the days before camp.

During the nine days they spent in Scotland the scouts enjoyed various activities including raft building, clay target shooting, rope bridge building, Kayaking, swimming, hiking, air rifling shooting and taking in the local attractions; Discovery Point and the Cairngorm Mountain Railway. This year's camp took a back to basics feel and the leaders and children alike enjoyed the daily challenges of keeping a busy camp running, from chopping wood, to keeping the fire going for hot water and washing in the rather cold but crystal clear river.

VCP Horstel and 1st Newport stayed on the grounds of Dalnaglar Castle, owned by an Austrian Princess, who kindly allowed us to stay on her grounds and use the various lochs and river's to do our activities. She joined us on the Tuesday night with her five grandchildren for a hog roast dinner followed by apple crumble. The grounds of the castle took in beautiful scenery and provided the perfect backdrop to a busy but enjoyable camp.

Camp Leader Clive Bunting would like to thank the 10 strong leader and parent helper team who made this all possible and yet again made it a superb camp. The scouting team consist of Clive Bunting, Emma Cotterill and Hugh Gunn.



OTHER SCOUTING NEWS

- The Executive Committee has been working hard to raise funds for the continuing success of the group. As well as doing various BBQs at events in and around the district, we also support the Newport fireworks.
- We are in partnership with the parish council to redevelop the recreational ground, which will allow us to build a state of art community hall, which serve the future children and community for years to come.
- Robbery – between Sunday 23rd September at 11.07pm and Monday 24th September 00.58am the scout hut was broken into and several items were stolen. The items stolen have affected the group as a whole.

All these activities and camps would not happen if it was not for the time and effort given by the leaders, helpers and exclusive committee. I would like to take the time to thank each and every one of them. Anyone interested in getting involved in scouting please e-mail Newport@saffronwaldenscouts.org.uk



EXPLORERS

Explorers have been learning several new skills this year, including shooting, cooking, climbing and navigation exercises.

D of E also runs throughout the year in conjunction with Saffron Walden.

The explorers joined the scouts on their trip to Scotland, where they got the chance to help the leaders lead activities and help in the day to day running of camp.

The explorer team consist of Chris Ansell and Bryony Cotterill.

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Newport loses three male gorillas!

JACQUI CARDY

Newport Weight Watchers meets at 9.30am on Tuesday in Newport Village Hall. For more information, please contact Jacqui on 07531 794554

People in Newport are feeling a lot lighter these days after losing over 1,178lbs or 84 stones in weight since joining the Newport Weight Watchers – that’s the equivalent of 3 male gorillas! Newport resident and Weight Watcher Leader, Jacqui Cardy, who herself lost 1 ½ stone with Weight Watchers opened the meeting in September 2011 and said “Newport is a great village to live with lots to offer and certainly has that community atmosphere. I’d only just moved to Newport when I started working for Weight Watchers and



realised that there was a need for a meeting in Newport to help residents of Newport and the surrounding villages to become slimmer, fitter and healthier. It is also somewhere to meet for a cup of tea and a chat. Focus is often made on the nearer bigger towns like Saffron Walden and Bishops Stortford but for some people, particularly those who can’t or don’t want to drive, or parents with small babies or children, it’s not always convenient to travel to a larger, perhaps less personal venue. It’s fantastic to see people not only grow in confidence on their weight loss journeys, but also make friends with people they didn’t know before. It’s even more fantastic to see the support and encouragement that people give to others whom perhaps ½ an hour before, had never met. The village hall is a perfect venue too as it’s quite a hub of activity all week and certainly one of the focal points of the village. I think we’re very fortunate to have it at our disposal”.

And it really is a village effort too – Sharon Davey, herself a Newport mum also runs the Newport Youth Club and helps at the meeting providing invaluable support to members as she knows exactly how each person feels having lost an incredible 64lbs since

joining a year ago; there’s also Lesley Stock (who has lost over 25lbs and still going!) who members may recognise as she helps out at Newport Doctors’ Surgery and attends events with the fabulous Girls Go Out group and is on hand to welcome members as they arrive and always has a laugh and a joke with everyone. With Sarah and Sara completing the meeting team, it really has been a recipe for success.

Jacqui goes on to say “It’s great to have local role models like Jamie Oliver making such a difference to the way our children eat at school, but responsibility for the way we all eat also has to come from the family home too. That’s why I’m keen to support and encourage Uttlesford residents to get cooking in a healthy way and get active to become fitter and healthier. We accept so many things in our daily lives, even taking medication, so why wouldn’t we want to eat and live in a healthier way every day?”

“I have around 45 amazing people in my meeting, all playing their part to get healthier and fitter for life. The success of the group is down to its supportive and friendly atmosphere with members really embracing the Weight Watcher values of healthy eating and being more active to be their best ever in 2012!”

“We encourage members to be more active as part of their healthy living plan which doesn’t need to mean joining a gym or running a marathon as that doesn’t suit everyone. We’re extremely fortunate to live in such a beautiful part of Essex and Newport in particular, as the village is the centre point of the long-distance path known as ‘The Harcamlow Way’, a figure-of-eight walk between Cambridge and Harlow. Consequently it has a large number of walks radiating from its centre; short walks of surrounding interest include those heading towards Saffron Walden, the English Heritage property of Audley End House, or Prior Hall Barn in Widdington.

“Weight Watchers also knows that eating out and socialising is an important part of people’s lives nowadays, especially as a well-earned treat and how fortunate are we too that Newport has two pubs: The Coach and Horses and The White Horse, not forgetting the Newport Members’ Club. Because the ProPoints healthy eating plan is so liveable, members can still eat out, enjoy a few drinks and still lose weight.

“Moving to a new area can be tricky but I feel very fortunate to not only have found a friendly, welcoming village to live with lots going on, but Newport has also given me a new direction in my career, helping change the lives of others. Thank you Newport!” **NN**

JACQUELINE CARDY, SHARON DAVEY, LESLEY STOCK, SARAH MCSWEENEY AND SARA SCOTT.



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Newport Youth Centre ONE YEAR ON

MATT YARWOOD

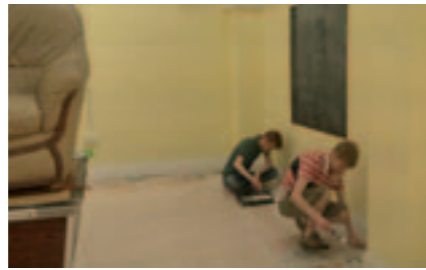
One year on, a year's worth of use, a year's worth of wear and tear, and we're still offering our facilities to everyone who comes through the door. Regardless of who they are and what they want to do – whether it's to play a game of football, or play a musical instrument.

Fundraising

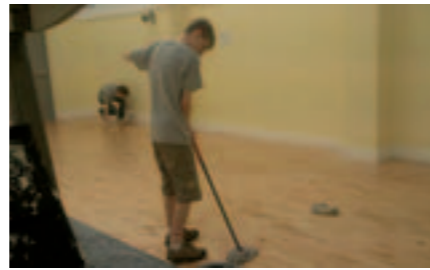
Over the past year we have held many events and raised lots of money. Back in October 2011 we held a Halloween party that raised £50. In 2012 we held a family disco that raised £30, and a local band gig that raised £80. We also ran various stalls at the village fête, bringing in £950. In April Andrew (Yarwood) took part in a challenge to drive to Bury St Edmunds and back using a limited amount of fuel, and even though he didn't quite manage it, we still raised £870.

Refurbishment

Dan Cornell and I noticed that some sections of the building were becoming more and more marked – much more than what we could clean off. I went away and came up with a plan to repaint, clean everything (even more), and generally tidy up. After a few weeks of planning by Dan and me, I approached the more senior members of the committee and in mid-July was given the go-ahead. We would have to work around all the activities that the



REPAINTING THE SKIRTING BOARDS



THE LAST FINISHING TOUCHES

hall and music rooms were used for. During the summer Newport Youth Centre underwent a partial refurbishment when it was repainted and cleaned.

The results were obvious, even after just one day of sanding, cleaning and painting. However, it was clear that although our plan were working and the centre was already looking better, we still had some way to go to make it look like new.

I think at the start we all underestimated the task we had undertaken. One day we spent nearly 14 hours working at the Youth Centre, with late nights and very early mornings. All this hard work was about looking after something that has been such a big part of our lives for over a year. From the beginning of the build back in 2011, to the opening in September of that same year, to helping out at events or volunteering our time at the Younger Youth Club on Thursday nights (not because we had to, but because we wanted to make a contribution to our community). The objectives for the refurbishment were about making sure that this building remains here for generations to come, to benefit anyone who wishes to make use the facilities, young or old.

Dan Cornell and Rob Gowers helped me throughout the week, just as they had originally helped with the construction of the building last year. I knew that, as good mates, they would do the job that needed to be done, without mistakes. During the last two days of the final push, I also asked Fran Lake to help, as we still had quite a lot to do. Without the help of these three people, to whom I am hugely grateful, the refurbishment of the building in such a short space of time would not have been possible.

What's next?

Well, for us it's about giving everyone an opportunity to use the facilities – whether it's to come to either of the two Youth Clubs, use the hall for parties or classes, use the music rooms, or even rent the whole building.

The Youth Club currently runs two nights a week – Thursday nights from 6:30pm to 8:30pm for ages 9-12, and Friday nights for ages 12 and above. It's only one pound to get in and gain access to activities such as pool, table tennis, air hockey, PlayStation, computers, football, basketball and the tuck shop.

The hall costs only £8 an hour to rent (for children's parties etc) and the music rooms £5. Music rooms in this area are few and far between. Conditions apply obviously. Both are available to rent any time of day, any day of the week. For more details ring Sharon Davey on 07770 766380 or email her at ssdavey@yahoo.co.uk.

We currently have a Zumba Class in the hall on Wednesday evenings between 7pm and 8pm, open to all. For details phone 07872 966828 or email andrea.rigg@hotmail.co.uk. On Friday mornings we have Baby Sensory classes for babies up to 13 months old. For more details visit www.babysensory.com and search under 'Cambridge', phone Juliette on 07966 789785, or email cambridge@babysensory.co.uk.

Come along and see us. You never know, you may like it. **NN**



Macmillan coffee morning

On the 28th September 2012 Newport Post Office held a coffee morning to help raise funds for Macmillans. They raised £500. **NN**



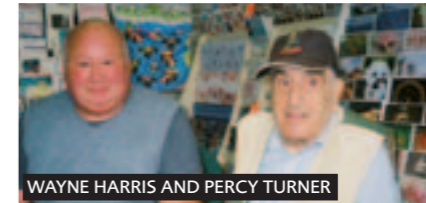
BRIAN SPALDING AND TRISHA COOK



CAROLE CHRISTY AND JACQUI SMITH



MIRA EVENS, DON ALEXANDER, CAROLYN ATKINSON & SANDRA AMOS



WAYNE HARRIS AND PERCY TURNER



JACQUI SMITH, ALAN MILNE, BILL & GILL SCOTT



EILEEN BLACKWELL AND JOAN BRACE



VIVIAN HILL, LINDA WRIGHT & SANDRA PINNOCK

Your voice in our community

By **Cllr Jeremy Rose**, Conservative Councillor representing Newport, Rickling, Quendon and Widdington Ward

When elected to represent the local community you have a choice. Either you can gloss over the problems that face the community, skim over the issues that need to be faced and earn yourself some short-term popularity. Or you can listen to local residents, businesses and organisations, roll-up your sleeves and tackle the long-term, tough problems that affect us all. I have taken the second option – our community matters and your voice needs to be heard.

Voicing your deep concerns about un-sustainable housing proposals, anti-social behaviour issues, drugs in the neighbourhood, housing benefits, litter and vandalism. There have been numerous requests to tackle issues facing our village. I have heard your voice, listened to problems and together we have tackled tough issues and ensured other agencies take matters further to resolve them on your behalf.

As much as local Parish and District Councils can do, it is up to you to voice your concerns, to attend public meetings and show the determination that people-power can shape the society we all want to live in. This is our village, and we should all shape our community the way we want it.

What is required is a sense of collective responsibility. We need to recognise that we need to serve our community, to offer help to those that need it, and to define the character of our village by giving our time to tackle tough tasks.

Good examples of this community work? Save Newport Village group is highlighting decisions taken by local councils and developers. Join them and have your say. The Ramblers Association complain of the lack of well maintained footpaths and seek volunteers to help them to clear overgrown paths. Newport Business Association is creating a community bee and butterfly friendly habitat around Newport railway station. Help them grow plants to create the Lavender Line.



Broadcaster and presenter Griff Rhys Jones interviewed on BBC News talks about how local residents should protect their towns and villages from poor and short termist planning laws. Please visit: <http://youtu.be/aK06sB2h1P4>

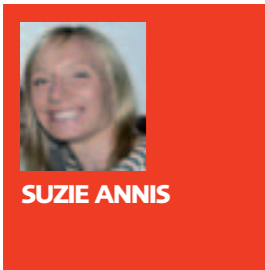
Let's have comments on issues that will shape our village:

- Local Development Framework - housing development needs
- Economic Development Strategy - what businesses do we need?
- Housing Benefits - changes to what we're entitled to
- Electoral boundary changes – less councillors for more people
- Future of Stansted Airport - BAA sells the airport. Less jobs?

Let's protect our green and pleasant land against landowners and developers by lobbying the District Council to change it's building programme. Let's ensure our village has jobs and affordable homes for local people. Let's organise work to get jobs done locally. Let's work to create a better environment for our children to inherit in the future.

Your Community. Your District Councillor. **Jeremy Rose**
Contact me: cllrrose@uttlesford.gov.uk • 01799 541114

A Newport cottage industry



BELOW: GUS, MARGOT AND SUZIE ANNIS

Margot and Gus Candle Makers was established in 2011 and is based in Newport. The family business consists of a mother (Suzie Annis,) and her two daughters, Margot, 9 and Gus 13.

The business was born out of Suzie's desire to realise her daughters' ambitions to make and sell something to 'real' people. After much practice selling homemade bits and pieces to family members from a 'shop' in their bedroom this seemed like a project that all three would get a great deal of enjoyment and fulfillment from. It would also give the girls experience in setting up and running a small business.

The first stage was to learn how candles are made so Suzie signed up to a candle-making course, covering all aspects of candle making, business and legal issues. The next stage was to think of a unique selling point for the candles, and, after much thought, making the candles from reclaimed glass was decided upon as research showed nothing like it was on the market and it would teach the girls about recycling and reusing glass.



The pressed and cut glass bowls, vases, and other suitable vessels are gathered from Antique markets and Charity shops. The glass is then cleaned and filled with natural rapeseed and bees wax which is fragranced with pure essential oils giving the candles a delicious delicate fragrance. And also, as the business is a project for children they decided to give 5% of their turnover to Barnardo's children's charity enabling the girls to learn about business and social responsibility.

Manufacturing the candles is a team effort with Gus measuring and



melting the wax, Margot attaching sustainers and wicks, and Suzie adding the essential oils and pouring the hot wax. Margot also designed the company logo. All three find it very satisfying turning a previously unloved and possibly unfashionable piece of glassware into a gorgeous, glistening, fragrant candle.

The candles when lit make the glass twinkle like a chandelier and look very grand and chic. The glistening loveliness of these candles always adds a special touch to dining tables and sideboards at any time of year but especially at Christmas.

During the summer the team also manufacture outdoor candles using natural citronella to guard against mosquitoes.

All the candles can be refilled and bespoke candles can be made using clients own suitable vessels or from the company's vast collection of glassware.

The candles are on sale upstairs in Sagers Garden Nursery in Newport. Prices range from £6 to £60 and make truly unique gifts. **NN**

Kids' Korner

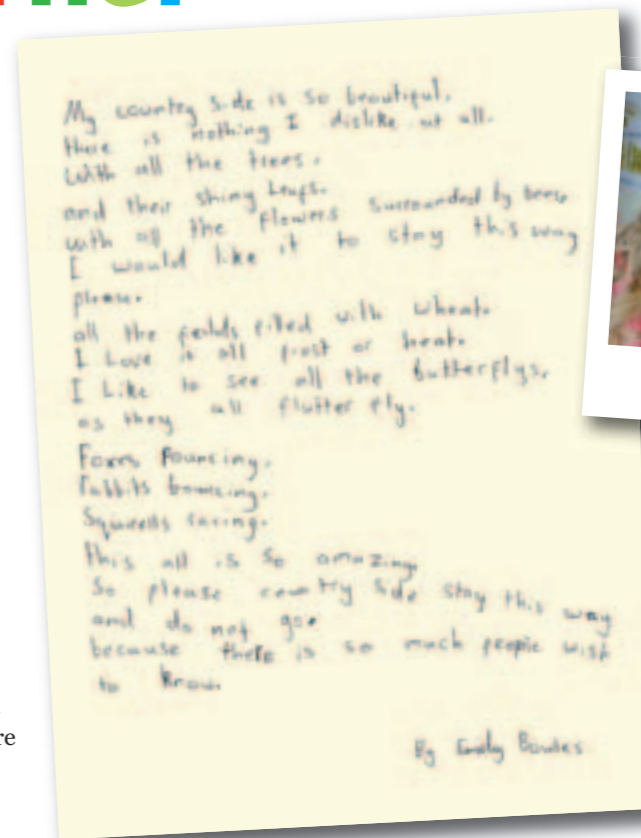


JOANNA PARRY

Kids – do you want to see your work in print? The next edition of *Newport News* (Spring/Summer 2013) will feature a new page just for the under-16s of Newport. This is a chance for you to see your work published!

Stories, letters, poems, limericks, pictures, funny photos, jokes – in fact anything you can think of! Please submit to kids@newportnews.org.uk or posted to Midsummer House, Belmont Hill, before April 5th. The very best will be printed!

Please make sure to include your name and age with all submissions. **NN**



Emily Bowles

EMILY BOWLES WAS THE WINNER OF OUR POETRY COMPETITION IN THE WINTER 2011 ISSUE

My country side is so beautiful,
There is nothing I dislike at all.
With all the trees,
and their shiny leaves, surrounded by trees
with all the flowers, I would like it to stay this way
please.
All the fields filled with wheat,
I love it all just as it is.
I like to see all the butterflies,
as they all flutter fly.
Foxes bounding,
rabbits bounding,
Squirrels scurrying.
This all is so amazing
So please country side stay this way
and do not go
because there is so much people wish
to know.
By Emily Bowles

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VBS comes to Newport!



BECKY MONK

RIGHT: TENT SESSION
BELOW: TENT DECORATED WITH LOTS OF UNION JACKS, BUNTING AND OLYMPIC RINGS



You may have noticed a collection of stripy marquees in the grounds of the Grammar School in early August. VBS had set up camp for the week! You may also have seen (and possibly heard!) some of the 420 children who attended.

VBS stands for Vacation Bible School, a holiday camp held for local children for one week in August. Some of you may have attended as children – it has been running for over forty years. There are tents for the different age groups, starting at 5 years old and split by school year, up until 14 (the Seniors tent has 12 and 13 year olds). Once they reach 14 they can help in another tent as a 'young helper'. There is also a big tent that all the children go to twice a day for the assemblies. The day runs from 9.30–3.30 and is filled with fun, games, songs, Bible stories, craft activities and a lot more!

It is normally held at the County High School in Saffron Walden, but due to building work there, Newport became the venue this year.

VBS is run mainly by members of Gold Street Chapel, Saffron Walden, with all the churches in Saffron Walden and many people from churches in the surrounding villages working together. Jonathan Burton, the Pastor at Gold Street, is in overall charge - you may know him as he is a Newport resident.

John Hardwick, a Creative Christian Communicator from Cambridge, led all the assemblies and provided the theme and material for the teaching and activities. This year's theme was 'Sports Academy', to tie in with the Olympics. I felt I'd had a good workout by the end of the week, even if I didn't quite master all the moves to the action songs!

Every day John taught us something about David, the shepherd boy who defeated Goliath and became a king. The children learnt about David's courage, his faith and his love and respect for other people.

The marquees having been erected, on Friday and Saturday volunteers moved tables and chairs from the school onto the site, set up the big screens in the main tent, put safety barriers around the tents and cordoned off the perimeter of the site. Many people put so much work into VBS, and it really is worth all the time and energy, as we have a great chance to teach the children about God, about the Bible, and share our faith with

them. The children don't have to go to Church, or believe in God to come to VBS, but we hope they enjoy themselves, learn something new, and who knows where this might lead them in the future.

This was my fourth year as a tent helper, each time in the Koalas tent (for boys and girls aged seven). This year we had 57 children in our tent with nine adults and five young helpers. It got pretty noisy at times! Different tents ran various activities throughout the day, but all got together for a morning assembly. Here is an overview of what went on in the Koalas tent.

Sunday: In the afternoon all the helpers came on site to prepare. First job – spray hairspray on the bottoms of all the tables! Sounds strange, but it discourages the wasps (there is a lot of chewing gum under the desks)! We then put the tables and chairs out and decorated the tent with lots of union jacks, bunting and Olympic rings. The craft materials were sorted, about 200 pencils sharpened and felt tip pens tested to check they hadn't dried up. At 6.30 a commissioning service was held in the large marquee. Neil, our vicar here at Newport, was invited to join us and gave an interesting talk. He told us not to stress about the week ahead, but to take our time and enjoy what was to come. VBS is not a sprint, it is a long distance race.

Monday: I arrived on site at 8.45 just as VBS was waking up – the tents being opened up, staff greeting each other, praying together and preparing for the day ahead. I had ten children on my table 'Team Cyclists', some boys and some girls, and one young helper, Jake. They were all very well behaved and so polite – it was a pleasure to get to know them over the course of the week.

During the first assembly John taught us the theme song for the 'Sports Academy' with all the actions – it felt like an aerobics class! The kids all picked it up easily, and enjoyed watching the adults struggling. Later on we had a challenge, each team had to make a model of an athlete, in a limited amount of time, using only newspaper and sellotape. We decided that it would be a bit difficult to create a bike out of newspaper, so settled on Usain Bolt in his trademark pose. The children really had fun with this (so did the adults!). All of a sudden 3.30 had arrived and parents came along to

collect the children – I could not believe how quickly the day went. One of the boys on my table said that VBS 'is the best thing I have ever done without my parents'.

Tuesday: The story was about David and Goliath. The children always enjoy hearing it, especially the way John tells it with funny voices and acting out parts of the story. For the craft activity the children all coloured and cut out pictures of Goliath. There were some menacing looking giants dotted around the tent at the end of the session! During the afternoon the children decorated biscuits with sweets and treats. In most cases there were only crumbs to show by the time the parents arrived!

Wednesday: Every morning during assembly John teaches the day's 'Memory Verse', a Bible verse that reflects the idea for the day. He teaches the verse as a song with lots of actions, to help the children remember it. We try and come up with fun ways to learn the verse and today the young helpers were wrapped in toilet roll and had to try and burst free while the children said the memory verse. There was a lot of enthusiasm and laughter!

The afternoon's challenge really was a challenge for us all. We were given a sheet of paper, and following Jake's instruction had to produce an origami rowing boat (to fit the Olympics theme).

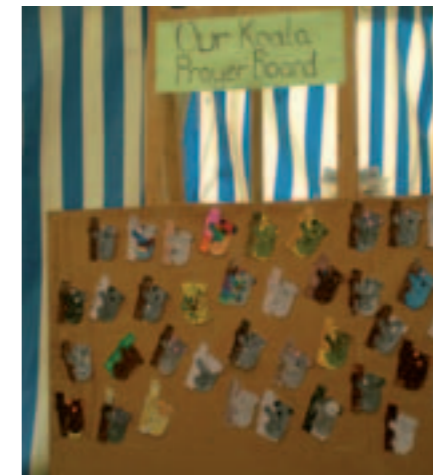
Thursday: A lovely warm, sunny day. Before lunch the group was split into two with some children staying in the tent, and the rest going outside. The children inside made cards showing photographs of themselves and newspaper pictures of famous sports stars, while the children outside played parachute games. After half an hour they swapped around. I was put in charge of the group outside, and we had great fun. One of the favourite games was sharks and lifeguards, where everyone sits around the outside of the parachute, with their legs underneath. One or two 'sharks' start underneath, and two 'lifeguards' patrol the outside. The sharks have to pull people under the parachute, whilst the lifeguards try and stop them. Once you have been pulled under you become a shark yourself – making it a much harder job for the lifeguards! We were quite a noisy bunch during these games!

The afternoon challenge involved one child from each team getting dressed up in really big clothes, and one of their team mates stuffing as many balloons inside the clothes as possible in a certain time. A lot of fun! They looked like sumo-wrestlers, or weightlifters – again fitting the Olympics theme.

In the evening there was a Family Service in the main assembly tent. All the children and their parents were invited, and the tents were open beforehand so the adults could see the work the children had done so far in the week.

Friday: The last day, with children being picked up at 2.30, so lots to fit in! Another warm, sunny day with no rain. We played games and made 'King David' crowns.

One of the highlights of VBS for many children is the 'Watt family drama', performed every day in assembly. This year the heroes Rick, Wendy and Grandma Watt (a bit of a pantomime



dame!) were up against a rival school in a football match. The other school were led by Grandma's old adversary Mabel the Unstable, who would stop at nothing to beat St David's – including stealing their lucky mascot. There was drama and a lot of comedy, and even some singing. All was well by the end of the week, as Mabel realised she didn't need to be horrible all the time and it didn't matter if her team didn't win.

It was sad to say goodbye to the children as we had had such a good week, getting to know them and teaching them from the Bible. So many people are involved in making VBS happen, not just the tent

leaders and helpers. There are those who helped to set up the site and pack everything away a week later. There are the welcomers, the toilet monitors, the assembly team who run the music and filming, the VBS band, John Hardwick, the security team including those on duty overnight, the site team, the chaplaincy team, and many more. The people of Newport really welcomed Vacation Bible School, and supported it. The VBS team enjoyed our first visit to Newport!

VBS 2013 will be held on Monday 5th August to Friday 9th August, venue to be confirmed at a later date.

If anyone would like more details please contact me on 01799 541463, or email becksm-89@hotmail.co.uk. NN

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Newport Sports Committee



MIKE HANNANT

Newport Sports Committee is the organisation responsible for the day to day management of Newport Recreation Ground and consists of representatives of the organisations that use the recreation ground as well as executive members.

Unfortunately the major event in the last six months or so has been a further break-in. This time the Scout Hut was targeted and metal work, catering equipment, cables and air rifles were taken. Other buildings at the Recreation ground were untouched and CCTV evidence indicates that the only target, this time, was the Scout Hut. The break in was similar to that last year in that the stolen items were dragged across the field to a vehicle parked down the bridle path. This is presumably to avoid the CCTV cameras in the car park being used to identify the type of vehicle and registration number. The police are investigating but it is unlikely they will apprehend the villains and, despite obtaining some forensic evidence at the previous break-in, no progress has been made in that case. I believe the losses of equipment are insured but this is no compensation for the disruption and inconvenience caused for the volunteers in the Scout movement as well as the youngsters who are members.

Contract and lease issues continue to delay progress on a replacement Scout Hut (with improved security). A slightly larger building than the current one is proposed, on the same site and you can understand the reluctance of The Scouts to spend money on a building they hope to replace shortly.

Following a dry spring we had a very wet summer which severely restricted the number of cricket matches Newport Cricket Club were able to

play at senior and junior levels. The Cricket Club replaced the artificial strip on the square, mainly used for junior cricket, at the start of the season. The Ladies Rounder's team continued to play their home fixtures on a Tuesday evening at the ground this season. Whilst the wet weather was not good news for the cricket, as all gardeners are aware, it was good news for the turf and at the time of writing the ground is in the best condition it has been in for many years. This is not only thanks to the weather but also the fertilizer and weed killer that was applied during the summer. These annual applications of fertilizer and weed killer are essential to maintain a suitable playing surface for cricket and football. Hopefully we are not looking at a wet winter which will test the drainage system to its full.

Whilst there are a number of planning proposals being considered for expanding the village, including land adjacent to the Recreation Ground, it is unlikely the Sports Committee will invest in drain improvement or improvements to the access until these planning proposals are finalised. Unfortunately we cannot place timescales on this.

We have further developed our relationship with Spartak 78, a local youth football team, who have hired the Recreation Ground on Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoons for the 2012/13 football season. Although they are Saffron Walden based their numbers include Newport residents and it is hoped that their use of the Recreation ground will encourage more Newport youngsters to join them. They are a well established club and run teams for youngsters from under 7's to under 18. I was lucky enough to be at the Recreation Ground when they ran a Saturday Morning training session for the younger age groups. This involved at least three practice matches as well as coaching sessions for both boys and girls and it was a joy to see The Recreation Ground so full of youngsters enjoying sport.

We continue to discuss with the Parish Council how The Sports

Committee can effectively manage the Recreation Ground without a formal lease that will incur legal fees for both organisations. It appears the way forward is to operate the Committee as a sub-committee of the Parish Council, similar to the way the Village Hall is run and managed. This still needs agreement of both the Parish Council and The Sports Committee and discussions are ongoing.

We continue to look at improving facilities at The Recreation Ground and are currently looking at adding a Multi Use Games Area behind the Youth Centre and Scout Hut. This will require moving the cricket nets, whose artificial strips are in need of repair anyway. This area would be fenced off, be an astro turf surface and suitable for a wide range of sports including football, netball, basketball, hockey, tennis, some forms of junior cricket, etc. It is proposed to provide floodlighting and security and that the facility will be open to the general public as well as the primary school. These facilities are not cheap and initial quotes indicate we need a budget of £150,000. It is hoped that we can fund the development from the many grants they are available post the London Olympics so watch this space. If anyone has experience of such projects and is willing to assist in some capacity I would be more than happy to hear from them.

Members of the public are permitted to use the Recreation ground field and the vast majority are welcome but, as always, there is the small minority who leave litter and do not clear up after their dogs. I would like to thank those members of the public and dog walkers that continue to advise us of misuse and, as I have personally witnessed, clear up other people's rubbish.

The organisations that are currently represented on the Sports Committee are: The Cricket Club, Newport Football Club, The Croquet Club, The Scouts and The Youth Club. The executive members, who are volunteers, include Sid Brockwell, Tony Phillips, Mike Spraget (Secretary) and Yogesh Bhagalia

(Treasurer). The Parish Council also send a representative to meetings.

The Ground, as well as the Rob Nicholl Meeting Room, are available for hire from the Committee and anyone interested should contact Mike Hannant on 01799 541063. If you are interested in joining any of the organisations that use the Recreation Ground please contact the appropriate person listed below. **NN**

Croquet Club

Roy Darling
Tel 01799 540998

Cricket Club – Senior

Chris Rix
Tel 01799 540609

Cricket Club – Junior

Alan Williams
Tel 01799 541933

Football Club (Saturday)

Newport FC
Mike Hannant
Tel 01799 541063

Scouts

Email: JIKES@hotmail.com

Brownies

Cynthia Jennings
Tel 01799 541408

Youth Club

Andrew Yarwood
Tel 07714708815

Tennis Club



SEAN MURPHY
(07767 795018)

Newport has a great community facility. Two lovely courts resurfaced last year and in fine condition available for everyone to play. Booking sheets and the key are held at the Village Stores. Or you can join a small but lively and thriving club – Newport Village Tennis Club.

Membership is great value at £35 a year for an adult and only £12 for a junior with a great rate for families. Membership forms are at the Village Stores or on the notice board by the courts. If you need to learn the game, then we have a fully qualified LTA coach in Ollie Toms.

Informal doubles are played every Saturday from 9am – just turn up and play. Ladies play on Tuesday mornings, and Social tennis is on Thursday evenings, whilst the light lasts. Lots of competitions are held with local villages and many social events as well.

Now we have a grand slam winner in Andy Murray there's never been a



TOP: WINNERS KEITH GUMMERY AND JOHN TRUEMAN RECEIVE THE PRESIDENT'S TROPHY FROM NETTI HAYES.

BELOW: THE MILEHAM TROPHY IS PRESENTED BY MIKE CHAHIN TO PETER VENUS AND PETER TOMS.

better time to play.

Lots more detail are on our website, and I look forward to seeing you soon. <https://sites.google.com/site/newportvillagetennisclub/> **NN**

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Newport Croquet Club

Headline in here
Headline in here

In 2012 we saw a return of top-class Association Croquet to Newport's lawns. After a gap of several years, we decided to arrange an open tournament and were rewarded with a prestigious field. Among these were the five-time world champion Robert Fulford, the captain of Great Britain's world championship winning team Keith Aiton and a third international player in the person of Mark Avery. Also among the competitors was rising star Nick Mounfield, who has recently achieved a position in the world top twenty. The play over the two days of competition was of a standard not previously seen at Newport, and the eventual victor was Avery, with Fulford second and Mounfield third.

At a slightly lower standard, Newport entered teams in both the Mary Rose, a national knockout tournament, and in the Essex-Suffolk league. The Mary Rose team was resoundingly defeated at the first hurdle by Wrest Park, while the league team ended up in an unlikely five-way tie for first place in the six-team league! Sadly, the tie-breaker rules determined that the league title went to Colchester. **NN**

By Xxxxx



**Newport Croquet Club
Green Section Season 2012**

Newport entered two sides in the East Anglia Golf Croquet League, Oaks and Elms. A total of twelve different players represented the club. Oaks battled through a number of very close fought games losing only by the closest of margins. Elms narrowly missed reaching the semi-final stage by winning 3 of their matches and drawing one. They were beaten to the post by Sudbury who went on to compete in the Semi Finals.

On Monday and Wednesday afternoons we continue to have between 20 and 24 members turning out to play. There is always someone on hand to assist with interpreting the rules of the game or giving coaching advice and new members receive a warm welcome.

Newport hosted the East Anglian Croquet Federation Club Champions Tournament on 8th July and their own B Class Tournament which was held on Saturday 21st July. Both events were very successful although rain threatened to disrupt the Champions Tournament. Clive Cassidy and Adrian Seabrook represented the club in the competition with Adrian finishing runner up in his section.

In-club competitions are continuing throughout the season. The Potters Pot is a singles competition played on a pool basis with the winner of each pool going forward to the semi-finals. Gordon's Goblet competition is a doubles competition played on a knock out basis.

The club continues to host events for Rotary Clubs, Village Associations and other organisations to allow them the opportunity of playing croquet in a friendly atmosphere with Newport Club members helping them to get to grips with the intricacies of the game. They have proved to be very successful events.

By Ernie Turkington

Newport Croquet Club

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Newport Football Club



MIKE HANNANT

The 2012/13 season has been underway for six weeks as I write this article and both teams have made promising starts and registered their first wins of the season.

Our first team continue to play in the Cambs League, Division 5A which is now

named The Newmarket Motor Company League (NMC for short) who are the new sponsors, on Saturday afternoons. The team is managed by Simon Brace and has a new kit for 2012/13 kindly funded by Alan and Colin Carr and the shirts are adorned with their company logos. The team has progressed to the second round of the Divisional Cup and beaten a very strong Whittlesford Reserves team (who have been scoring goals for fun) and promotion is a realistic opportunity. The first team is open to adults of all ages and the Division they currently play in includes teams from South Cambridge, Clare, Linton as well as three Saffron Walden based teams. An FA rule change allows teams to field up to five substitutes on a roll on roll off basis. The theory being that more playing time can be provided for those individuals who are not the superstars of the team. This in turn will encourage them to continue playing football as previously many become disheartened at only getting a few minutes at the end of a game. Training is currently held every Thursday evening at the Grammar School Astroturf pitch, usually at 7pm but may start at 8pm subject to other bookings. Interested players should call Mike Hannant on 07801717091 for confirmation of the starting time.

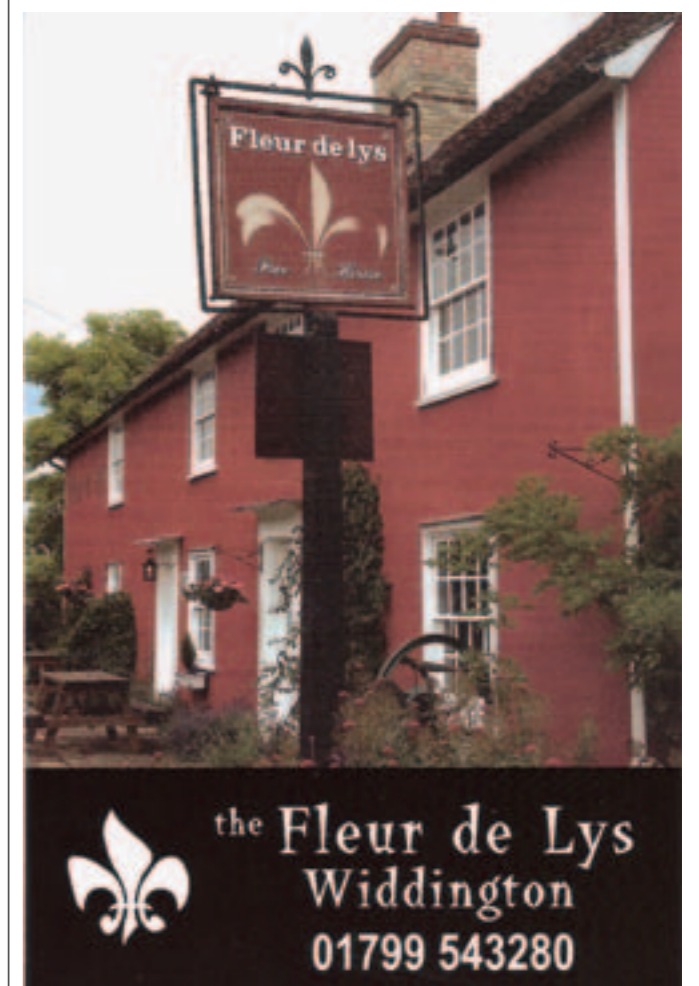
The other team run by the Club, Newport Veterans, is for those over 35 only (with no upper age limit) and is managed by Nigel Parslow. The Veterans play in the Greene King Essex Vets League, Division 4 West, on Saturday afternoons. A lower Division has been added to the League this season due to the increasing popularity of Vets football. Unfortunately "West" is used rather loosely and although the league includes a few local teams it also includes teams from Brentwood, Redbridge and Aveley, increasing the amount of travel. The Veterans have a relatively large squad but this is essential as the team is also entered in an over 45's Cup, plays one Sunday morning a month in the Cambs Vets League Division 2 and players tend to take longer to get over injuries. Veterans League football has for many years operated the roll on roll off substitute rules although in this case it is more about conserving energy! The increasing popularity of Vets football resulted in the first ever over 60's international being held between England and Wales earlier this year. Dave Blaylock and Alan East of Newport Veterans were both selected to play. Unfortunately Alan picked up an untimely injury and was unable to play but went along to support Dave. Further games are planned for the over 60's and teams at over 50 and over 55 level have been playing for a few years now. The Veterans also meet on a Thursday evening at the Grammar School Astroturf pitch, for a game of 7 or so a side, at the same time as our first team.



Both teams play at The Recreation Ground in the village and post match hospitality, which is a requirement in the Veterans League, is provided by Steve and Amy at The White Horse Public House. We thank them for the quality food they offer and their general support of the Football Club.

Results, fixtures and a host of statistics can be found on the FA Full Time web site where you need to enter the league name and then the Division. Results and League Tables are updated within hours of the games finishing and statistics a few days later.

If anyone is interested in joining us in a playing or social capacity please contact Mike Hannant on 07801717091. **NN**



Shortgrove Hall AERIAL PHOTOGRAPH



DAVID EVANS

During a visit to Mr James Scruby at Shortgrove Hall in early 2012 he produced a copy of the adjacent image. It was a fine oblique colour image showing the Hall, stables, gardens and home farm in Autumn 1965. This is the only colour aerial photo showing the house and its environs that I have ever seen. I immediately wanted it for the Newport collections and obtained a copy from Skyviews Aerial Archives, Rothwell, Leeds, LS26 ORS who own the copyright.

Shortgrove Estate was acquired from Captain Montagu by Mr Charles Butler in late 1938. Captain Montagu had concluded that the time of the English Country house had passed, though that did not stop him from buying another elsewhere! His words were prophetic in that shortly afterwards WWII had begun and the extravagant Country House style of life was to be swept away, never to be resumed in most cases in the post war period. In the late 1940s/early 1950s the Butlers realised that the house was too large for them. Their initial solution was to reduce the size of the property by demolishing the north wing which contained the service wing and bedrooms and extended into the stable court. This returned the house to a configuration to the north similar to that before the alterations made by Matthew Brettingham, architect to Percy Wyndham O'Brien, in the 1760s. This change opened up

the stable court and explains the large expanse of gravel in front of the lawns. Despite these and other changes the Butlers later decided that the Hall was still too large for them and sold it to a development company. However, the company was unable to proceed with their plans and later the property was acquired by Geoffrey Allen, an associate of the Kray Brothers. In 1966, shortly after this image was made, the Hall was gutted by fire which had spread to most of the building before the fire brigade had arrived. Their work was made difficult by the intensity of the fire and shortage of water after the swimming pool had been exhausted. After nearly 200 years of occupation this was the sad end of Shortgrove Hall as initially built by Giles Dent in the late 18th century.

It transpired that Allen had been involved in a number of suspicious fires; he was subsequently convicted of insurance fraud and sentenced to seven years imprisonment.

This view is of historical significance as it shows the Hall and environs in its final form. The colour content and roof-scape provide clues as to the development of the house e.g. the central part of the roof between the two pavilions on the east elevation is much different from the rest, the result of extension to the accommodation by in-filling the space to the full height of the building in the mid to late half of the 18th century. This may be explored in the future.

After the fire there was a long period of neglect and decay until in 1988 the site was again sold. Subsequently, the ruined hall was demolished and after some delay, permission was given for redevelopment of the stable block into large houses and the gardens to the rear were substantially restored. Around 2000 Mr Scruby built a large house on part of the site of the old hall which replaced a short-lived smaller one. Later the large white barn and some of the farm buildings were demolished, others were converted to private residences around 2010 accessed off the Walden Drive. **NN**

AN OBLIQUE AERIAL PICTURE OF SHORTGROVE HALL 27.10.1965. THE FRONT ELEVATION OF THE HOUSE FACED DUE WEST.



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The Maltings STATION ROAD, NEWPORT

As many readers will know Newport is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086, with the place-name thought to indicate it was a new town or market originating in the Saxon period. Though the settlement initially thrived, at around 1300AD the village was overshadowed by neighbouring Saffron Walden so prosperity declined and the market ceased. From the medieval period to the mid 18th century, Newport continued with a large number of farms in the vicinity, for example Pond Cross Farm which formerly owned the Maltings site prior to its development, as a Maltings.

After numerous abortive attempts in the 1820s and 30s the railway opened. Although initially declining with the demise of the coaching industry in the village, the railway soon boosted the economy of the area and Newport became the 'railhead' for the surrounding villages. The mid-19th century saw a period of substantial building in the vicinity of the train station and many of the buildings in the area date from this time, including both domestic houses as well as the industrial structures such as the Maltings.

Victorian maltings were typically

situated in barley producing regions, often located according to the transport links available, making Newport an ideal location with the River Cam to the west and the new-built railway line to the east. Conventionally maltings were constructed of the most readily available materials, often brick with weatherboarding over a timber frame for certain elements.

Externally the complex of our buildings is remarkably complete and retains its external integrity, but the internal technical features have been lost when the buildings were converted in the 80's. However, the two conical kilns within the maltings building remain of particular interest. Few examples of this type survive in Essex and by the mid 19th century most new maltings were erected with pyramidal kilns, and it has been suggested these examples may reflect the type of malt being produced. The malting industry was essentially conservative and technological innovations, were slow to be adopted (if at all).

During the late 19th century, pioneering individuals began to use mechanical power and labour-saving apparatus. As the malting industry developed, the malthouses became increasingly larger and industrialised.

Some traditionally-worked floor maltings adopted such methods, but many smaller ones remained un-mechanised until their closure in the first half of the 20th century.

It is not known when our malting stopped working, but industrial and commercial activity continued on the site with the conversion of the buildings on the site into light industrial and office units in the 1980s forming a total of 23 units and five office suites, catering for a wide range of companies. The 'malsters house' towards the front of the site was apparently converted into two cottages in 1987 but historic map evidence suggests this building comprised two properties as early as 1877.

Today we are retaining half the existing buildings as office and studio use, and the remaining half is planned for new homes. We are renovating the old building and incorporating modern standards into a beautiful traditional building. We are also building 5 new homes in the grounds of the Maltings. These are designed to complement the Maltings and deliver the highest standards demanded of current building regulations.

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Running the Olympics through Newport



JEREMY ROSE

“**D**ad, I've volunteered to help run the Olympics through Newport. See ya! Oh, and err... can you pick me up from Saffron Walden Council offices at 6 o'clock, please?”

So started a long chain of events that involved taking the car out at odd times of the day

to pick up volunteers, but that inspired not only our family, but a whole group of local people. And all thanks to Tristan Rose. Good guy. Great son. And a very community-minded individual. I'm very proud of him. I was also very proud to be able to help organise the marshals when the Olympic torch relay came through Newport.

Tristan was charged with getting people together for radio and basic first aid training. Everyone wanted to be a part of the Olympic magic and torch relay. It was coming through our village – something that will never happen again in our lifetimes.

Suffice to say that we all turned up on the day, apprehensive as to what we were letting ourselves in for, what the weather was going to be like, and desperately trying to remember the call signs and instructions we'd been told to memorise. We



ABOVE: OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY 2012: RAIN OR SHINE, WE MARSHALLED ON.
RIGHT: TRISTAN ROSE – NEWPORT'S OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY CO-ORDINATOR.
BELOW: TROUPING OFF TO OUR DESIGNATED STATIONS: "CAN I BE HERE? MY MUM'S COMING OVER IN A MINUTE..."



were each issued with an Uttlesford District Council hi-vis jacket, water bottle and radio before receiving our final briefing. We were distributed evenly along the torch route, from The Spinney – where the torch would start its journey through Newport – past various 'kiss points' along the High Street, to the entrance to Shortgrove Estate, where the convoy would leave the village and continue on its journey on to Saffron Walden.

I met a wide range of people from all over the UK, and all over the world. A lovely media team from Japan were running around asking where the torch was going to be, and had we seen Jamie Oliver? Some Americans told me how they were visiting friends and just wanted to be part of it all. I spoke to so many people from so many different places, all coming together to celebrate the Olympic spirit. Many marshals were offered cups of tea, use of toilet facilities, and even invited to pose for photographs!

The wonderful people of Newport made me proud to be British. The village itself was a sea of red, white and blue. People were out all morning – in some places lined up along the route five or six deep – with flags, bunting, street decorations and hooters. There was a great community atmosphere. As well as managing the crowds and ensuring



everyone remained on the pavements, we found ourselves shepherding children across roads, making sure that the Red Cross ambulance had a safe place to park, and just making people laugh as they came and went.

Eventually the cavalcade arrived, with police motorcycles up front, followed by patrol cars, and then some very official looking BMWs and Range Rovers. For the next ten minutes or so a convoy of buses, cars, trucks, police outriders and yet more BMWs, all filtered through the crowded streets of Newport. And then came the rain. It lashed down.

Flags, hooters and even screams could be heard as Jamie Oliver emerged, waved at the crowds, puffed out his chest in



ABOVE LEFT: ANDY SIVELL WAS MASTER OF THE AIRWAVES. "CHARLIE OSCAR: WHAT? CAN'T HEAR YOU. WHAT? WHAT DID YOU SAY? OVER."
ABOVE RIGHT: JEREMY ROSE
LEFT: LOCAL TORCH RELAY VOLUNTEERS AWAIT FINAL BRIEFING

true 'Only Way Is Essex' fashion, and began to trot along.

The rain stopped, the sun came out and even the police waved enthusiastically as they cruised past. The cavalcade moved on and the Newport Carnival began.

I was one of over 80 volunteers who helped to make it happen, and I'm proud. I'm proud of Tristan for inspiring our family to volunteer, and I'm proud of Newport. We put on a spectacular show.

Now, where do I apply to be a volunteer in Rio? **NN**

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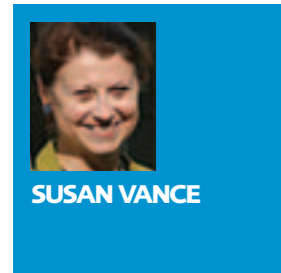



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Voices of Newport



SUSAN VANCE

The series in which we hear from people who were born and have lived most of their lives in Newport. This is the second instalment of the Voice of Dennis Saville relaying his memories of growing up in the village, of the changes he has seen during that time and of his thoughts about Newport. We begin with the event that opened new vistas for him.

DENNIS SAVILLE: PART TWO

Dennis Saville was born in Newport, the second of four children of George Saville who worked at the Carnation Nurseries and of his wife Elsie who was a cook at Newport Free Grammar School. The family lived at 5 Bury Water Lane, and apart from a period abroad for National Service, Dennis has spent his entire life living in the village. It is here with his wife Jean that their three sons, Stephen, Martin and Neil have been brought up.

“In 1952 a great change happened in my life. This was when I went to do my National Service. I trained at Oswestry, then Rhyll in Wales, then to Woolwich in London and I managed to be there when London had its worst smog ever. Do you know, there was even a notice outside the cinema warning customers that visibility could not be guaranteed inside? Fancy not being able to see the film because of the smog! It got

everywhere. Even the conductors on the buses had to walk in front of the bus with flares to warn people the bus was coming – dreadful it was.

After that, I was then sent on a boat to Hong Kong. It had been a cruise liner so it was rather luxurious inside. We took five weeks to get there – it was indeed a 'slow boat to China'. For me it was a five week holiday and I really enjoyed it as I'd never been away before. We went down through the Med, then the Suez Canal and remember I had scarcely been out of Newport and here I was crossing the world. We spent Christmas Day itself in Aden where all we had to celebrate was a rock cake and a cup of tea. We also stopped at Colombo where we had shore leave. We tried to visit a mosque but changed our minds when we discovered we had to leave our boots outside – no way were any of us doing that. Of course I carried on playing sport. This time it was cricket and football for the regiment.

We were actually stationed on the mainland, Kowloon. It was Christmas Eve



DENNIS ON NATIONAL SERVICE 1954. TROOPS READY TO DISEMBARK FOR MOCK INVASION OF AN ISLAND OFF HONG KONG



Dennis Saville

1953. I remember as I was on duty. Suddenly on the horizon I noticed smoke billowing up into the sky. There was obviously a very large fire some distance away. Outside Hong Kong there was a shanty town where about 57,000 people lived in just makeshift homes. Well it turns out something had caught fire and it spread very quickly wiping out the whole encampment. This meant that all these people were now homeless and without food. They were taken to the Boundary Park Sports field and our army chefs prepared huge amounts of boiled rice. We put this into large brand new dustbins, loaded these onto lorries and took them to feed these poor people. My job was to keep law and order in the food queues but that was no problem with the Chinese. They were a very orderly people and they all waited patiently till it was their turn. I shall never forget these scenes.

I was in Signals. I remember one day in particular. It would've been the same year. I was sitting there with not much going on, just tweaking some of the knobs when I



DENNIS READY FOR THE INVASION

picked up a news bulletin coming in from Moscow. It was in English and first of all I couldn't believe it but yes I had heard it correctly, the commentator was definitely reporting the sudden death of Stalin. I then immediately broadcast this throughout the barracks – so we were some of the first in the world to hear about the death of this tyrant.

Coming back from Hong Kong took a week less and in far less comfortable surroundings on the Empire Troop ship. There were hundreds of us on each deck sleeping in hammocks but when the waters were calm we were at least allowed to sleep outside on the top deck. We came back through Suez and although we didn't see any action, we were on red alert and we knew that the boat was armed even though officially it wasn't supposed to be. I must be plagued by fog though because when we came up through the Red Sea, lo and behold we found ourselves in a real pea souper and all the ships had to sound a warning gong to avoid collisions.

Once home in Newport I went back to carpentry which I continued until I retired when I was 65. I worked for several companies after Rattee and Kett including Byfords and Claydens here in Newport. It was shortly after this that I met Jean whilst I was working on rebuilding the Saffron Walden Laundry, following a fire. We got married in 1959.

We bought Parsonage Cottage in Bury Water Lane for £750 – that might not sound a lot but it certainly was in those days – and we have lived here ever since though it's a lot bigger than when we bought it. We are lucky that no one has built opposite where the larches grow. They are a lot bigger than when we first came here. We used to be able to see Wicken Road. These trees were planted as a crop for making matches. You see there used to be a match making factory in Bishop's Stortford.

Since my retirement my interest in wood working has continued. I love making things from wood, putting all types of woods together to make interesting objects. I love designing things, being creative. Unfortunately for health reasons I've had to stop and that's really upset me but I still have lots of the things I've made and I often pop into my workshop.

In many ways my life today here in Newport hasn't changed a great deal. As I've mentioned, I still do sport and



WEDDING OF DENNIS AND JEAN TAYLOR FROM WIMBISH 20TH JUNE 1959

gardening and I also walk every day, at least three miles – it's good for the heart. Our family live locally, not all in Newport but we regularly see our sons and their families and the seven grandchildren and of course my brother Peter who's now living in the village again.

In other ways though, life is very different from my childhood here. We had no electricity in Bury Water till 1946, just paraffin lamps. There was no mains



JEAN WITH STEPHEN AND MARTIN OUTSIDE PARSONAGE COTTAGES

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WOODEN URN IN OAK, MAHOGANY AND PLYWOOD MADE BY DENNIS



DENNIS AND JEAN'S THREE SONS MARTIN, STEPHEN AND NEIL

drainage till the 1960s but there was more community I feel. People spoke to each other more. I know the village was a lot smaller and I could recognise most everybody and I certainly knew everyone in Bury Water but now I know very few people even though I walk round the village almost every day. Years ago no one ever locked their doors yet today we even have to lock our garden sheds.

I think the greatest change though is the traffic. As kids we played with car

tyres, used them like old hoops. We would spin them down Star Hill – that's now Wicken Road – and out onto the main road – just think how dangerous that would be nowadays.

Places do grow on you and after nearly eight decades here, Newport and I are now permanently entwined so I can't imagine ever leaving the village, living anywhere else. A smaller house and particularly a smaller garden – yes but it would have to be here in this village. Newport has always been my home and I hope it always will. ”

I would like to thank Dennis for all his help in writing this article, in particular his enthusiasm and his attention to detail. I have really enjoyed interviewing him and hearing about his life and his wide range of interests – gardening, woodwork, sport and of course his family.

This year Dennis celebrated his 80th Birthday and *Newport News* would like to take this opportunity to congratulate him. NN



DENNIS AND HIS BROTHER PETER

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DIY Wills A RISKY BUSINESS

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A Will is one of the most important documents you will ever make but an increasing number of people are content with preparing homemade Wills, frequently in an attempt to cut costs. However, although DIY Wills are relatively inexpensive, the legal costs involved to remedy their potential errors may well exceed the cost of a professionally prepared Will. Moreover, it may not be possible to rectify mistakes that are discovered after your death. Off-the-shelf DIY Will kits are often

poorly written, leading to confusion over what assets have been left and to whom. Common errors that can occur in the process of making a DIY Will include incorrectly signing or witnessing the Will, which renders the document invalid. Furthermore, a beneficiary can compromise their inheritance by acting as a witness. Even if you successfully avoid these pitfalls and create a valid document using a homemade Will, there is always the possibility that nobody is able to locate your Will when it is needed. By using a regulated Law Firm, not only can you be certain your Will contains your exact wishes and instructions, you can be confident your Will will be stored safely. Most law firms will allow you to store your Will in their strong room free of charge.

If you choose to use a Will-writing firm over a solicitors, make sure it is regulated. A recent case in which an unregulated Will-writer was jailed for

14 months after fraudulently charging clients to fix a non-existent problem with their Wills, highlights the dangers of using an unregulated body. The cost of a professionally written Will includes the advice given by a solicitor, who is subject to regulation by the Solicitors Regulation Authority, unlike many Will-writers who are not legally qualified or governed by regulation.

Do not be tempted to cut corners when it comes to writing your Will. Doing so could result in high legal costs or, at worst, an invalid Will. Seek the help of regulated solicitors and relax with the peace of mind that your wishes will be carried out.

Local firm Tees' Wills, Trusts and Probate department has extensive experience in advising individuals on all aspects of tax and estate planning. If you are thinking of preparing a Will, please contact them for expert and professional advice. NN

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Village Fête – 25 years ago



JOHN GORDON



RON AMOS, CHAIRMAN OF THE FÊTE COMMITTEE.
ABOVE: THE COMMON, 2ND SEPTEMBER 1987.

The village fête in 1987 was organised by the excellent Ron Amos and his team. Ron was very nervous about the outcome but in the event it was a great success, despite the ground being incredibly muddy from the recent flooding. Just eleven days before the fête people were canoeing on the common.

On the way back I snapped a cross section of Newport's young people in the bus shelter. I took the opportunity of asking them what we could do for Newport's Youth. They came up with the suggestion of hiring out the Youth Club at the Old Studio which they could rent and run themselves which seemed a good idea. **NN**



12 YOUNG PEOPLE OF NEWPORT.
LEFT TO RIGHT: AMI NASH, DONNA SMART, MEL MUMMERY, STEVEN BARBER, PAUL GREEN, PAUL HOWMAN, JAMIE DOBLE, JASON PHIPPS, ANDREW GILLIAR, MARK WINDER (TOP), ANDREW FENWICK AND ANDREW DOBLE.

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FILLER

Cars of a certain age



JOHN GORDON

I am afraid that I have slightly cheated by including a car built after the critical year of 1974, the year in which *Newport News* began, but seeing it I was so bowled over by its beauty and rarity that I have bent the rules. I hope that you will agree that it was worth it.

First of all, a few words about Pepe. He was born in 1946 in Spain. Seeking to make his fortune he came to England in 1965 and after a number of different jobs he found himself working at Harlow hospital where he met Carmela, a young lady from Italy. They married in 1970 in Harlow, though they had their reception at Church House, Newport. That year they fulfilled a dream by buying Eddie Guile's Carnation nurseries, which I believe started in 1906. It consists of one acre, which originally grew carnations for Shortgrove Hall but in the last war had changed to tomatoes and cucumbers.

Pepe and Carmela worked hard and in 1984 were able to replace all the old wooden framed glass houses by steel ones and four years later changed from oil to coal for heating purposes. They doubled production and from then until 2009 they supplies supermarkets. However, upon their 'Retirement' that year they cut production to 20% and concentrated on local retail customers.

Having married in 1970 they first of all had a daughter, Patricia, born in 1972 who lives in Linton and works in London and is married with one daughter. In 1980 their son David appeared, who runs his excellent garage on the nursery premises and is married with two children and lives in Saffron Walden. In 1986 Pepe and Carmela moved to St. Leonard's Close which they had built and where they



PEPE CARRO WITH HIS 1978 FERRARI 308GTS

live happily.

All this while Pepe had a dream and followed the prices of classic cars and in 2002 found at last a possible project, a crashed 1978 Ferrari 308GTS. He went along to see it, bought it and then followed 10 years of work to get it up to scratch. It is now a beautiful, almost feline car, which gives him a lot of fun and enormous satisfaction having saved it for posterity. As Pepe said, "It's not a car for everyday motoring but for high days and holidays when it's wonderful". **NN**

APOLOGY

In the last issue I mistakenly put the owner's name of the Bond Bug as Robert Knight when of course it should have been Robert Andrews. This was entirely my fault and I am so sorry Robert.

CLASSICS! If you have a classic car, motorbike, van, lorry or bus (or any other kind of vehicle!), and would like to be featured in Newport News, please get in touch with John Gordon (542090).

LEARN TO DRIVE FOR THE NEW YEAR

A & M

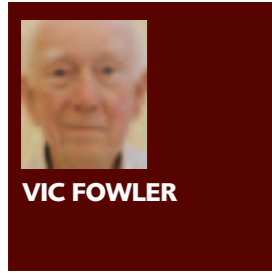
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Vic's favourite shrubs



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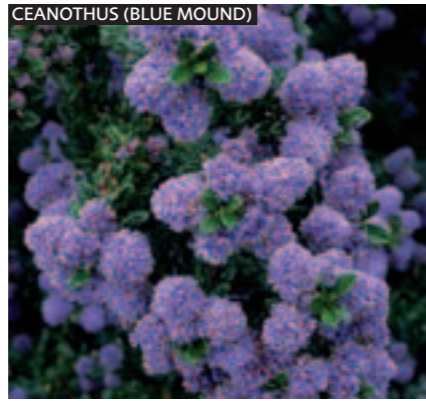
In this article I will discuss my favourite shrubs. Not included are those shrubs that are climbers, or best against a wall or fence. Also gardeners' most popular plants – roses. Both these will be discussed separately in future articles.

Hydrangeas

These can be divided into mopheads or lacecaps. The former have spherical flower heads. Even if bought blue in colour, on our soil, with a pH over 5.5, they will quickly turn pink. The white ones are unaffected, a good white is *H.arborescens* 'Annabell', put in sun or partial shade. There are plenty of pink ones displayed at garden centres. Lacecaps have flat-heads with small fertile flowers in the centre surrounded by much larger petal-like (really sepals) flowers. A lacecap that I particularly like is *H.villosa*. This and some of its close relatives, is the only group I know that retain their blue colours on our alkaline soil. When in bloom in late summer it is breath-takingly beautiful. The flowers are purple in the centre surrounded by bluish-white petals. It can be scorched by late frosts, after it has come into leaf, but usually recovers with a fresh flush of growth. However, if this occurs future growth during the



HYDRANGEA VILLOSA



CEANOTHUS (BLUE MOUND)

season is restricted, so it is worth protecting with a fleece when frosts are forecast after the first leaves have appeared.

Viburnums

Viburnum carlesii is grown mainly for its very fragrant flowers that appear in mid-late spring. Try and get one of the two varieties either 'Diana' or 'Aurora', these have larger flowers in the form of rounded clusters, both have the RHS award of garden merit (AGM). They grow up to 6ft in height.

Another *Viburnum* worth considering is *V.plicatam* 'lanarth'. It has layered branches with white flowers along each length and once established produces a layered effect, often likened to a wedding cake. Eventually it can reach 10ft but if this is too tall prune out the top tier after flowering.

Daphnes

This is a group of highly fragrant shrubs. I grow *Daphne odora* which is more often obtainable as 'Aurea Marginata' having leaves with yellow margins. When it flowers in late spring



VIBURNUM CARLESII



MAGNOLIA WILSONII

its fragrance will turn heads. Good for cutting, remove just the flower head with a short length of stalk attached and put in a small, narrow-necked vase. Prefers being in shade but not dry shade. May reach a height of 5ft. I regard this as a must for all gardens.

Kolkwitzia

K.amabilis, also known as beauty bush, can grow up to 10ft high, it can be kept smaller by removing the top branches after flowering. Pink and white flowers are produced on long drooping branches in late spring. Variety 'Pink cloud' has larger blooms. Plant in full sun or partial shade.

Ceanothus

Blue-flowered *Ceanothus* are always much admired when in flower. They require a sunny position sheltered from cold winds. Flower colour ranges from dark blue to sky blue. Most grow fairly tall up to 12ft high or more and once planted do not respond well to being moved, so think about where to position a plant before purchase. *C.thyriflora* 'repens' is a low spreading one about 3ft high, bearing Cambridge



DAPHNE ODORA

blue flowers in spring, another of its varieties 'Ken Taylor' is even lower being about 12in high. *C.arborescens* includes 'Blue Mound' with deep blue flowers in spring, height about 5ft, 'Cascade' is a lovely hybrid about 12ft high with similar coloured flowers, 'Delight' is 5ft high with powder blue flowers and *C.dentatus* about 5ft high with bright blue flowers in late spring. Most of these have the RHS award of garden merit (RGM).

Magnolias

Readily available, with tulip-shaped white flowers flushed with purple at the base is *Mxsoulangiana*. Try and buy a specimen with many shoots at the base. If it is single stemmed it will grow into a tree. One I particularly like is *M.wilsonii* which produces saucer-shaped, single flowers that hang down and have a central portion of red stamens that add to the attraction. It is best in partial shade and is lime-tolerant. Provide protection from late frosts with a fleece once it has broken into leaf. Flowers appear shortly afterwards but the leaves readily become scorched and flowers suffer too. It usually shoots again but future growth is restricted and you lose the flowers for that season. If it grows vigorously then you will need to cut off the apical growth and encourage side shoots to develop. It does make an attractive small tree.

Acers

Many of these, also known as maples, are trees. It is the Japanese acers with finely divided leaves that attract most people. But they can be expensive to buy. They are renowned for their autumn colour. To thrive they should be planted in a place sheltered from cold winds in sun or partial shade. *A.palmatum* 'dissectum' has green, much-divided leaves in summer and turns red in autumn. A close relative is *A.p.'Dissectum Atropurpureum'* with deep reddish foliage turning yellow in autumn, it contrasts well with above. Both are regarded as small shrubs. There are several others but if you like those with delicately cut leaves then go for these two.

There are other shrubs that could have been included such as lilacs which become rather large, buddlias that attract butterflies and should be hard pruned each spring to within 1 or 2 ft from the ground: Forsythias with yellow flowers along their branches in early spring that can be cut when in bud to provide flowers for the house, otherwise tends to be an untidy grower: *Spiraea 'Arguta'* 'Bridal wreath' with white flowers in late spring, looks good in flower: *Deutzias* are worth considering with flower colours ranging from white to dark red: *Cornus* (Dogwoods) are mostly grown for their red or yellow stems, in winter, prune hard back in spring. A shrub I would not grow is *Pyracantha* which grows with an entangled mass of foliage and has vicious spines.

Frost and garden plants

As we are approaching winter it is a timely moment to discuss frost. Ground frost occurs when the temperature at ground level is at or below 0 degrees C. It is usually recognisable by the ice crystals that make a white coat over the soil surface. It is measured at 2in above ground level. This does little harm to woody hardy garden plants because the lower part of the stem is naturally well-protected, so is able to cope. Above this if the air is at or below 0 degrees C it is called an air frost, which is officially measured at 6ft above ground level. This is a frost most damaging to plants, especially when late frosts occur in May after many plants have come into leaf. Then it is advisable to protect vulnerable plants. The straight forward way to do this is by tying fleece at the base of the plant and draping it over the plant. Keep it in place with clothes pegs. Although it doesn't enhance the garden it can be left in place without harming the plant in any way.

On sloping ground frost drains downhill so it tends to accumulate in the lowest parts of the garden producing a frost pocket or if the progress of the frost is interrupted by an obstacle like a wall or fence then it can form there. Not much can be done about this but it is best to avoid planting vulnerable plants in such situations. **NN**

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Slug-a-beds and early risers



BARI HOOPER

The English language is subject, like a living organism, to continuous growth and decay. If it were not so it would gradually become moribund. Fortunately there is little danger of this occurring. On the contrary, its inflectional simplicity and capacity for assimilating borrowings from other languages make it very likely that it will eventually become the premier language of the civilised world. As well as absorbing heterogeneous elements it continuously expands its vocabulary with new words harvested from the fertile fields of science and technology. As an historian I have a more than passing interest in words and their origins, but I must confess that I have no fondness for the neologisms gathered from these important sources. My interest is in old words that have fallen out of fashion and are currently on the slippery slope to obsolescence. These barely surviving locutions, while not rare within the pages of historical accounts are much less common in speech, and when they do surface it is usually in the utterances of the elderly.

A nice example of just such an outmoded word came to my ears recently while listening to a lady 'well stricken in years', telling of her life in Newport during the Second World War. The villagers, she informed me with pride, were not slow to fulfil their wartime obligations. The able-bodied young men joined the Armed Services, while those too old or unfit for full time service were given the opportunity of enrolling in the Home Guard or Civil Defence. But even in time of war not all hearts beat to the rhythm of the patriotic drum, even, sad to say, in Newport. According to my elderly informant, one young man, a neighbour of hers, 'let the side down' in

successfully avoiding national service by convincing a medical board that he suffered from a 'bad back'. She named the individual concerned, of whom, save for her allegation, I knew nothing. And at the risk of encouraging her to broaden the discussion to include a catalogue of her own ailments, which from a previous conversation, appear to be not dissimilar to those suffered by the unfortunate Job, I mildly ventured the opinion that orthopaedic disorders can be quite incapacitating. My attempt at impartiality was however, perfunctorily dismissed, the man, she insisted, was a 'lazy shirker', and as a corollary to this uncompromising character assessment, 'and an idle slug-a-bed'.

To be quite frank the belated aspersions heaped upon the head of the old lady's erstwhile neighbour did not enthrall me. The episode of which she spoke seemed to me to be little more than antiquated village gossip, but having an interest in outmoded words I was delighted to hear the term of reproach with which she ended her denunciation. The Roman playwright Plautus remarked 'When an old word fits the occasion, it is well used'. And what better description for an habitual late-riser is there than 'slug-a-bed'? It brings to mind the scene in Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, in which the nurse on entering the drugged Juliet's bed-chamber, supposing the eponymous heroine to be sound asleep, exclaims,

Mistress! What, mistress! Juliet!
Fast, I warrant her, she.
Why, lamb, why, lady, fie! You slug-abad!
(IV. v. 2)

This is the earliest recorded literary use of the compound word 'slug-a-bed'. As a master of verbal felicity Shakespeare coined a number of new words in his plays and poems, but in this instance he may simply have been repeating a colloquialism in common usage at the time. The word 'slug' was used in the Late Middle Ages to describe a slow, lazy person; when suffixed with the formative -ard, it becomes 'sluggard', a word used to evoke one whose tardiness and indolence is excessive. That each of

these words was in regular use in Shakespeare's England, is evident from *King Richard III*, in which the bard has young Prince Edward, impatient at the late arrival of Lord Hastings, peevishly exclaim, 'Fie, what a slug is Hastings, that he comes not'. Later, in the same play, when the Lords enter the tent of Earl Richmond on the morning of the Battle of Bosworth, the sleepy nobleman greets them with the words 'Cry mercy, lords and watchful gentlemen, That you have ta'en a tardy sluggard here'.

When my Saffron Walden informant execrated her former neighbour as a 'slug-a-bed', she did so with obvious contempt, whereas the nurse in reproaching the sleeping Juliet, uses the term playfully, as one might when rousing a drowsy child for school. The Cavalier poet Robert Herrick applies it with similar lightness in his poem 'Corinna's going a Maying', in which he urges his mistress to rise and take in the joys of the traditional May Day festival:

Get up, get up for shame, the Blooming Morn
Upon her wings presents the god unshorne.
See how 'Aurora' throws her faire
Fresh-quilted colours through the aire:
Get up, sweet-Slug-a-bed, and see
The Dew-bespangling Herbe and Tree.

Though some poets applied the censure with moderation, late-rising, the habit which gave birth to it, has long been condemned by the self-righteous as an abomination. And, if the tales in the Book of Proverbs are to be taken literally, not least among those to voice their disapprobation was the oriental autocrat King Solomon. Much to his mortification the old despot was burdened with a bed-loving son, a lazy lout who saw no virtue in casting off the camel-hair coverlet and rising to greet the dawn. Disgusted at this exhibition of filial indolence the sententious Solomon, never one to lose the opportunity of leaving a piece of proverbial wisdom for posterity, ordered his erring issue to, 'Go to the ant, though sluggard; consider her ways and be wise'. But the languid loafer, indifferent to the admirable industriousness of the ant, remained firmly embedded in his cosy crib, an act



of somnolent rebellion that induced the peeved patriarch, to inquire of him sarcastically, 'How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard?' Of the son's reply, if indeed he had the temerity to do so, the Bible is regrettably silent. Perhaps, fatigued at the early morning inquisition, he was disposed to return to sleep?

Schoolmasters of old deplored the slug-a-bed, but some, rather than stress the perceived evil of early morning languor, chose (if I may paraphrase the words of a popular wartime song?) to 'Accentuate the positive / Eliminate the negative / And latch on to the affirmative', and by so doing encourage early-rising as a virtue leading to rich rewards. Evidence for this positive approach may be seen in the testimony of the author Sir Anthony Fitzherbert, who recalling his early Tudor schooldays, informs us,

At grammar-school I learnt a verse that is this: Sanat, sanctificat, et didat surgere mane. That is to say, Erly rysing maketh a man hole in body, holer in soule, and richer in goodes.

A number of variants of this proposition are present in English literature, the most well-known being that penned by Jacobean schoolmaster John Clarke, who proclaimed, 'Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, and wealthy and wise'. Though 'very famous for learning and piety', Clarke was, according to the later judgment of one of his pupils 'a supercilious pedant ... conceited of his owne pedantique forms'. Nevertheless, he was held in respect by his fellow pedagogues as sound educationalist, and in that capacity he wrote several books for the 'learning and fuller instruction' of schoolmasters and their charges, in one of which he characterises the slug-a-bed as one 'Ever sick of the slouthfull guise, Loath to bed and loath to rise', a rhyming couplet subsequently oft-repeated by later authors.

The moralist's enthusiasm for rising at break of day begs the question, what is a proper time to rise? The modish Elizabethan author John Lyly, answers it thus, 'Go to bed with the lamb and rise with the lark'. The farmer used to bedding down his sheep at dusk and

listening to the warbling of the dawn chorus, knew just what he meant, but the sophisticated townsman was in need of more precise counsel. It was Lyly's contemporary, the quarrelsome Elizabethan scholar poet Gabriel Harvey of Saffron Walden, who provides the answer,

He that will thryve, must rise at five,
He that hath thryven, may lye till seaven,
He that will never thrive, may lye till alevn.

Heedless of the advice of Harvey and all those other wiseacres of yesteryear who confuse the habit of early rising with virtue, I have to admit to being something of a 'slug-a-bed' myself. Viewing the hymnist's 'roseate hues of early dawn' may well be an uplifting experience, but I am more in tune with the sentiments expressed in the title of the old music hall song 'O! It's nice to get up in the morning, But it's nicer to lie in bed'. **NN**

Sluggish footnote

The gardener's bane, the slow-moving slimy gastropod that we call a 'slug', was not known in print by that name until 1704. Previous to this it was not differentiated in name from the snail.

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Newport treasure hunt **ANSWERS**



Here are the answers to the Summer Quiz published in the last issue. **If you haven't done it yet, cover up the answers, and give it a go!**

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- As you leave the church the first clue is in front of you**
1. Who might have met St Paul along the road? **A:** John Hanchett
- Go along the path and past the light**
2. Leave the churchyard by Windy's Gate? **A:** Miller's Gate
3. Who lived 1928 – 1989? **A:** W H Ingham (Bill)
4. $7 + ? = 1863$? **A:** 9
- Turn left towards next clue**
5. Who is remembered by the trunk on Elephant Green? **A:** Eddie + ETTY Heaton
6. How many owls are sitting by the moon? **A:** 2
7. Take a seat and add up the total miles behind you **A:** 76
- Carry on in a northward direction**
8. Who do you see when you look 'This Way Please'? **A:** Humpty Dumpty
- Cross over Gages Acre**
9. Whose Jubilee is commemorated here 1918-1968? **A:** Newport Womens' Institute
10. How much is a bull? **A:** 4d
- Cross the main road carefully and bear right into Bridge End**
11. The dog and duck must have looked at Medusa here **A:** The Priory
12. What is the number of the bridge? **A:** 1514
13. Witch whinging woman might live here? **A:** Moaning Myrtle
14. Who do the moths fly around at night? **A:** Helen & William, Henry Slater + Martin Slater + Imogen Mollet
15. There is an island of this name on the south coast near Portsmouth **A:** Hayling near Portsmouth
- Now turn around to head back along the main road and the next clue is close by**
16. Where did Charles H A Butler live? **A:** Shortgrove
17. Which American university is across the way? **A:** Yale
18. A Lancaster bomber over Newport weather you like it or not, but where is it? **A:** The Green Garages
19. What is 4.3m or 14'3" **A:** The maximum height of the railway bridge
20. Our Newport mightn't be in Wales but this seaside town is **A:** Rhyl
- Now, a bit of a walk to the next clue. Cross Bridge End and up the hill**
21. What's landed on the cockney cup of tea? **A:** A Butterfly
22. Are you backward to go 'smoor gnidaer', literally? **A:** The Reading Rooms
23. What colour is this green house said to be? **A:** Brown
24. To return the insult, where would you stick your tongue out? **A:** 1 The Flat
25. $Z \times 4D = ?$ **A:** Zebra Crossing Beacon
26. Yellow Technology, who's remembered outside? **A:** Elsie Martin and her son + Kenneth George Martin
27. Was Mary Poppin's friend Bert a local man? **A:** Newport Sweepers
28. What yellow spice makes Premier Garage secure? **A:** Saffron
- Carefully cross Debden Road**
29. Name the two sons of Zeus **A:** Appollo/Hurcules
30. Zeus' daughter is here somewhere too? **A:** Athena
31. Which cathedral city has water on tap? **A:** Winchester (Outside Georgians)
32. Where might the stone dogs be guarding Abba **A:** Waterloo House
33. Where is the 2009 ridge? **A:** No 1 Pond Cross Farm
- Turn around and cross back over the main road at the zebra crossing**
34. What was established in 1919? **A:** Dorringtons
35. Who was the carpenter that left his mark? **A:** B Hirst
- Cross over Bullfields**
36. What do HS do? **A:** Hair Styling
37. Is this house a firework? **A:** Catherine House
38. What number gives Traveline info? **A:** 0871 2002233
- Turn left up the B1038**
39. How many reindeer can you find? **A:** 2
- Cross over Wicken Road and turn left to go back up the hill towards the church**
40. On whom does the light shine? **A:** D.H.R. Archer
41. And when did he live? **A:** 1922 – 1978
- Now turn right for the finish but just one more clue**
42. Who is remembered here for his services 1974–1994? **A:** Harry Pugh

The French family

RONALD FRENCH

Edward Charles French (Ted) was born in Audley Road in Saffron Walden on 31st July 1904 to Charles William French and Mary Ann French (nee King). And died on 22nd June 1959 in his garden at Chalk Farm Newport. The family moved to Chalk Farm (Then known as Jubilee Cottage) in September 1921.

After working in a solicitors office in Bishop's Stortford Ted took up farming and rented Tendrings Farm in Debden and married Bessie Alice Clayden in Newport Congregational chapel. Bessie who was born in Steeple Bumpstead on 19th June 1907 moved to Newport as a young girl and died on 23rd December 1993. Bessie was in service in London and later worked for the butchers in Newport which is now the Post office. When Ted's father died they moved to Newport with their eldest son to run the family farm.

They had 7 children Brian born 1934 died February 2011, Ronald born 1936 and lives in Newport, Robert (Robin) Born 1938 who now lives in Lavenham, Sylvia born 1946 and lives in Duxford, Graham born 26th November 1947 died 28th November 1947, Susan born 16th November 1948 and lives in Stapleford and Peggy born 1951 and lives in Cherry Hinton.

Chalk Farm was part arable and part meadow with a small dairy herd together with a large bull. Milk was delivered around Newport by pony and trap. In many cases one opened the back door, emptied the cash out and poured in the milk-using pint and half measures carried in a custom steel and brass oval shaped "pail". During the spring/summer the boys used to take the cows, after milking down past the railway station and put them in Hanging Hills (The field along the side

of the railway line where commuters now park their cars) for grazing on their way to the primary school in Wicken Road. Part of the meadow used to flood considerably and became a sheet of ice in the winter when hosts of Grammar School boys would skate while waiting for the train home.

In the late 1940's Ted persuaded a mineral company to investigate the potential for the large chalk deposits which was the beginning of the Quarry as it is today. **NN**

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OBITUARIES

George Rand 1929–2012

MICHAEL RAND (SON)

My father, George Rand, was born to George and Ida Rand, then of Wicken Road, Newport, in March 1929. When Mr Salter built the Croft Cottages (known as the 'Dutch houses') in Gaces Acre, we moved into no. 1.

George's education from five until fourteen was at the village school, then in Wicken Road, under headmaster E.R.A. Bayley. He was a paper boy for newsagent Stacey Revell and on Saturday mornings he worked for Mr Porter at the Co-op stores. Sometimes during school holidays he and his friend Don Saggars were given jobs in Albert Saggars' shop, so it is not surprising that when he left school he started work at Emson and Tanner's warehouse in the Market Square in Saffron Walden for a wage of 15 shillings (75 pence) a week. Although that was soon increased to £1, he moved on to join a small dimmer switch factory then at Martin's Farm at what seemed a huge £3 a week plus bonus.

All this was during WW2, so all the local musicians had been called up, which left opportunities for youngsters like George (who had been in the Church choir), and some may still remember him as a teenage drummer with the Johnny Goddard Jazz Band, travelling the village halls of rural Essex, taking the mike for vocal solos and chatting up the girls – Newport's version of Bing Crosby!

When the war ended and the Martin's Farm factory closed, George went to work with plumber Fred Bunten, whom he later described in *Newport News* as 'a wonderful tradesman and a good boss'. But the terrible winter of 1946/47 and the hours spent in icy lofts dealing with



frozen pipes meant that it was a relief to join the army for his two years' National Service. Afterwards he decided to make his career with Sainsbury's, and joined the Bishop's Stortford branch. He remained with them, moving around their stores in many parts of the country, for 40 years, 29 of them as Store Manager.

In the early 1950s, with rationing still in force, George was working in a North London shop. A young woman gave him a piece of her mind when he tried to sell additional provisions to her mother which she couldn't afford, and he got into serious trouble. That young woman's name was Elaine Mathison, and she must have forgiven him, for she became his wife!

Sadly my mother Elaine died in 2001. George had retired in 1989 and the Lower Parkstone Conservative Club became an integral part of his life. Another important interest was football, and he had a beach hut at Sandbanks and spent long days with his grandchildren on the sands. In his latter days my father's lifelong support for Arsenal grew even stronger.

To me there is really only one memory and that is one of a wonderful father. **NN**

Leslie Douce 1920–2012

PAT HARRINGTON (DAUGHTER)



Les was born in Gainsborough, Lincs., one of a family of four children. He grew up enjoying the countryside with three close friends, skating on the ice in winter, birds nesting in the spring, swimming in ponds or sheep dipping in the summer, and potato picking in the autumn. He left school at 14 to work on a farm, where he milked the cows and worked from 5am to 5pm for twelve shillings a week, with no day off for the first two years. After that he went to work for the railways with better pay.

He loved outdoor pursuits and started beating for local shoots when he was 12. Even until his last season he still loved going on Saturdays to a local shoot to meet friends, have a chat and maybe tell them how it should be done!

In World War II he joined the army, and one of his postings was to Shortgrove Hall, where he met and married local girl Vera Turner (Percy Turner's sister) of Frambury Lane, Newport, before serving in North Africa and Italy. After the war they settled in Gainsborough and their marriage lasted for 62 years until Vera passed away at the age of 87. They had two children, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, and Les always looked forward to the family get-togethers.

After the war Les returned to the railways, and then left to join B.P. Oil, working on the oil fields in and around the Gainsborough area. After retirement he returned to farm work, and also travelled up to Cumbria to help renovate a farmhouse for his employer. He thoroughly enjoyed working for this family business and stayed on until he was in his early eighties.

who kept several thousand hens for their egg business, and he also enjoyed keeping and breeding cattle and was very fond of dogs.

Always active, he enjoyed tinkering about with wood in his garage. Once he had an accident with a circular saw, and after driving himself to hospital with his finger wrapped in a handkerchief, was quite indignant when told it couldn't be sewn back on.

His passing will leave a huge void not only for his family but for his many friends, including those in Newport. Here was a man I am proud to call my Dad. **NN**

OBITUARIES Relatives and friends of recently deceased Newport residents who wish their loved ones to be remembered with an obituary in 'Newport News' are invited to contact a member of the team.

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John EA Marshall 1926–2012

**JUDY MARSHALL
(WIDOW)**

John was born in Calcutta, the eldest of four sons of Ted and Madeleine Marshall. The family returned to Britain before the Second World War and John went to school at Charterhouse, in Surrey, where games sometimes took preference over study. From school he went straight into the army and served in the Rifle Brigade in Germany. He decided to leave the army in 1952 and worked from then on as a broker in various shipping firms, on the Baltic Exchange in the City of London. He met Judy in 1953 and they were married at St. Andrew's church in Much Hadham the next year. They

started married life in a tiny mews house in London, where Susie was born in 1955. They moved to Newport in 1956 to Border Cottage, a small Georgian house, the scene of many a happy party and family gathering. Christopher was born there in 1957 and Tessa in 1959. After Tessa's death aged 8 they moved 200 yards down the road to Parsonage House, which became a focus for many splendid gatherings for all ages. Susie was married there in 1981 and in the following year they moved to Larkhill House, Grange Road, Ickleton, a much loved home occupied by a succession of labradors. After John had suffered recurrent bouts of ill health and several admissions to Addenbrooke's, they decided a move into the centre of Ickleton was more sensible. This was a very happy decision and Priory Close became a real home to them, surrounded as it is by real friends and neighbours. John died there very peacefully gazing out at the garden, which he loved so much. John loved his



stay in Ickleton, particularly his stint as church warden with Rosie Hayes for ten years. John had a great gift for friendship, as was evidenced by the attendance at his funeral. **NN**

Newport directory

Clubs, organisations and services in alphabetical order

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Quendon Bowling Club: Contact Ron French (01799 540406).

Boys' Brigade (1st Saffron Walden): Meets Tuesday evenings at the Baptist Church Hall, Audley Rd, Saffron Walden with 3 age groups: Anchor Boys, 6–8 years and Juniors 8–11 years, 6.30–7.45pm. Company Section 11–18 years and a seniors group to 19; meeting between 7.45 & 10pm. Contact: Mike Turner, 106 Goddard Way, Saffron Walden (523905).

Bridge Club: Mondays at 7.00pm for 7.15pm in the Fleur de Lys, Widdington. Contact: John Mears (01279 814727). A friendly Club playing duplicate bridge. New members of any standard most welcome. Partners can be arranged.

Brownies: 7–10 years.

First Pack, Fridays 5.30–7.00pm at Scout Hut, Frambury Lane. Contact: Leanne Jennings (543606), Assistant: Cynthia Jennings (541408).

Second Pack, Wednesdays 6.00–7.30pm at the Village Hall, Station Road. Contact Diana Connell (540367).

Rainbows, 1st Newport: 5–7 years. At Village Hall, Station Road, Weds 5–6pm, term time only. Leader Sarah Connell (540367). Email: browniessj@yahoo.co.uk

Buffy Bus: Wednesdays in term time Carver Barracks 9.15–10.30am. Rickling village green 11am–12.15pm. £2.50 per family at playleader's discretion. Contact: Rosie Juhl 522130. Check website to confirm availability during bad weather www.buffybus.co.uk.

Bus Enquiries: Traveline (0871 200 2233) 7am–10pm. Timetables available from Tourist Office, Saffron Walden & Newport Village Stores.

Carers: See Uttlesford Carers.

Childline: 24-hour free confidential counselling and support service for children or young people (0800 1111).

Childminding: For any information about childcare and related activities, speak to Essex County Council Families' Information Service (Freephone 0800 0556874, email: fis@essex.gov.uk) who will provide appropriate contact numbers.

Chiropodists: Julie A. Boagey, Duxford (01223 575241); Sue Leech, will visit people in their own homes (07881 942836).

Chiropractors: Stansted Chiropractic & Back Pain Clinic: 01279 815336. Saffron Walden Chiropractic Clinic: 01799 516517.

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CHURCHES

Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin:

Vicar (also Parish of Widdington): Reverend Neil McLeod

Verger: John Barry (540454)

Churchwardens: Martin Creasy, John Wenham (540361).

Newsletter Editors: Stella Skingle (01279 812237) and Carolyn Atkinson (540179);

Bell Tower Captain: Vacancy

Friends of Newport Church, Treasurer:

Neil Hargreaves (540411).

http://friendsofstmarysnewport.org.uk

SERVICES: The whole family is welcome. Children's Corner available at 10am services. Contemporary forms of service are used unless stated.

First and third Sundays in month: Common Worship H/C 10am.

Second and fourth Sundays: 1662 H/C 8.00am. Family service 10am.

Fifth Sunday: 1662 H/C 8am. Morning Worship: 10am.

First Wednesday of month: Midweek Communion 1662 H/C 11.15am.

Fourth Sunday of month: Messy Play.

Young People's Groups SURE 11 yrs and over. Every Sunday 10am in Church House.

Coffee Morning at Church House, mainly for retired people, from 10am to 11.15am on Wednesday mornings.

Church House: Bookings: Julie Pampling (541342).

More and up-to-date information is on the Church Notice Board, or in the Church Newsletter.

Newport United Reformed Church:

Minister: The Reverend Murray George (523504).

Contact Secretary: Brenda Johnson (540034).

SERVICES: 1st Sunday in month at 10.30am, Abbey Lane URC, Saffron Walden. All other Sundays: 11am, 55a Wicken Road, Newport.

Newport Guild: Second Tue in month at 2.30pm.

Service of prayer: 3rd Thursday 7.30pm.

Christian Meditation Group: 3rd Monday in the month at 7.00pm.

All welcome at any of these activities.

Cinema: Saffron Screen at SW County High School. Ticket prices, daytime £6.20 (concessions £4.20, 18 and under £3.60). Evenings £6.20 (concessions £5.20, 18 and under £4.60). Tickets available in advance from SW Tourist Information or at the Box Office which opens 30 minutes before each screening. Box Office Number 07786 463861. Free parking. For film information or to book online visit www.saffronscreen.com or call 501091.

Citizens' Advice Bureau: For impartial, free, confidential and independent advice on any matter affecting a citizen. Barnard's Yard, Saffron Walden (08444 775986). Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.30am-3.30pm. Telephone advice service Mondays 3.30-5pm. Pre-booked appointments Weds afternoons. Also at 46 High Street, Great Dunmow office open Tues & Thurs 9.30am-3.30pm (01371 875593). Free legal advice by appointment at Saffron Walden (Tuesdays) and Dunmow (first Tuesday in the month). Internet: www.adviceguide.org.uk. Email: bureau@uttlesfordcab.cabnet.org.uk

Conservative Association: Contact Jeremy Rose, 23 Bowker Close (541114).

Cricket Club: Contact either Will Ingham, Secretary (07816 497217) or Chris Rix, Chairman (540609). New players very welcome, - coaching will be provided. Practice from early April: Thursdays at Recreation Ground 19.00-20.00; Juniors Tuesdays 18.00-20.00pm - just turn up. There are matches on all Saturday afternoons through the season, spectators welcome. www.newportcc.org.uk

Croquet Club: Contact John Gordon (540293).

Crossroads Care Attendant Scheme: See Uttlesford Crossroads - Caring for Carers.

CRUSE (Cambridge & Uttlesford): Counselling care for the bereaved. Contact on 01223 302662.

Cubs: See Scouts.

Dancing Classes: See Footlights Theatre Dance School.

DENTISTS

The Dental Surgery: 6 London Road, Saffron Walden (523194). Open 8.30-17.00 Mon-Friday. Hygienist Weds 09.00-17.00 & Fridays 09.00-16.20. Taking new private and NHS patients. Emergency work on registered patients (private every day; NHS weekdays only; for weekend emergencies use PCT number on answerphone).

Karin Hallgren - The Hallgren Clinic: Neville House, Station Road, Wendens Ambo CB11 4LB (540333) (and 61 Harley Street, London). Private Dental Practice including dental implants, veneers, treatment of gum disease, teeth whitening and general Dentistry (Carys Halsall). www.hallgrenclinic.com

Disability Information Line: 0844 4121770 (manned weekdays 10am-4pm, answerphone other times). www.disabilityessex.org, email helpline@disabilityessex.org.

Doctors: Surgery: Frambury Lane, Newport. Appointments can be made up to four weeks in advance, between 08.10-12.00, & 14.30-17.00 Mon-Fri. Some emergency appointments possible on the day within these times. Weekends and bank holidays the emergency doctor service 01371 877410. The Surgery is open to make appointments and collect prescriptions 08.00-18.30 Mon to Fri. Tel: 540570 day & night (also 540696 except at night, weekends & bank holidays). Patient Council Representative: Cecilia Gordon (540293).

Dog problems: Strays, fouling etc. Contact Mrs Sue Knight, UDC Animal Warden (510594).

Eating Out in Newport: Coach & Horses 540292. White Horse 540002 - Tuesday evening (Steak), Friday evening (Fish and Chips) and Sunday lunchtime roast dinners. Radhuni Tandoori 542777/542999. Also coffee & cakes at R & R Saggars 540858 10am to 5pm Tue-Sunday.

Electricity: Emergencies & loss of supply: 0800 7838838.

Emergencies: Village Emergency Coordinator Ted Denyer (542554). Deputy Emergency Coordinator Tom Archer (thra321@aol.com). See also Flood Emergencies.

Essex County Council: Highways and Transportation West Area Branch (including public rights of way): Goodman House, Station Approach, Harlow CM20 2ET. Street Lighting owned by ECC and all other matters connected with roads & transport (0845 6037631). Helpline for all County Council matters (24 hours) 0845 7430430.

Essex County Council Social Care: For full assessment of care needs or alter existing arrangements on a long-term basis, or make day to day adjustments of an existing arrangement contact 0845 6037630. Protection Line for children and vulnerable adults 0845 6061212. Social care for children and young people 0845 6037627.

Essex Record Office Archive Access Point: At the Library (Market Place), Saffron Walden, upstairs on left. Tues & Fridays 9am-1pm and 2-5pm; Sat 9am-1pm. (Tel. 523178; Fax 513642; email zofia.everett@essex.gov.uk).

Essex Volunteer Line: See Uttlesford Volunteer Bureau.

Flood Emergencies: Co-ordinator: Parish Clerk (542541). Deputy Coordinator Ted Denyer (542554).

Flower Club (Newport & District): Third Wednesday of every month, except August and December, 7.30pm for 8pm demonstrations in Ugley Village Hall. All welcome. Contact: chairwoman Barbara Gough (501375). Email babs.gough@ntlworld.com

Football Club (Newport): New players contact Mike Hannant (07801 717091).

Footlights Theatre Dance School: Principal Emma Lane AISTD (01279-451017 /07921350468. Wednesdays: Elsenham Village Hall; Thurs: Ugley Village Hall. Classes include Baby ballet, pre-school introduction to dance, Modern, Jazz & Tap and singing.

Foreign Language Classes: Adult classes for all in French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish at Newport Free Grammar School. Contact Mel Watson on (01799) 540237 or by email wt@nfgs.essex.sch.uk.

Gace's Trustees: Local charity to help Newport residents. Enquiries, in confidence, to clerk to the Trustees Mrs Margaret Bowker, 45 Cherry Garden Lane (540737).

Gas: Gas escape - Freephone 0800 111999.

Gibson's Charity: Local charity based in Saffron Walden. Enquiries, in confidence all day, Mon, Wed & Fri 513914. Answerphone for other times.

'Girls Go Out': Contact Jane Murphy (542019), email janemurphy11@aol.com.

Guides, 1st Widdington: Thursdays 7-8.30pm at Widdington Village Hall. Guider: Sally Brown (540926). Email: widdingtonguides@yahoo.co.uk

Gym: Getup'nGo - Gavin Wilson (543009).

Health Visitor: Jenny Blackley at Saffron Walden Health Clinic (562928).

Health Information: See NHS Direct.

Hearing Help (Uttlesford): Help & advice for the hard-of-hearing. (Note: does not repair hearing aids.) Drop in sessions last Saturday of every month (except December) in the Day Centre, Hill Street 09.45-11.45am. Contacts for Newport & surrounding villages: Mrs Joan Hoadley (599790) or Cathy Poole (01279-814621).

Home Care Organisers: See under Essex County Council Social Care.

Home Start: Voluntary organisation offering practical support and friendship to families with pre-school age children who might be experiencing difficulties. Contact: Home Start Office (520728). Volunteers always needed. Website www.homestartuttlesford.org.uk.

Hospitals: Saffron Walden Community Hospital, Radwinter Road, S. Walden (562900); Addenbrooke's, Cambridge (01223 245151), Accident & Emergency 01223 217118; Herts & Essex, Bishop's Stortford (01279 655191); Princess Alexandra, Harlow (01279 444455); Accident & Emergency 01279 827000; Rosie Maternity Unit, Addenbrooke's (01223 217617); Fulbourn (01223 218605, visiting times flexible - make prior arrangements with the ward nurse).

Jobcentre Plus: If looking for work phone 0845 604 3719 which will put you in contact with the appropriate local office (either Braintree, Cambridge, Harlow or Haverhill) where personal discussions can be arranged. Website www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk.

Lettice Martin Charity: Clerk: O. Dyball (540442).

Liberal Democrats: Newport contact: Peter Wilcock (07831 562106).

LIBRARIES

Mobile: Vans call at the layby at top of Frambury Lane alternate Tuesdays 3.15-4.45pm from December 11th and at Gace's Acre alternate Wednesdays 11.45am-12.05pm from December 12th. www.essex.gov.uk/libraries

Saffron Walden Library, Market Place (523178). Open Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri 9am-6pm, Wed 9am-1pm, Sat 9am-5pm.

Local History Group: Contact Anthony Tuck (543833)

Lord Butler Leisure Centre: 522777

Meals on Wheels: Sodexo Enfield (0208 3655400).

Medical Appliance Loan Service: Provided by Saffron Walden Lions Club. Wheelchairs, walking frames and other equipment available at short notice. 07761 602678 between 9am and 9pm. White Horse Mobility Scooter available for loan - contact Paul Huckle (542818)

MIND: Weekly drop in centres. Tues 10.30am-12.30pm, Baptist Church Hall, Saffron Walden (Contact Lois Sparks 07854 732475); Wednesday 10am-12 midday, United Reformed Church Hall, Dunmow (Contacts Lois as above, or Nicky 07854 732523); Thursday 7.00-9.00pm Saffron Walden Town Hall Committee Room (Contact Mike 07854 732536). Also a befriending scheme for those unable to attend centres. Volunteers always welcome. www.westsexmind.org.uk.

Mothers & Toddlers Group: See Toddler Group.

Multiple Sclerosis Society: East Herts & West Essex Branch. Contact 07880 828858. Drivers and helpers welcomed. Fundraisers needed.

Music Club (Saffron Walden & District): Chamber music concerts in Saffron Walden. Contact Chris Johnson & Val Norton (541176).

National Childbirth Trust (NCT): Contact Saffron Walden Information Line (0844 2436255).

Neighbourhood Watch: Village co-ordinators are Derek Giffin (543622) and Alan Johnson (543153).

Newport Amateur Theatrical Society (NATS): Treasurer: Yvonne Hannant (541063). Email: natstheatrical@hotmail.co.uk.

Want to appear in

NEWPORT NEWS?

Editorial

Send us your news, articles, ideas, letters, wedding & baby pictures, or anything else that you think will be of interest to the readers and residents of Newport.

Either contact one of the **Newport News** team, or email us at: **editorial@newportnews.org.uk**

Digital submissions are preferred (digital photos and copy emailed or on disk). Articles should be approximately 250-1,500 words. The deadline for the Summer issue is 1 April, and the Winter issue is October 1.

Advertising

Newport News is published twice a year and has a circulation of 1,600. It is distributed FREE to every household in Newport, as well as being sold in outlets in the surrounding areas and Saffron Walden.

Rates are very competitive, from just £30. To discuss your requirements please contact one of the team, or email us at: **advertising@newportnews.org.uk**

Artwork supplied in PDF format is preferred, however we can also design adverts for you. The deadline for the Summer issue is 1 April, and the Winter issue is October 1.

PREMIER GARAGE

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Newport Business Association: Discusses & acts on issues concerning business community in & around Newport – all businesses in area welcome to join. Breakfast meetings last Friday of each month 08.00–09.30 at Coach & Horses, Newport. Contact Jeremy Rose (01799-541114) jeremy.rose@clutions.co.uk or www.newportbusinessassociation.co.uk .

Newport Club, The: Elephant Green. Mon, Tues, Friday 11–3pm, Mon–Thurs 6–11pm, Fri 6pm–12.30am, Sat 11.30am–12.30am, Sun 12pm–11pm. Fully licensed bar. Club tel: 541149.

Newport History Recorder: David Evans (540235).

Newport Youth Centre: Frambury Lane. Thursdays 6.30–8.30pm 9–12 year olds, Friday 7.00–9.30pm 12 years upwards. Rooms available for hire particularly for children's parties, etc. Contact Andrew Yarwood (07714 708815) or Sharon Davey (07770 766380).

NHS Direct: 24 hours/7 day confidential health advice and information line (0845 46 47).

Osteopaths: Saffron Walden Osteopathic Clinic, 21 Debden Road, Saffron Walden (524628).

PALS (Patients' Advice & Liaison): West Essex PALS Liaison Team Freephone 0800 783 3396. Different phone numbers apply to other organisations, e.g. Addenbrooke's 01223 216756.

Parentline: See Uttlesford Parentline.

Parish Council: See 'Our Representatives' and advert. Ordinary Council meetings at Church House, first Mon in every month. All meetings open to public unless the chairman asks the public to leave.

Pharmacy: Opening Hours 9.00 am - 1.00 pm & 2.00 - 6.00 pm Mon-Fri and 9.00am - 1.00 pm Sat. Tel: 540968, email: newport.pharmacy@intrapharm.com

Pilates: Monday 12 midday–1pm, 6.30–7.30pm & 7.30–8.30pm. Wednesday 9.00–10.00am, 10.00–11.00am, 6.30–7.30pm. Green Room Village Hall. Book with Andrea Chance (541019, mobile 07974 315836). Private consultations also available. Email Andrea@saffronpilates.co.uk www.saffronpilates.co.uk

PLAY GROUPS

Newport: Oliver's Lodge at Primary School, Frambury Lane, Mon–Fri 8am–6pm. Tel: 540709.

Clavering and Arkesden: at Clavering and Arkesden Preschool, Clavering School, Stortford Rd, Clavering. Mon–Thursday 9–3 Friday 9–12. Preschool Manager Donna Palmer 540151.

Debden: at Debden Village Hall. Contact 07845 101809. Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 9–12.45pm. Managers Sam Reynolds and Sharon Cocklin.

Wendens Ambo Pre-School: Monday and Wednesday 9.15am–3.00pm, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9.15am–12.15pm, with lunchtime available 12.15pm–1.00pm. Ages 2½ to 5 years. Contact: Village Hall (541503).

Police: Saffron Walden Police Station 513232. Non-emergency service: 101. In emergency dial 999.

Police, British Transport: To report anything ring 0300 123 2211. In emergency ring 999.

Pond Common Charity: Clerk: O. Dyball (540442).

Post Office: High Street, Newport (540418). Open Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9.00am–5.30pm; Wed & Sat 9.00am–1.00pm. Postmistress: Mrs S. Amos.

Postal Collections: Last posting times: Post Office Mon–Fri 17.00, Sat 11.30. Bridge End Mon–Fri 16.00. Station Rd Mon–Fri 16.45, Sat 11.30. Wicken Rd Mon–Fri 16.00, Sat 11.00.

Rail Services: See information on page 111.

Railway Station, vandalism at: ring Crimestoppers (0800 555111), or British Transport Police (0800 40 50 40).

Recycling: Paper, glass, can & textile banks on Newport Station car park.

Relate (N. Essex & E. Herts): Relationship & family counselling available in Saffron Walden. For appointments or more info, ring 01245 258680 Mon–Thurs 9am–5pm, Fri 9am–1pm, 24 hr. answerphone Email admin@relate-northessex.org

Rounders for ladies: Contact Hilary Binns 542072.

Royal British Legion – Clavering, Newport and District: Chairman: Arnold Hitchcock (01279 777226); Secretary: Peter Bevin (01279 777583). Contact: Jack Livings (550539) Meetings 2nd Wednesday of every month, at Clavering Village Hall 8pm.

RSPCA: Animal emergencies and general enquiries (0300 1234 999 or 0300 1234 555).

Saffron Screen: See Cinema.

Saffron Walden Museum: Museum Street, S/W (510333). Nov–Feb weekdays 10am–4.30pm, Sundays & Bank Holidays 2–4.30pm. March–Oct weekdays 10am–5pm, Sundays & Bank Holidays 2–5pm. Adults £1.50, Discount 75p, under 18s free. Website: www.saffronwaldenmuseum.org

Saffron Walden Talking Newspaper: Tapes delivered weekly. Contact Joy Smith 502219.

Samaritans: Linkline 08457 909090. Cambridge branch, 4, Emmanuel Road, Cambridge CB1 1JW (10.30am–10.00pm) (01223 364455) www.samaritans.org/cambridge

SCHOOLS

Newport County Primary School:

Head: Mr Howett (540055). www.newport.essex.sch.uk Email: admin@newport.essex.sch.uk

Friends of Newport Primary School: Chairperson: Maxine Quinn.

Newport Free Grammar School: Acting headteacher: Matthew Gibson. Email: admin@nfgs.org.uk. www.nfgs.essex.sch.uk

NFGS Parents Association: Chairman: Michelle Turner; Treasurer: Mrs Jeanne Drake (540237).

Saffron Walden County High School: Headteacher Mr J. Hartley (513030), www.saffronwalden.essex.sch.uk.

SCOUTS (1st Newport Essex) Group Scout Leader Roger Cameron (541845).

Beaver Scouts: 6–8 years. 5.30–6.30pm Mondays, Jikes Hall Scout Hut, Frambury Lane. Contact: Clare Denyer (551202).

Cubs, 1st Newport: Mondays 6.30–8pm, Jikes Hall Scout Hut, Frambury Lane. Contact Helen Howatt (0743 208 0441).

Scout Troop: 10½–15½ years. 7.30–9.15pm, Wednesdays, Jikes Hall Scout Hut. Contact Emma Cotterill (0785 251 1288).

Shooting Club: Clay pigeon shooting, first Sunday in every month, 10.00am–1.00pm. Chairman, G.T. Upton (525270). Hon Sec: Derrick Giffin (543622).

Sports Committee: Chairman Mike Hannant 541063.

Sports Pavilion: Mike Hannant 541063 Email: mikehannant@aaim.com

Stansted Airport: 0800 243788. For aircraft noise and track complaints ring freephone 0800 243788 (quoting your postcode to pinpoint aircraft), or contact stanstednoise@baa.com

Stop Stansted Expansion Campaign: Contact 01279-870558 or visit www.stopstanstedexpansion.com

Swimming: Lessons for children 9 months–7 years. Contact Rebecca Baynes (541591).

Taxis: See page 111.

Telephone Kiosks: in Wicken Road and Station Road.

Tennis Club: Chairman: Sean Murphy, 10 Meadowford (541089) or (07767 795018). email: sean.murphy@cambridge-md.co.uk https://sites.google.com/site/newportvillagetennisclub/

Tennis Courts (Newport): Bookings: Village Stores (541991).

Toddler Group: Mondays & Fridays 9.30–11.30am, in Village Hall. Contact: Jessica Bowen (540198 mobile 07861 666015). Charge £1.50 per session for first child, 50p per session for each subsequent child.

Toy Library: Annual membership £2.50. Preschool toys & videos from 25p for 2 weeks' hire. Fortnightly on Mondays 10am–12pm, New Life Church, Shire Hill, Saffron Walden. Contact: Jenny Tobitt (521780). See website (www.teddiestoylibrary.org) for session dates.

Tourist Information Centre: For details of what's on in Uttlesford. Market Place, Saffron Walden (524002). 9.30–5.30 Mon–Sat April–October, & 9.30–5pm Mon–Sat November–March. Email: tourism@saffronwalden.gov.uk

Train Information: Times and fares for all national services 08457 484950, 24 hour service (charged at local rate) or 0871 2004950. Also on internet at www.nationalrail.co.uk. Customer Services: Greater Anglia (0845 600 7245) for tickets, group travel, information for disabled people, suggestions, complaints & lost property. www.greateranglia.co.uk See page 111.

United Reformed Church, Newport: See under CHURCHES.

Uttlesford Carers: Help, information and support for those caring for relatives and friends at home. Contact 12 Stortford Road, Gt Dunmow, Essex CM6 1DA, tel. 01371 875810 (Mon–Fri 9am–1pm).

Uttlesford Community Travel (Book-A-Ride): Door-to-door transport for those who cannot use public transport. Contact David Rose (01371 875787) (9am–1pm). www.uttlesfordcommunitytravel.org.uk

Uttlesford Council for Voluntary Service: UCVS Office, The Old Police Station, 95 Stortford Rd, Gt Dunmow, Essex CM6 1DQ (01371-878400). Office open 9am–4pm, Mon–Fri. www.cvsuttlesford.org.uk

Uttlesford Crossroads – Caring for Carers: Uttlesford Crossroads can relieve the stress of carers, of all ages, who have a caring commitment to relative, neighbour or friend. Contact: Victoria Stevenson (513496) Mon–Thurs 8.30am–3pm, Fri 8.30am–2.30pm www.uttlesford@crossroadseastanglia.org.uk

Uttlesford Cruse: See CRUSE.

Uttlesford District Council: Chief Executive Officer: John Mitchell. At Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden, CB11 4ER (S/W 510510): Chief Executive's Dept., Planning Dept., Finance Dept., Community Services Dept. (latter comprising Housing & Building Services, Amenities and Environmental Health). Open: Mon–Thurs 8.30am–5pm, Fri 8.30am–4.30pm. www.uttlesford.gov.uk

Uttlesford Parentline: Confidential phone helpline for parents of over 5's. 0808 802 5544. www.parentlineplus.org.uk

Uttlesford Social Services Dept: 39 Audley Road, Saffron Walden (0845 603 7630).

Uttlesford Volunteer Bureau: At Saffron Walden Community Hospital, Radwinter Road, Saffron Walden, CB11 3HY. Open Mon–Thurs, 9.30–1.30, appointments can be made out of these hours. (513626). www.volunteercentruttlesford.org.uk

Veterinary Surgeons: Mercer & Hughes, Devon Lodge, Radwinter Road, Saffron Walden (522082 or 521406), surgery hours Mon–Fri 9–10am and 5–6.30pm; Mon & Wed 2–3pm; Sat 9.30–11am. Paul & Tina Davey, 39 Station Road West, Whittlesford (01223 833651), surgery hours Mon–Fri 9–12 and 3–6.30pm; Sat 8.30–11am.

Village Hall Management Committee: Booking Secretary: Jessica Bowen (540198), email jessicabrooks@hotmail.com. To download booking form and for list of charges, visit www.newporthall.org.uk

Volunteers: see Uttlesford Volunteer Bureau.

WATER

Anglian Water: Emergencies & general enquiries (24 hr) 0800 771881. Account queries 08457 919155.

Three Valleys Water: 0845 7823333.

Thames Water: 0845 9200800.

Cambridge Water: 01223 706050.

West Essex Primary Care Trust: St Margaret's Hospital, Harlow (01992 902010). For advice on all matters pertaining to the National Health Service & help with complaints. Essex partnerships 0800 7833396.

Women's Institute: Meets in Saffron Walden. Contact Sonia Williams 526578.

Wood Green Animal Shelter: (near Royston) 08701 909099. Open 7 days a week. Visitors 10am–4pm (rehoming closes at 3pm).

Yoga Classes: Newport Village Hall, Thursday 7pm. Also in Saffron Walden, Little Walden and Little Chesterford. Contact Lorna 07506 457943 j.j.hook@btinternet.com

Youth Club: See Newport Youth Centre.

Zumba Excercise Classes: Newport Village Hall Thursday 1030am. Contact Luisa 07842 213554. Email: lmcurlbelo@hotmail.com

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GET IT RIGHT!
Please tell us of any changes to the directory by calling either:
John Oswin Smith (541498)
Berence Smith (541498)
Salley Ann Yates (541609)

Our representatives

Member of Parliament:

Sir Alan Haselhurst, MP
House of Commons, London SW1.
(Switchboard 020 7219 3000)
Saffron Walden Constituency Office:
The Old Armoury, Museum St,
Saffron Walden (01799 506349).

Members of European Parliament:
Conservative

Vicky Ford
153 St Neot's Road, Hardwick, Cambridge
CB23 7QJ (01954 211722)
email: office@vickyford.org

Geoffrey Charles Van Orden
88 Rectory Lane, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1RF (01245 345188)
email: geoffrey.vanorden@europarl.europa.eu

David Campbell Bannerman
153 St Neot's Road, Hardwick, Cambridge
CB23 7QJ (01954 210333)
email: david.campbellbannerman@europarl.europa.eu

Robert William Sturdy
153 St Neot's Road, Hardwick, Cambridge
CB23 7QJ (01954-211790)
email: robert.sturdy@europarl.europa.eu

Labour

Richard Stuart Howitt
The Labour European Office, Unit 3, Frohock House,
222 Mill Road, Cambridge CB1 3NF. (01223 240202)
email: richard@richardhowittmep.com
www.richardhowittmep.com

Liberal Democrat

Andrew Nicholas Duff
Orwell House, Cowley Road
Cambridge CB4 0PP (01223 566700)
email: mep@andrewduffmep.com

UK Independence

Stuart Agnew
145 New London Road, Chelmsford CM2 0QT
(01245 266466)
email: ukipeastadmin@intamail.com

Essex County Councillor:

Ray Gooding
260 Birchanger Lane, Birchanger, Bishop's Stortford,
Herts. CM23 5QP. (01279 813103)

Uttlesford District Councillors:

Jeremy Rose, 23 Bowker Close, London Road,
Newport, CB11 3BQ 01799-541114 mobile 07879-
672436 email dlrrose@uttlesford.gov.uk

Peter Wilcock, 4 Pimblett Row, Henham, Bishop's
Stortford, Herts, CM22 6BT (01279-850198, mobile
07831-562106) email dlrwilcock@uttlesford.gov.uk

Newport Parish Councillors:

Tom Archer (thra321@aol.com)
Margaret Bowker (540737)
Howard Bowman (07956-289622; handsb@sky.com)
Ted Denyer (542554)
Charles Gilbank (543793)
John Oswin Smith (541498)
Andrew Yarwood (Chairman) (07714 708815)

The Parish Council should consist of eleven members. We therefore have four vacancies. If you would like to fill a vacancy, and have at least half a day a week available please contact one of the Parish Councillors, or the Parish Clerk to find out more.

Parish Council Clerk:

Christine Griffin, Parish Council Office,
24 High Street, Newport, CB11 3PH.
Tel: 01799 542541
Email: newportparishcouncil@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Council Treasurer:

Jessica Bowen (contact via the Parish Council office on 542541).

Travel information



JOHN OSWIN SMITH

We have listed some of the transport options from Newport – for more information on buses and trains, call Traveline 0871 200 2233.

TRAINS

GOING SOUTH

From Newport to Bishop's Stortford, Harlow Town, Tottenham Hale and Liverpool Street

Approx journey times (minutes): Bishop's Stortford 15, Harlow Town 25, Tottenham Hale 45–50, Liverpool St. 60–65, Stratford (Sundays) 72

Mondays to Fridays

05.42	06.13	06.43	07.13	07.43	08.13	08.43	09.13
09.43	10.43	11.43	12.43	13.43	14.43	15.43	16.13
16.43	17.13	17.43	18.13	18.43	19.13	19.43	20.15 ¹
20.43	21.43	22.43	23.13 ⁵⁵				

Saturdays

05.43 06.43 then forty three mins past each hour until 22.43 then 23.13

Sundays

08.13 then same mins past each hour until 23.13. All trains go to Stratford where they terminate except the 23.13 terminating at Bishop's Stortford. For Liverpool Street and a faster journey to Tottenham Hale change at Bishop's Stortford. To get to Liverpool Street off the 23.13 change at Bishop's Stortford.

GOING NORTH

From Newport to Cambridge

Approx journey time 21–31 minutes

Mondays to Fridays

06.12	06.27	07.00	07.41	08.00	08.30	09.00	09.30
10.27	11.27	12.27	13.27	14.27	15.27	15.55	16.27
16.57	17.45	18.15	18.45	19.15	19.45	20.15	20.30
21.27	22.27	23.27	00.39 ^{TS}	00.57 ^S			

Saturdays

06.27 and then 27 minutes past each hour until 00.27 Sun & 00.57 Sun

Sundays

08.55 then same mins past each hour until 23.55

NOTES

All Southbound trains call additionally at Elsenham, Stansted Mountfitchet, Sawbridgeworth, Harlow Mill, Roydon, Broxbourne & Cheshunt, except the 09.13 and 17.13 (not Roydon), 16.13 (not Sawbridgeworth, Harlow Mill & Roydon), and 16.43, 18.13, 19.13, (all not Harlow Mill & Roydon).

All Southbound trains on Sundays call additionally at Elsenham, Stansted Mountfitchet, Sawbridgeworth, Harlow Mill, Roydon, Broxbourne, Cheshunt, Waltham Cross, Enfield Lock, Brimsdown & Ponders End.

All Northbound trains call at Audley End, Gt Chesterford, Whittlesford & Shelford on their way to Cambridge with the exception of the 00.57 Fri/Sat night which does not call at Shelford.

For further information, details of current train running and engineering works:

www.greateranglia.co.uk

TS	Tuesday–Saturday morning	S	Saturday morning
SS	Calls Seven Sisters instead of Tottenham Hale	Sun	Sunday morning

1 Change at Audley End (20.18–20.24) and Stansted Airport (20.39–20.45) for Harlow Town (21.00), Tottenham Hale (21.17) and Liverpool Street (21.31).

TAXIS

A-2-B 01799 542093 (mobile 07740 944071)

First Class Cars 01799 541048 (mobile 07732 403573)

Maximum fares for taxis, carrying between 1 and 4 passengers: 77am to 10.30pm Mon to Sat – up to 1364yds £3.20, additional miles £2.10 per mile (10p per 83yds). 10.30pm to 7am Monday to Saturday, all day Sunday £4.80 for 1364yds, then £3.15 per mile (15p per 83 yds).

BUSES*

301

Stansted Airport – Takeley – Bishop's Stortford – Stansted Mountfitchet – Widdington – Newport – Audley End Rail Station – Saffron Walden (High Street, Hospital, Tesco's).

Mondays to Saturdays.

Times from Station Road, Newport:

To Saffron Walden

0826, 0926, 1026, 1126, 1226, 1326, 1426, 1526, 1626, 1726, 1826.

To Bishop's Stortford and Stansted Airport

0735, 0909, 1009, 1109, 1209, 1309, 1409, 1509, 1609, 1709, 1809, 1909.

Additional Buses to and from the Grammar School

To Saffron Walden

Schooldays 08.13(1), 08.19(11), 08.20(444 & 445), 15.20(118,417,418,419), 15.25(18)

Not schooldays Monday to Friday 08.20(444), 15.20(443, 444).

Tuesdays and Fridays 13.00(443)

Saturdays 09.50(59), 13.00(443), 13.45(59), 15.20(443)

From Saffron Walden High Street

Schooldays 08.18 (18,118), 15.20(444,445), 15.27(11), 15.32(1)

Not Schooldays Monday to Friday 15.20(444)

Saturdays 08.52(59), 12.58(59)

SAFFRON WALDEN SHOPPER

Flat fare £2, single or return. Children 5–16 half price, under fives free. Concessionary passes valid.

Tuesdays and Fridays only

Calls at Frambury Lane, Newport, at 11.36am, reaches High St. Saffron Walden at 11.50, Tesco Store at 12.00.

Returns from Tesco Store at 14.15, Saffron Walden High St. at 14.25, reaches Newport at 14.42.

*Over 60s travel free on all buses during off-peak hours (Mon-Fri 9.00am-11pm, all day weekends & bank hols). Details at UDC Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden. Telephone: 01799 510561.

Newport diary



MONDAY

9.30–11.30am
12.00–1.00pm
5.30–6.30pm
6.30–7.30pm
6.30–8.00pm
7.00pm

Newport Toddler Group
Pilates
Beaver Scouts
Pilates (also 7.30–8.30pm)
Cubs
Bridge Club

Newport Village Hall
Newport Village Hall
Scout Hut, Frambury Lane
Newport Village Hall (check)
Scout Hut, Frambury Lane
Fleur de Lys, Widdington

TUESDAY

9.30–10.30am
2.30pm
3.15–4.45pm
7.30–9.30pm

Weightwatchers
Newport Guild
Mobile Library
Indoor Bowls

Newport Village Hall
United Reform Church (second Tuesday in the month)
Frambury Lane (alternate Tuesdays from 11 Dec 2012)
Newport Village Hall

WEDNESDAY

9.00am–12.30pm
9.00–10.00am
10.00–11.15am
11.45–12.05am
3.00–6.30pm
5.00–6.00pm
6.00–7.30pm
7.30–9.15pm
7.30–10.00pm
7.30pm for 8.00pm

Art Group
Pilates (also 6.30–7.30pm)
Coffee Morning
Mobile Library
Footlights Theatre Dance School
Rainbows (1st Newport)
Brownies (2nd pack)
Scouts
NATS
Newport Flower Club

Newport Village Hall
Newport Village Hall (please check)
Church House
Gace's Acre (alternate Wednesdays from 12 Dec 2012)
Elsenham Village Hall
Newport Village Hall
Newport Village Hall
Scout Hut, Frambury Lane
Newport Village Hall
Ugley Village Hall (third Wed in month, not Aug or Dec)

THURSDAY

10.30–11.30am
4.30–7.15pm
7.00pm
7.00–8.30pm
8.00pm
6.30–8.30pm

Zumba Exercise Class
Footlights Theatre Dance School
Yoga
Guides (1st Widdington)
Bingo
Youth Club, 9-12 yrs

Newport Village Hall
Ugley Village Hall
Newport Village Hall
Widdington Village Hall
Newport Village Hall
Newport Youth Centre, Frambury Lane

FRIDAY

7.45–9.30am
9.30–11.00am
9.30–11.30am
5.30–7.00pm
7.00–9.30pm

Newport Business Association
Baby Clinic
Newport Toddler Group
Brownies (1st pack)
Youth Club, 12 yrs upwards

Coach & Horses (last Friday of the month)
Newport Village Hall
Newport Village Hall
Scout Hut, Frambury Lane
Newport Youth Centre, Frambury Lane

SATURDAY

10.00–11.00am

Greenwaste Collection

Allotments (starts mid April, check arrangements)

SUNDAY

08.00am
10.00am
10.00am
10.00am
10.00am
10.00am–1.00pm
11.00am

Holy Communion
Service
Sunday Club (Age 4–11)
Young People's Group (11+)
Shooting Club
Service

St. Mary's Church (alternate weeks)
St Mary's Parish Church
St Mary's or Church House
St Mary's or Church House
St Mary's or Church House
Chalk Farm Lane (first Sunday in the month)
United Reformed Church (not 1st Sun in month)

Apologies if we have missed out any events or meetings (or if there are any errors or changes since we went to press).

For other Church Services see the Directory on page 106. For Parish Council meetings see the advert on page 54.

To have any new regular meetings included in the Winter issue for the months December – May, please let us know by 1 October 2012.

Call Barney Miller on 540173 or email barney@design-mill.co.uk

For public transport information (local buses, national buses, and rail transport) call Traveline 0871 200 2233

List of advertisers

Please deal with as many of our advertisers as possible

A & M School of Motoring	95	Jacks Outdoor Wear	4
A-2-B (taxi service)	100	Janet Riley Fabrics	32
Abrey Agricultural – Stiga	61	JK Bookkeeping	109
Adams Harrison	71	John Wilson – Fine Quality Jeweller	27
All Seasons Landscape Specialists	77	JPS Motors, Car & Van Centre	73
Andy's Barber Shop	28	Just Cook Cookery Lessons	79
Angela Reed Furniture & Fine Things	89	Just Like Wendy's Vintage Repro	41
Anthony Freeman Plumbing and Heating	4	Kevin Henry	9
Bateman, M.P. – Fine Joiner	26	Lanham and Company (accountants)	5
Benten & Co.	91	Lasting Powers of Attorney – Alex Denison	29
Bidwells – The Maltings	87	L H Cook Plumbing & Heating	92
Brainwave Media Ltd	69	Manley, H. (builder & decorator)	104
Brian Roberts Signwriting	108	Mercer & Hughes Veterinary Surgery	63
Burttons Retail & Catering Butchers	51	Mortgage Quest	88
Byford Farm Services	43	Mullucks Wells	inside front cover
C.B. Mower Services	47	Murdochs Solicitors	34
Cambridge & Uttlesford CRUSE	102	NCS Minibuses	65
Carr & Bircher	41	NCTJ – National Council for the Training of Journalists	20
Carro's Automotive Services	108	Newport Business Association	58, 85
Central Garage	33	Newport Club, The	94
Chandler Hair	17	Newport Croquet Club	82
Church House	35	Newport Dog Grooming Canine Beauty Services	37
C-lutions	45	Newport News By Post	72
Coach & Horses, The	38	Newport Parish Council	54
ComputerCare	21	Newport Post Office	19
Country House Interiors	7	Newport Village Hall	52
CSR Motor Repairs (Colin Summersell Recovery)	31	Newport Village Stores (Nisa)	86
CVC Drains	57	NFU Mutual Insurance	47
D & K Auto Electrical Services	23	Nick Shutes (painting & decorating)	30
Design Mill (design & typesetting)	35	Oliver Wilson (wedding photography)	49
Dorringtons	105	P. M. Garden & Landscape	76
D.S.I. Kitchens & Bathrooms	back cover	Paul Vaughan Cars	33
Elder Street Farm Shop & Deli Cafe	13	Paxtons Home Improvements	81
Emma Bradshaw (ceramic restoration)	27	Peasgood, H. & Son (funeral directors)	103
Essex Pyrotechnics Ltd	53	Practical Car and Van Rental	101
First Class Cars	25	Premier Garage	107
Fleur de Lys, The	83	Safeclean	73
Footlights Christmas Fayre	16	Saffron Apparel	77
G. Alexander (building services)	57	Saffron Pilates	21
Gace's Charity	60	Saffron Walden Laundry & Dry Cleaning	67
Getup'n'Go (personal training)	56	Saggers, R. & R.	11
Gillian Wood (personal computers)	50	SB Printing Co.	13
Go The Whole Hog (hog roasts)	73	SRM Painting & Decorating	70
Gray Palmer Ltd	21	St Clare Hospice Shop	103
Handford, R., & Colleagues (chiroprapist & podiatrist)	48	Sue Leech Chiroprapist	15
Hicks, H. Frank (plant hire)	68	Tees Solicitors	93
Hilberys	44	The Sign and Graphics Company	39
Hillyates (chartered accountants)	97	Turner, R., Cycles	3
Homeserve 2000 – Domestic Appliance Repairs	46	Village Chimney Sweep	28
HS Hair Styling	71	Wenden Garage	99
In Frame	55	White Horse Inn	23
Intercounty	inside back cover	Zumba Fitness with Andrea Rigg	5
I.S.S. Building Services	25		