



BEFORE



AFTER

*The Oracle*  
*Summer 2018*

## NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

Well, its magazine time again-it seems to come round really fast! Thanks to all those who have submitted articles but we still need more of you to contribute in order to make The Oracle an inclusive magazine for all villagers!

In response to many requests, we have changed the publication dates of the magazine to ensure that the winter edition comes out in early December, rather than January, to enable us to include events running up to Christmas,

so our ***Next Edition Contribution deadline is 13<sup>th</sup> August for delivery early September to cover the period September to end of November***, with the Winter edition deadline being 16<sup>th</sup> November so that the magazine can be distributed the first week of December

If your organisation has anything planned during these periods please tell us as soon as possible so that we can let the whole village know!

We are also still keen to hear from people who have lived in the village for many years to provide stories of village life and events in days gone by. If you can help please ring Julia on the number below and she will be happy to meet up with you for a chat and write your story

We are delighted to include an article and pictures of the playground renovation and add our thanks to ORAC and the band of volunteers who helped with this transformation. Their efforts meant that People Power saved the village approx. £6000 on the cheapest commercial quotation!

On the subject of people power, ORAC, like so many voluntary organisations, relies on a small number of people doing an awful lot of work to maintain and improve the Village Hall and recreation amenities.

**ORAC is not a secret society** , It is a charity, governed by its constitution, with the specific aim of maintaining and improving facilities for the community.

Anyone can come to their meetings and ALL organisations can apply to appoint a representative on the Committee.

Committee meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 7pm in the village hall, so go along or get your organisation to apply for group membership and help your Committee improve facilities for your whole village

It was fascinating to read Brian Hull's arxticle (pages 17&18), which illustrated life in the village forty years ago. Nowadays the pace of life has changed, and with improved transport and communications many people work and socialise far from home. But **you** can help to recreate the enthusiasm and community spirit of forty years ago by supporting community events or,

dare we say it, finding a couple of hours a month for you or your organisation representative to join ORAC and help plan and organise events for the village.

Have a good summer

Debbie                      and                      Julia                      (Joint Editors)                      Email:oracle@occold.com

M:07715 473027 Tel :01379 672 995/email: juliapointer@gmail.com

### UPDATE FROM ORAC

Well we are now well and truly into summer. The snow and winds are a thing of the past. The gardens are suddenly full of flowers, and the grass keeps growing!!!!

A lot has happened since the last Oracle. The children's playground has been refurbished, new swings, the Zip wire station has been rebuilt, and hopefully we will be adding further play equipment. Thank you to all those who gave their time to help.

We have applied for a grant for additional equipment for the playground and youth club. By now we should know if we were successful in applying for a grant for this. Thank you to all who voted for the village project.

The car park surface will be repaired very soon, and we would hope to make a start on the hall extension. which will allow us to store our tools and the school's equipment, and we hope to purchase some more field play equipment for the village to use. it will also allow us to put on more outdoor functions for the benefit of the village. It will come at some cost, so if anyone has any contacts, or can help with the build we would be pleased to hear from you.

Please keep supporting our events and we will then be able to deliver further enhancements for the village.

There was an afternoon Bingo session with tea and cakes which was a great success. Keep watching for new dates.

The Yard sale went very well, and there were lots of bargains to be had.

There are still great events going on at the hall, The Yoga class on Tuesdays are excellent and are great for loosening the tired muscles. Mondays for table tennis, all standards are welcome for this friendly group. The Luncheon club is still doing an excellent job supplying first class food at a great price. Join the WI for great outings, and expert speakers visit to give talks on various interesting subjects, and don't forget the tea and cakes. MT keep fit classes Wednesdays for all ages.

Please support your village classes and let us know what new classes you would like to see.

Dave Cox

**THE GREAT BRITISH QUIZ**  
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**7pm OCCOLD VILLAGE HALL**  
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# The Playground Makeover

Last month we appealed to the community for help with renovating the children's play area and what a fantastic response we had! Over thirty residents rolled up their sleeves, wheeled out their barrows, armed themselves with spades and rakes, made endless cups of tea, drilled, hammered and painted, and best of all, they did it with huge smiles on their faces! It was really wonderful to see everyone working together and the results are brilliant.

## Before:



## and after



Weeds were pulled, trees trimmed, fences washed, benches fixed, painted and positioned on new hard standing, ground rotovated, new membrane laid, bark frames replaced and new playbark spread around the equipment, swing seats replaced, bouncy rides and zipwire reset in new concrete foundations, new rubber landing stage installed and wooden frames treated with preservative. Phew! New ropes for the climbing frame are on order and grass seed is being sown in stages.

There are so many people to thank, but a special mention goes to Terry Pointer who, despite recovering from an emergency operation, managed to make sure the work was on track - from his hospital bed! Terry sourced most of the materials and provided all the technical expertise and knowledge for the ground work.

## Some of the Team after a hard day's work:

## Thanks to:



Dave and Sandra Cox, Allison and Paul Goldsmith, Jill and David Crouch, Monica and Kevin Chittock, Gordon Erhorn, Nigel Woodhouse, Lesley and Brian Hull, Carol and Brian Peters, Dan and Amanda Hull, Jill and Jim Chapman, Ray, Janet, Teresa and Bethany Quinton, Sinead Crossley, Jack Bloomfield, Simon Phillips, Sue and Tiny Welch – King of the Jackhammer, James Woolnough - rotovator extraordinaire, Billy, Judy and Dawn Crisp, Mark Bull, Leigh Linnett, Lucy

Elkin, the lovely lady from Thorndon who came with her spade!

If I've missed anyone out, a thousand apologies, but THANK YOU!

*Alison Davenport Jones, Secretary, ORAC*

## Joe Hull's Grand Raffle

Many of you will remember Joe's Grand Raffle, featured in our last edition, following the theft of their I pads during a break-in in the school.

Joe's appeal was featured on BBC Suffolk's Mark Murphy show and his mum, Amanda was interviewed on air by Mark Murphy. This resulted in the generous people of Suffolk donating nine I pads.

Thanks to the further generous donation of many raffle prizes by the public and local businesses Joe's Grand Raffle, held at "The Beaky" on 21<sup>st</sup> April, raised in excess of a further one thousand pounds for the school

Well done Joe!



Joe, with a small selection of the many prizes

### Volunteers Needed!

We urgently need volunteers to help in the Home-Start Charity Shop in Eye. There are a variety of roles needed from greeting customers in the shop, working on the till or behind the scenes-sorting and pricing donations.

We are a friendly bunch and welcome anyone who can spare a regular half day (9.30am to 1pm or 1pm to 4.30pm) All monies raised go towards helping and supporting families in the local community.

For more information and an application form please either call the office on 01379 678552 or visit us in the shop. Thank you.



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Suffolk

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Find out more, come for an evening

**Occold Village Hall 7.45pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday each month**

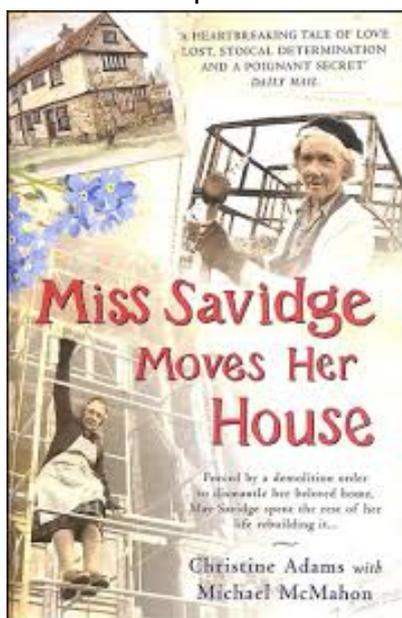
Contact Lesley Hull, President Tel:678228 or Sue Welch, Secretary Tel:678521

### **WI VISIT to WELLS-NEXT-SEA, Norfolk**

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, nine ladies from the W.I. had an excellent day trip to Wells-next-the-Sea, where we enjoyed a stroll along the promenade, a seafood lunch, a fascinating visit to Wade Hall House and of course, ice-cream all round before setting off on the 60 mile drive back to Occold.

Wade Hall House is in Wells now, but used to be in Wade, Hertfordshire. It's owner, Miss May Savidge, moved the entire 600 year old house and spent the rest of her life rebuilding it by hand. Upon her death, "Aunty May" left the still incomplete house to her niece in law, Christine Adams, who finished the work herself over the next 15 years. She gave us a guided tour and regaled us with stories about the mammoth task she undertook. Always short of funds, Christine wrote a book to generate income – and it paid off because Hollywood fell in love with the story and bought the film rights.

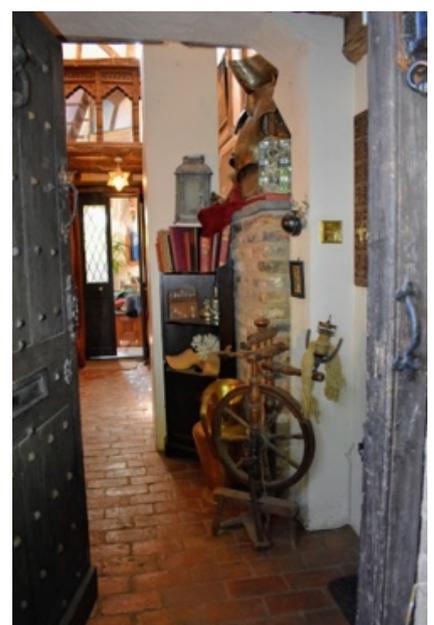
We were all very much in awe of May Savidge and Christine Adams: both inspirational ladies with indomitable spirit.



**Christine Adams Book**



**Outside and inside views of Wade House**



Wells is a lovely town and well worth a visit (see more pics on back cover)

*Alison Davenport Jones*



**GANDERWICK FEN** (Information taken from “Thorndon before the conquest” by the Reverend H A Harris.)

As the quay at Catbridge lay at the end of the lake, the opposite shore presented about two miles of coast at any point of which a landing, might be made. As this was a ferry not a ford, the landing point need not be the nearest dry land by the shortest route. I reasoned that as drainage lowered the water the channel requiring a ferry would gradually narrow. Travellers would therefore walk further and further down across the drying lake before stepping on to the ferry, 'until " at last they could walk across on dry land and the two paths from the two quays that followed the ever-receding ferry would meet, the old water way imperceptibly merging into a path way. Such a path exists today, running diagonally south east from Catbridge for about half a mile until it touches rising: ground between Black Horse Lane and Mill Lane. This pathway showing us the old cinder track of the long-ago ferry. BlackHorse Lane is a laboriously excavated sunken road very similar to Catbridge Ridgeway: as it also ended in deep-water or a quay. That it was a quay is well attested as it is marked by these two lanes, one at either end. Mill Lane was a right of way within living memory but now the entrance from the Street is covered by the Mill Barn. This ancient right of way once led to the quay, but now to nothing but fen, too soft for cattle and if there was not a quay or ferry here there is no justification for either the sunken road or right of way. This quay lies in a back-wash creek in which vessels could shelter and be concealed from enemy ship

As water ways were the main roads of olden days it is not surprising that Thorndon situated on a river which was a main thoroughfare, and At the time of the Conquest Thorndon Lake was a shallowing broad, though the river was navigable for some 300 years later. As the water drained away Thorndon lost her lake, harbour and quays. Her commerce was deflected to other routes and travellers passed her by. Her prosperity waned

It is not idle imagining to assert that her lake and water ways gave her an importance in the past above that of neighbouring villages. Restore the lake, replace the water, and we would have one of the loveliest sites in Suffolk, attractive 'for boating, fishing, and excursions. Thorndon would be reborn, the more beautiful daughter of a beautiful mother. Time cannot obliterate fame or greatness, nor has she done so, for indelible souvenirs from the vanished past survive in Thorndon In the Bronze Age there was a Settlement here, for various implements, weapons and a cinerary urn were dug up when bush-draining the high land that skirts this creek, called Brakenham. A spear head, knife, gouge, awl and some socketed celts are now in the British Museum whilst the cinerary urn in is Bury.

Having found a road and located a quay on the north side of our lake it was then necessary to find the corresponding quay and road on the south side. also having a lake or broad connected with this river, and forming a harbour off it, was a place of importance. The Catbridge fields, which have been mentioned before, lie on the north of the channel or cut, which connects our river and lake, while on the south lies Ganderwick. Ganderwick is low lying land extending over several acres at the mouth of the lake and was, as the name informs us, a creek. Bearing in mind that Ganderwick was a deep-water creek, it is remarkable that an ancient Ridgeway, as those old ways that follow along the edge of a water course are called, runs abruptly into the water at Ganderwick. The obvious conclusion being that - here was a ferry or landing stage. Later, as draining lowered the water, the ferry gave place to a Ford, and later still to the tiny bridge called Catbridge.

*Sue Welch*

## OCCOLD PARISH COUNCIL

Occold has a full complement of 9 Parish Councillors on the local Parish Council. If you wish to raise any matters concerning the village, you can do so by attending a Parish Council meeting, dates of which are posted on the Parish Website and on the Parish Council Noticeboard, or by directly contacting one of the councillors or the parish clerk. Details are as follows:

Chair: Colin Cripps	Tel: 01379 672945
Kevin Chittock	Tel: 01379 678464
Alison Davenport- Jones	Tel: 01379 672996
Neil Flack	Tel: 01379 678966
Michelle Grange	Tel: 07905 332396
Stephen Hubner	Tel: 07799 035768
Brian Hull	Tel: 01379 678228
Richard Mullarkey	Tel: 01379 678435
Richard Owen	Tel: 01379 678232
Clerk: Caroline Emeny	Tel: 01986 798422 E: <a href="mailto:parishcouncil@occold.com">parishcouncil@occold.com</a>

### News from the Parish Council

The annual meeting of the Parish, which is open to all the registered electorate within Occold, was held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May. It would be nice to have more residents attend this annual event as this is YOUR opportunity to raise any issues or queries that you have about your village, and it is the only opportunity to discuss something without time constraints. So do think about coming along next year!

The Clerk of 23 years, Mrs Sue Hubner, resigned at the end of March, leaving very big shoes to fill for the new Clerk, Caroline Emeny, who lives in Laxfield. The Parish Council would like to express their thanks and gratitude to Sue for keeping them on the straight and narrow for so many years and for her support and dedication over this extensive period of time.

Recent issues raised at the monthly Parish Council Meetings are speeding, potholes and footpaths in no particular order. See the separate report on Speeding in this edition of The Oracle but needless to say it is an ongoing issue and our Suffolk County Councillor, Andrew Stringer, is passing on the valuable speeding data downloaded from the vehicle activated sign to both Suffolk Police and Suffolk Highways to determine what steps can be taken to further reduce speeding in the village.

Potholes are an enormous problem throughout the county. We have been advised that a more long-term solution is being looked into instead of the current scenario where it appears a pothole is given a 'quick fix' that does not actually last very long. Over 11,000 potholes have been reported in 2018 alone, using the Suffolk Highways reporting tool available on their website ([www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk)) and people are encouraged to use this to report any potholes they come across.

The Footpaths around Occold need to be monitored, and any problems reported back to the Parish Council so we can, in turn, provide that information to the responsible authorities. Please see our separate advert for a new Footpath Warden.

*Caroline Emeny, Clerk to Occold Parish Council*



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## Tim Bloomfield



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## FOREST SCHOOL AT OCCOLD PRIMARY

Spring term 1 Easter – May

During this last half term it has been the turn of the Year 5 children. Another small group of 8 means that along with time for free choice of activities there is opportunity to spend time with individuals, developing their skills through one to one support.

Each week we have had a fire. The children have learned how to build a fire, carefully building up layers of fine tinder and small kindling to adding the larger sticks and logs as the fire has caught. They have had the opportunity to make and light their own small fires which we have then added to the main fire. Safety is always the main consideration during this type of experience.

We have made damper bread again so knives were used to whittle the sticks needed for wrapping the dough around. They continued to work with the knives, whittling more sticks, splitting kindling further for their fires, making pointed sticks to use for cooking marshmallows and also making kazoos. A variety of knife skills were used to make these and I think they enjoyed playing them both in school and at home after the session!

We have worked on planting a few small hedgerow bushes to add to the site and dug in some of the seating logs to stop them rolling about as the original carved seat have started to rot away.



In the final session we cooked pop-corn in sieves, enjoying watching the corn kernels pop into white fluffy pillows. Without the usual flavourings they tasted a bit like warm cardboard but were still enjoyed. We finished the session by cooking marshmallows over the fire and sandwiched them between chocolate coated digestive biscuits to make 'shmores'. They went down a treat with the usual hot chocolate and warm Ribena.

*Gill Chapman*

## News from Occold Primary School

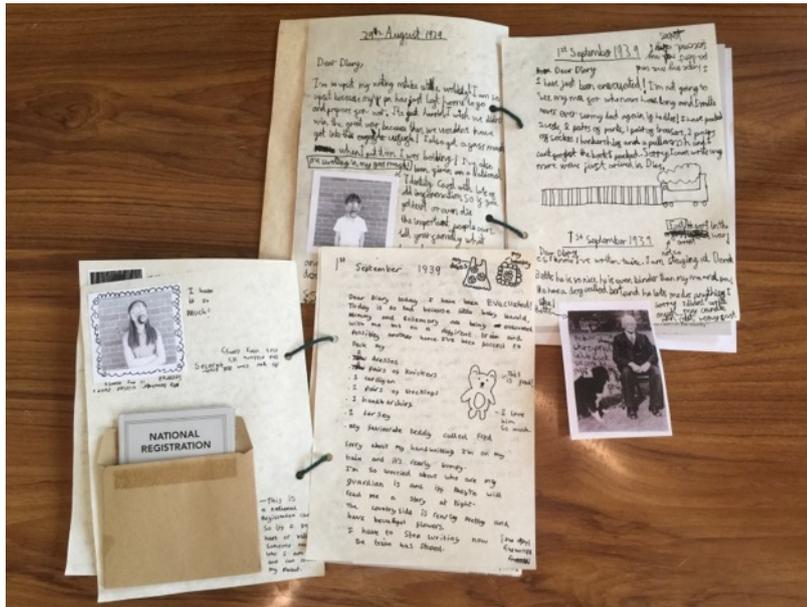
Teachers and support staff at the primary school have been going to great lengths to create some imaginative and engaging learning experiences for our pupils. These have included a project on 'farm to fork' which has involved Rabbit and Hedgehog Classes, exploring the links between agriculture and transport and investigating concepts such as food miles. They have also been growing their own fruit and vegetables in the school allotment and recently raised their own butterflies. At the moment they are waiting for their duck eggs to hatch in the incubator.



**Fox Class** have been exploring the Ancient Greeks and their myths and legends. They have also been carrying out a small study on bees and have been looking into their recent disappearance. Children made some bee houses which they will place around the village and were able to learn lots of interesting information first-hand from local beekeeper Kim-who is also our IT technician! You may have also seen our Year 5s and 6s out in the village recently practicing for their Bikeability awards (what we used to call cycling proficiency). I am delighted to announce that they all passed with flying colours!



**Otter Class** travelled back in time this term to the 1940s as part of their topic on the Second World War. Staff created a highly immersive experience for them and children have been making their own gas masks and boxes, ID cards and have also been keeping a diary of events.



Last week they were evacuated to Holt which involved dressing the part and travelling on a steam train from Sheringham. They experienced an air raid, rationing, aircraft spotting and 'make do and mend'. Not surprisingly, the work that has been produced by our children in response to these inspirational experiences has been of an exceptional quality.



Our children did very well in the recent athletics tournament at Hartismere, finishing in the top 5 of the local schools, many of which are several times bigger than us. Children also took part in outward bound activities on Knetishall Heath which included environmental art and orienteering.



**The Friends of Occold** held our annual school ball at Debenham again this year. A great time was had by all and lots of money was raised in support of our pupils-a huge thank you to Kerry and the rest of the team for planning this! On behalf of parents and pupils of Occold Primary School I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the residents of Occold for the wonderful repair job on the playing area on the village field. All our children at the school enjoy using this area; especially this time of year. We are all very fortunate to be part of such a supportive community.

*Paul Parslow-Williams, Headteacher*

## **St Michaels Flower Guild.**

The Guild has now been running for 10 years. My thanks to all the members for the lovely bouquet received after the AGM and to Kate for a super party at her house and delicious cakes.

We now look forward to a varied programme of outings and speakers. We kicked off with Ken Samman who proved to be a very good and knowledgeable speaker with lots of plants for sale, much to the delight of members!

During this last year we have said goodbye to Vivienne, Jan and Sandra and we wish them every happiness in their new homes and lives.

The Guild meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month, visitors welcome at £3.00 per meeting. Membership £10.00 yearly. Details and venues in Programme.

Wishing everyone a very enjoyable summer, (and holidays!). *Elly*

## Occold Pre school

What we have been up to this term.

We started back after Easter with lots of children asking questions and talking about the Ocean and how the plastic was killing some of our fish.

So, we decided to look more closely at the fish and Ocean environment, this led us to looking at fish in books and on the internet. The children love to feed and take care of Keithy and Leafy our two goldfish. The children have made some beautiful fish using lots of different materials which we have displayed in our room.

The children have been talking to mummies and daddies about how to wrap sandwiches in foil or reusable containers, to protect the fish. This is working well. Thank you, parents who have supported us, with this.

We also reuse yogurt pots and try to recycle as much as we can. Making lots of beautiful creations out of recyclable bits.

We talked about what fish was good to eat and have had lots of discussion about where the best fish and chip shop is. Now it's between Eye and Mendlesham. Although I think the Beaky may take over soon. We then decided to make our very own fish and chip shop outside in our little shed.

They have learnt how to share out the jobs, using the till to take money, and ordering more supplies on the telephone, as we always seem to be running low on chips.

This led us on to the wedding of the year, the children were very excited about having a small party for Harry and Megan's wedding. *(see photo on next page)* We had lots of talk about princes and princesses, we made crowns, cucumber sandwiches and lots of gorgeous cakes. And had a lovely party. *(see picture on next page)*

A few budding dress designers designed their own wedding dress. Adding flowers and jewels to their design.

We are finishing our term with our sports day, this is always a lovely evening with the children taking part in running, collecting bean bags in buckets, egg and spoon, the wonderful sack race, and finishing up with a good tug of war. and BBQ and Raffle to finish off.

If anyone would like to join us in September we do have some spaces left, we take children from 2 to 5. If you receive a golden ticket, please pop in and see us as you will qualify for 15 hours free funding. Children receive universal funding (15 Hours funded) from the term after they turn 3. And children of working parents can get an extended 15 hours funding, taking them up to 30 hours.

To find out more give us a ring on 01379 678397. Or email [Occoldpreschool@aol.com](mailto:Occoldpreschool@aol.com). Also please follow us on facebook.

Kind Regards

*Linda Emma, Nic and Jules.*



## 20 MEANS TWENTY

We're not talking limited overs cricket. We're talking about the number inside the red perimeter of the road signs through the village. You may wish to dig out that old copy of the Highway Code from the attic and check up on what information is conveyed by circular signs with a red perimeter. Don't have an attic? Don't have a copy of the Highway Code (most likely)? No problem – it conveys a **mandatory** requirement. Don't be fooled by the children's artwork, it's not a pleasant request, or a notional guideline, it's **the law**. Sadly, a large number of people driving through the village don't seem to have grasped that concept: **over 4000 times** in May entering from Mill Road alone.

The speed indicating device (SID) is now providing plenty of information and shows that the majority of drivers trigger it at speeds between 25 and 35 mph. Doesn't seem a lot, but it's enough for a police ticket, and more importantly, sufficient to kill someone if you hit them, which you are more likely to do. Numpty Of The Year award is going so far to the Lewis Hamilton wannabe full of Red Bull who triggered it at **60 mph**. May's record was 52 mph.

Respect the limit. Respect the village. And remember: "now feel free to go as fast as you can." Please tell your and bus driver.

Safe driving. *The Speed Doctor*



this doesn't mean friends, family, delivery driver

## The plotted history of ORAC- From the start.

It all started in 1977 with a celebration of the Queens Silver Jubilee.

This had been discussed at the Parish Council meeting, Tom Rivett and Brian Hull agreed to help organise an event on a meadow belonging to Church Farm which backed onto what is now known as Rectory Gardens.

The tea party which was open to all villagers also included a fancy dress competition, decorated bicycle, games and of course a sit down tea party. A great day was had by everyone, which resulted in money being raised unexpectedly.

Shortly afterwards the village had a meeting to discuss what should happen to the money. The overriding consensus was the village needed some land for children and families to play on as there was nothing within the village.

A decision to start a village committee, named by Tom Rivett as Occold Recreational and Amenities Council, now known as ORAC. Meetings were held in the Hatcheries, Barric Road, owned then by Sovereign Chicken. I would like to mention some of the committee members in those early days.

Tom Rivett, Brian Hull, Stanley and Molly Wattam, Alan Clarke, Velda Haddock (now Lummis), Isobel Plowman, Lenny Bull, Reg Gray, Vic Cracknell, Lindsay Pearson, Jean Fayers, Kate Glendining, George Tompson, Peter Havers, Harry Standley, Christine Gordon, I hope I have not forgotten anyone.

Brian Hull elected as Chairman.

Treasurer- Molly Wattam.

Secretary- Kate Glendining.

The committee turned itself into a massive fund raising machine.

Some of the events in the early days included:

Coffee evenings, Barn dances, Ballroom dances, Jumble sales, Disco's and two of the most popular and financially successful events were, the sponsored cycle ride, around a continuous 2.8 mile route, the winners raising the most money on a tandem were Velda Pitchell and "Tucker" (Tony Parker). The other big fund raiser happened to be the Cheese and Wine evening, held at the Hatcheries which included Molly Wattam's famous tombola which always raised plenty of money.

The field behind the Beaconsfield Arms seemed the most suitable piece of land so negotiations started with the Brewery in 1979. Agreement was eventually completed in 1980, this included the field and an access road to the field. The agreement included us supplying and erecting a 4 foot plastic chain-link fence either side of the driveway and between the Beaconsfield Arms and the proposed village field, a total of 530 feet. Also, within the agreement, we would apply for and achieve planning permission for a building plot on the left hand side of the driveway for the Brewery to sell. This was sold to Russel Coe from Redlingfield for £10,000. Furthermore, we were to pay the Brewery £1823.95 for the land and cover the cost of all solicitors fees of £557.26. One of the final conditions insisted on was that, if at any later date we wished to build any structure on the field, we would have to re-negotiate with the Brewery (Norwich Brewery) for permission. With only £900 in the accounts and an estimate of £911 for the fencing, money continued to be a challenge.

Although money remained very tight it was agreed to provide a trip to the theatre for the elderly people in the village, as they had contributed to many of the fund raising events but might not benefit from the playing field purchase. ORAC would pay for this.

The fund raising continued at full flow, the Cheese and Wine nights had become so popular that we had to restrict numbers to 250, still held at the Hatchery. The WI offered to help with fund raising along with several other organisations so it was decided to have at least 1 representative from each organisation on the committee. This worked very well and an unwritten agreement was that each organisation would support each other's events.

Just to give you an idea how many events were held to raise money in 1980, Cheese and wine, Barn Dance, Jumble sale, Ballroom dance, cycle ride, 50/50 sale, Best kept gardens, Open air Disco, Bonfire night, Car rally, Coffee evening, family social and fete's were being arranged yearly.

By May 1980 the drive and concrete splay had been done and pipes for the ditch crossing were in place. Meetings were arranged with the school and the Education department, which concluded they would cut the grass and mark out any pitches needed once the field had been levelled and reseeded in the autumn, in exchange for the school use (this continues today). Grants had been sought from several sources. A competition to name the field had been won by Ivy Lister as Jubilee Playing field.

New and willing members were joining the committee, Brian Mann, Pastor Howells, Ron Damant, Father Jeremy Cooper and Peter Garrod to name a few. Others decided to stand down to make way for the new members so the committee did not get too big and they were, Vic Cracknell, Tom Rivett and Reg Gray.

With so many fund raising events taking place, mostly outside the village, it seemed inevitable that the decision to consider a building on the field would be made. Plans were soon placed with the District Council for consideration and members were on the lookout for a suitable second hand building for sale.

It's amazing what can be achieved when the village pulls together!

While all the above had been going on, the Village Green (near the post box), which had been an old village hall/ Reading room had to be dealt with.

More later.

*Brian Hull*



**Amanda  
Polley**

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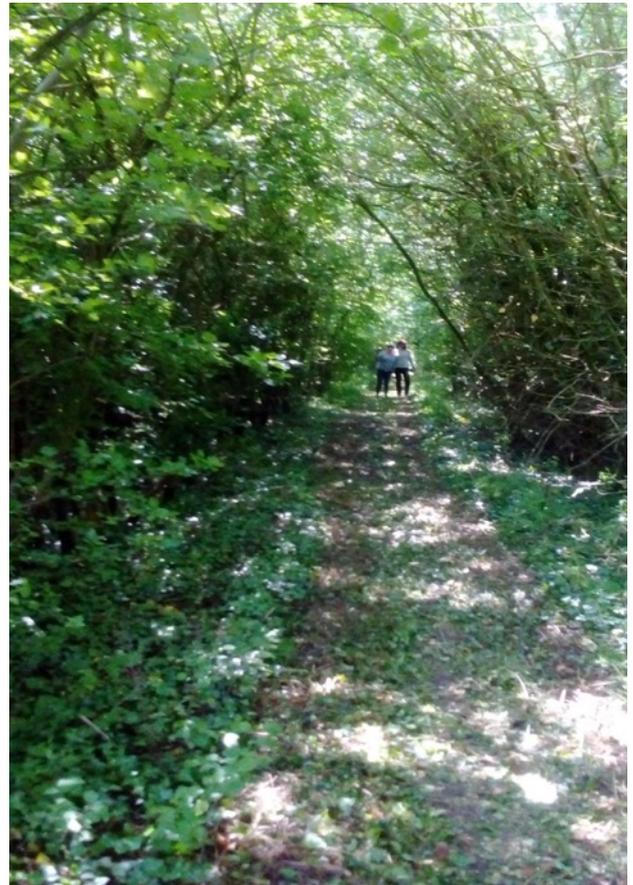
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## Clearing Red House Lane

. A working party of five have cleared Redhouse Lane and it is now a pleasant walk bar a few nettles at the very end, near a bridge. The bridge is a little worn and a handrail on a second bridge is broken. Here it joins Thorndon footpath 24 which comes out at the bottom of Castle Hill and is then an easier walk to Thorndon.

*Sue Welch*



### STOP PRESS!

Occold village needs a new **footpath warden** to regularly walk the footpaths around the village and report back any problems to the Parish Council. Could this be you? Do you have a dog and walk the paths regularly anyway?

If you feel you would be able to commit to this invaluable service, please contact one of your Parish Councillors or the Clerk. Details are on the website and within this edition of The Oracle.

## **JUBILEE BAPTIST CHURCH GOINGS ON .....**

We meet together every Sunday at 10.45am in the village hall for a time of worship, teaching and growing together as we look at a passage from the Bible. Led by our Pastor Joe, the doors are always open if you would like to join with us. Arrive at 10.30am for plenty of time to grab a coffee and the best seats!! Check out our new website 'www.jubileebaptistchurch.co.uk' for downloads of recent talks.

As we approach the end of the summer 'term' several of our regular activities will pause for their own summer breaks.

### **Youth Club**

The final two youth club sessions are on Friday 29 June and Friday 12 July in the village hall and on the playing field. Be warned – if the last night is a warm, dry evening do be prepared to get mucky!!! Two days later on Sunday 15 July we will hold our FAMILY GAMES AND BBQ AFTERNOON out on the field. Starting around 2.30pm with the BBQ being fired up around 4pm, this is usually a fun finale to round off the term altogether. All youth club member families are welcome – just please let us know if you are planning to come along for planning purposes (either by returning the slip back to youth club from the letter given to youth clubbers, contacting us via our Facebook page 'Jubilee Baptist Church Youth Club' or via email to [dawn.crisp@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:dawn.crisp@dsl.pipex.com))

The new youth club term resumes on Friday 14 September – after James has got married!!!

### **Friends and Neighbours**

Our friendly ladies group which meets monthly at the chapel on the second Wednesday of the month has a couple of different events planned over the summer. The first is our outing to Corn Craft at Monks Eleigh on 11 July. Our monthly get together in August will be a Garden Party at 6 Ash Tree Close.

Our usual routine will resume one week later than usual on 19 September with Anne Harvey sharing with us all about her adventures around Australia last year.

New ladies are always welcome to join with us. There is no charge and we just enjoy a friendly time together with either a speaker or activity themed evening, rounded up with a short talk and free flowing tea and coffee ☺ ☺

### **Gardening Notes**

The summer months can be the hottest of the year, which makes a great time to sit outside and enjoy your garden. Keep your plants looking good by deadheading when needed which will enable you to enjoy a longer display of blooms. Hoe weeds which love the sunshine.

Jobs to do;

Water tubs and new plants.

Give lawns a quick acting summer feed

Pick courgettes before they become marrows

Deadhead flowers as needed

Keep ponds free of algae and keep them topped up

Treat apple scab

Harvest all the lovely ripe fruit *Debbie*



## News from St Michael and All Angels

As will hopefully have been obvious, the occasional working parties clearing undergrowth in the churchyard and cemetery have made a substantial difference to the areas, including uncovering several graves that have been “lost” for years. Summer has allowed growth of the usual nettle beds and weeds, but we are deliberately leaving some wild areas for insects and birds; these will be tidied up later in the year. We aim to cut back the final “hedge” (really trees!) around the cemetery in late autumn. Unfortunately we are no nearer sorting out the formalities to be able to redecorate the interior of the church, but we have not given up on this project!

Services follow a regular pattern of 8:00 am on first and third Sundays in the month and 9:15 (followed by coffee and cookies) on the second and fourth. We are always ready to welcome new attendees!

Looking further ahead (with apologies to those who would like to enjoy their summer holidays before thinking about such things!), the annual bicycle ride takes place on 8 September and there will be a Harvest Festival so please look out for posters advertising this as summer ends. We also plan to hold an Event around the same time, almost certainly involving wine, and edible delicacies of some description. Again, please watch out for more publicity on this.

Lastly, as many will already know, the centenary of the end of the First World War falls on Sunday 11 November. Our Rector will be required to attend the Eye service for the 11:00 silence, but we will be arranging a service in Occold to show respect to all those who have given their lives in service to our country, and do want to mark the occasion at the war memorial at 11:00, so more details will follow.

As ever, if you have any queries, please do contact the Churchwardens:

Stephen Hubner – 01379 678360

Gill Richardson – 01728 627916

## RELAXING FACIAL REFLEXOLOGY

I am currently training to do full Facial Reflexology (Lone Sorensen method). Facial Reflexology offers all the benefits of hand and foot reflexology, plus extra benefits of relaxing facial! I will be offering a discounted rate for taster sessions starting in September. I will also be offering different packages for Foot, Hand and Facial reflexology to suit all budgets! Ring for more information or to book. I have a relaxing treatment room with a lovely view at my house in Occold or I can offer mobile appointments.

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*Debbie Kilburn*



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At: 10.45am

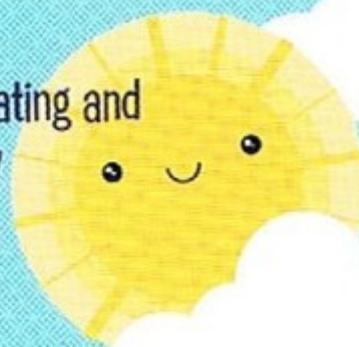
**Youth Club** – Alternate Friday evenings  
7.30pm to 10.00pm in the village hall

**Friends & Neighbours Group** - Second Wednesday in each month  
7.30pm to 9.30pm (in the Chapel)

Please call Rob on 01449 774609  
For more information or, for details of week-night prayer meetings

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May 2018

# SNT Newsletter

## Eye

### You said...

That vehicles have still been staying over the allocated time for the timed bays around the town centre.

### We did...

1. Letters sent to vehicle owners reminding them of the restrictions.
2. Parking tickets for the persistent offenders.



### Responding to issues in your community

Officers are currently working with local land owners to help shut down an illegal encampment that is currently set up on Eye airfield.

Local officers have been working closely with businesses and the town council following the recent burglary at the town hall in Eye.

### Making the community safer

Following complaints of speeding in Church Street, Eye, a speed data recorder was set up to monitor speed. After 2 weeks and recording 3400 vehicles the data showed that 8 vehicles were over a prosecutable speed.

### Preventing, reducing and solving crime and ASB

Officers across the area, have recently conducted a operation targeting the use of drugs around the Debenham community centre. During this they stopped and searched 6 persons and a vehicle. During the operation no drugs were found during the searches.

### This SNT covers the following parishes

Ashfield cum Thorpe, Aspall, Athelington, Bedfield, Bedingfield, Braiseworth, Brome and Oakley, Brundish, Debenham, Denham, Eye, Fressingfield, Horham, Hoxne, Kerton, Laxfield, Mendham, Metfield, Mickfield, Monk Soham, Occold, Palgrave, Redlingfield, Rishangles, Southolt, Stoke Ash, Stradbroke, Stuston, Syleham, Tannington, Thorndon, Thrandeston, Thwaite, Wetheringsett cum Brockford, Weybread, Wilby, Wingfield, Winston, Worlingworth and Yaxley.

### Future events

Safer Neighbourhood officers will be holding crime prevention events over the summer.

This coming month we look forward to welcoming PC 187 Simon Green to the team as our new Community Engagement officer.

11 July - PCC and Chief Constable Public Meeting covering Mid Suffolk area:  
Cedars Hotel, Needham Road, Stowmarket IP14 2AJ (From 6.40pm)

## Occold Football Club

Our Annual Presentation Night was held at “The Beaky” on 12<sup>th</sup> May, where an excellent three course meal was enjoyed by thirty members, partners and players to the accompaniment of the live singing of “Man in a Hat”.

Darren Jolly was presented with a silver salver in recognition of his 22yrs as Treasurer. He was thanked for all his hard work and commitment to the club and his valuable services will now be undertaken by the new Treasurer, Chris Hull.

James Plummery was selected as Committee Clubman of The Year, the Manager’s player was Dave Bawden and the Chairman’s player was awarded to Mark Prescott

The Player’s Player was awarded to Mark Prescott who had an outstanding season, scoring more than 25 goals.

The Chairman, Stephen Hunt, thanked all for another successful season and hoped this would continue in the next year. He announced that the club had had applied to put a Saturday team, Occold Saturday FC, in the S10 league so it is likely that Occold will have two teams in the village from September.

Both teams will be based at “The Beaky” and the club would like to thank them for their support and the provision of food after home games. The club is also hoping that it will be possible, in the future, to bring football back to Occold with the help of the Community Infrastructure Levy.

New players are always welcome at the club and should contact:  
Adam Chittock 07871 645482 or Nigel Woodhouse 07963 811 683

*Nigel Woodhouse*



## Places to Visit

### Goodestone Water Gardens

Water Gardens, The Street, King's Lynn PE33 9BP

The best aspect of the gardens is that they strike the perfect balance between being formal and being wild with naturalistic planting that blends in effortlessly with the beautiful surrounding countryside. We sat quietly in the birdwatching hide and it lived up to its name as we saw the Kingfisher fly across the lake.

There are lots of sheltered spots to sit, a picnic in the grounds is welcome and dogs are allowed on leads. We had a drink in the tea shop and were also tempted by some of the delicious homemade cakes. All in all a surprisingly good visit that we would highly recommend

### Knettishall Country Park

Knettishall, Thetford, Suffolk IP4 1LZ

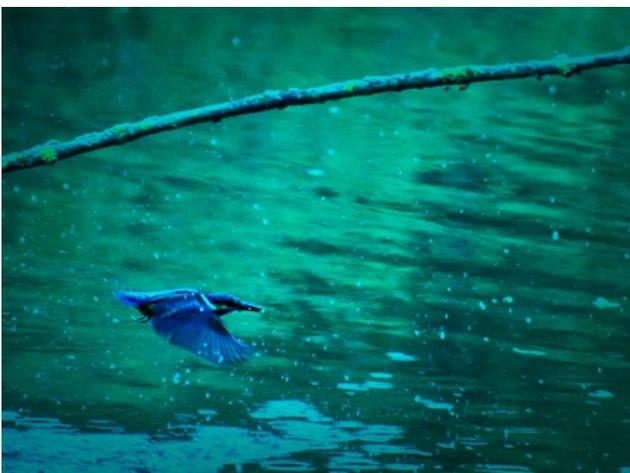
Now a 350-acre park, the area took shape around 4,000 years ago after forest that was dominated by birch, lime and oak was cleared for grazing. Now this extensive heath is a unique habitat with riverside meadows and woodland.

Knettishall is a confluence of several old trails. The park's Heathland Trail is the southern end of the 95-mile Peddars Way, a Roman road to North Norfolk. The park is also the start of the Icknield Way, claimed to be the oldest route in Britain, and is also a jumping off point for the Angles Way, which winds 77 miles to the Broads.

Within the park itself is a network of short, circular, waymarked trails to choose from. From Knettishall Heath, paths lead in all directions.

The Little Ouse river runs along the northern edge of the park, and the park has a popular waymarket Riverside Trail, taking you down to the banks of the river, which traces the county border. In summer, the river is popular with local children and there's a section where they can splash around.

Watch out for dragonflies and damselflies above the water and pike and perch below the surface. With luck, you may see an otter or catch a glimpse of kingfishers.



Kingfisher at Goodestone taken from hide



View of Knettishall

## News from High Suffolk Rotary

See Facebook for  
pictures and more!



### High Suffolk Rotary Club plays host to international Rotary Meeting

The weekend of the 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> May saw over 100 Rotarians and guests from 7 countries descend on Suffolk to spend time together, experience the best of Suffolk attractions and products, and commit €5,000 to a locally-managed Rotary project.



The event, called the "Rotary International Club meeting" (RIC) is held every year, rotating round host clubs in the UK, France, Belgium, Germany and Poland. High Suffolk club have spent two years putting together this year's event, which was held at the Ufford Park Hotel.

From the start, we wanted the event to showcase the best that Suffolk has to offer. The event kicked off on Friday night, with a visit to the Ufford White Lion, a typical local pub, where guests were treated to locally made beer, a 'hog roast', and live folk music.

On Saturday, Rotary members met to report on their activities for the year, and to commit €1,000 from each club to a project selected by High Suffolk club. Meanwhile, partners visited one of two great local attractions, Snape Maltings and Sutton Hoo.



In the afternoon we were at Crow's Hall in Debenham, where we treated our guests to a "Village Fete" including games

and maypole dancing. On Saturday evening we dined and danced, with a "Royal" theme to reflect the day's other event! Following a good English Breakfast on Sunday, our final bit of fun was a golf competition ... at Ufford Park's Congo Rapids crazy golf course!

Many, many thanks go to our sponsors and helpers – Caroline Spurrier of Crow's Hall, Debenham Senior Section Guides, Adnams Brewery, East of England Co-Op, Ufford Park Hotel & Staff, Paddy & Scott's Coffee, Munchy Seeds, Cawston Press, Farmhouse Cooking, Yum Yum Tree Fudge, Earl Soham Brewery, EDF Energy, Angie Hair, and The Old Mill House.

#### The 2018 RIC project...

RCHS are partnering with the Rotary Club of Woodbridge Deben in a project to provide modern equipment to the paediatric departments of three hospitals in Romania. Two volunteers with relevant skills and experience from the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital will help to set up the equipment. The project is funded by several local Rotary clubs together with a Rotary Foundation grant.



#### Don't just sit there...

You could be part of this, as a Member, Associate or Friend! Please - get in touch!



[info@highsuffolkrotary.org](mailto:info@highsuffolkrotary.org)



[www.highsuffolkrotary.org](http://www.highsuffolkrotary.org)



[highsuffolkrotary](https://www.facebook.com/highsuffolkrotary)



## **CHESSE PIE**

**SERVES 8**

2 eggs	3 tablespoons whipping cream
4oz (115g) dark brown sugar	2 tablespoons granulated sugar
2 tablespoons plain flour	1 tablespoon whisky
1 1/2 oz (45g) melted butter	2oz (55g) chopped dates
Whipped cream for serving.	

Heat the oven to 375deg, 190C.

Make enough pastry to line a flan tin, trim the edges and plait them, brush the edge of the pastry case with water and fit the plaits around the rim.

In a mixing bowl, whisk together the eggs and cream.

Add both sugars and beat until well combined. Sift over 1 tablespoon of the flour and stir in. Add the whisky, the melted butter and walnuts. Stir.

Mix the dates with the remaining flour and stir into the walnut mixture.

Pour the mixture into the pastry case and bake until the pastry is golden and the filling puffed up, about 35mins. Serve at room temperature with the cream of course.

Enjoy.

## **The Book Club**

Do you enjoy reading and then discussing the books you have read? If so, then join our group which is for both the young and the not so young! We meet once a month at The Beaky.

This month's book is The Eve of Man by Tom and Giovanni Fletcher and our next meetings are 17<sup>th</sup> July and 14<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm. Everybody welcome-just come along. *Julia Pointer*

## **Framlingham Spinners, weavers and dyers**

are a group of likeminded people who meet every term time Monday morning at Parham village hall from 9.30am until 12.30am. We are a friendly bunch with people all doing different things.

Some do spinning others knitting, another lady weaves pictures. We all have learned a lot from each other lots of tips given on anything from spinning and dying to how to card, and read chart patterns for knitting. If anyone would like to pop in and see if it is something that would interest them then please feel free, or perhaps you would like to join.

*For any more information please call Debbie Phillips on 01379 678*

## **Forthcoming events at the Beaky**

21<sup>st</sup> July – Live music to Silbury Hill. 24<sup>th</sup> August Elvis Tribute Andy Ottley  
And don't forget our Caribbean day 18th August 2pm till late

## LIFE A ten-year old's poem

In the morning of life we are classed as new  
a priceless gift to a family that is true  
for nine months my only friend has been in water  
now I'm not a friend I'm a son or daughter  
the open road stretches in front of me  
shows me the way through life unwillingly  
as life goes on I grow I mature  
my brain fully awoken to open the door  
my imagination grows to the world beyond  
I now respect of people I'm fond  
But as the years suddenly go by  
I will find sadness I will cry  
I find we do not live in perfect harmony  
most innocent people aren't walking free  
there is racism, starvation, cruelty and greed  
these are the things the world doesn't need  
as afternoon comes people trust you more  
you get respected for ever more  
but you still go on to live a life of joy  
you become more happier then when you open your first toy  
now you combine with another and become one  
to protect to love in promise you have done  
you've now reproduced another has become  
out of all your life this is the most treasured one  
as this person grows up you see his similarity to you  
in all your activities all you do  
te' end of the day is finally here  
for your family and friends is who you fear  
but you've done all you could do  
because the end of the line has come to you.

**The Red Feather Club Museum**, on your doorstep in Horham, is now regularly featuring in prestigious tours from the USA .

The tours aim to be a “story of life in wartime England, in bombed-out London, and in the tiny hamlets ... brash young Americans completely transformed”

Best-selling author and historian Donald L Miller leads the tours, which also visit the Cambridge American Cemetery, the Churchill Archives at Cambridge University, the 100th Bomb Group at Thorpe Abbots, the 94th BG at Rougham Airfield, The American Air Museum at Duxford, the Greene King brewery, the Churchill War Rooms, the Imperial War Museum London, St Clement Danes - The Central Church of the Royal Air Force, the RAF Club and the Bomber Command Memorial.

The itinerary says of its visit to Horham, that it is “home of the 95th Bombardment Group, one of the most decorated air units of the war. The villagers who restored the base will host a pub party ... with dancing to the music of their own Glenn Miller Band.”

Donald Miller and his book “Masters of the Air: America's Bomber Boys Who Fought The Air War Against Nazi Germany” are the inspiration for the tour. “Masters of the Air” will also be the foundation for HBO’s forthcoming dramatic TV miniseries about the Mighty Eighth Air Force – of which the USAAF units stationed in Suffolk were part, produced by Tom Hanks and Stephen Spielberg. It is the final part of their epic Second World War trilogy, following the hugely successful “Band of Brothers” (2001) and “The Pacific” (2010).

Donald Miller revealed that Tom Hanks, who is the proud owner of a Red Feather Club cap, was so enamoured by the idea of the restored 95th Bomb Group NCOs club that the star and his friends have their own Red Feather Club group.

The tours are welcomed by committee members, re-enactors and volunteers and the Red Feather Club band Skyliner who provide 1940s swing music. The visitors also get a chance to sample the beers of Station 119 – the Eye brewery named after the Horham airfield home of the 95th, RAF Station 119.

Tour organiser Nathan Huegen from the New Orleans museum said: “Thank you for two amazing visits to Horham. I was not kidding when I said I would give up all my other tours to just spend every weekend there ... Everyone is so nice and accommodating and there are so many things to do and see throughout the visit. The smiles on all of the faces of the guests ... made all of the arrangements worth it.”

In June, the Red Feather Club celebrated the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the 95th Bomb Group with a series of events, held its annual Americana Day and held a 1940s dance. On Saturday 29th September the band Junction 55 and DJ Gypsy John will be at the Red Feather Club.

The Red Feather Club museum, operated and managed by the 95th Bomb Group Heritage Association, is open to the public on the last Sunday of the month from April to October, 10am-4pm. It exclusively houses uniforms and memorabilia relating to the 95th Bomb Group who flew out of Horham during WW2.

For info: [enquiries@95thbg-horham.com](mailto:enquiries@95thbg-horham.com), [www.95thbg-horham.com](http://www.95thbg-horham.com). Red Feather Club Museum, Coldhams Hill, Denham, IP21 5DG.

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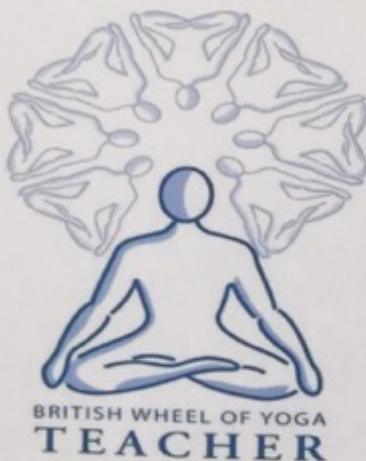
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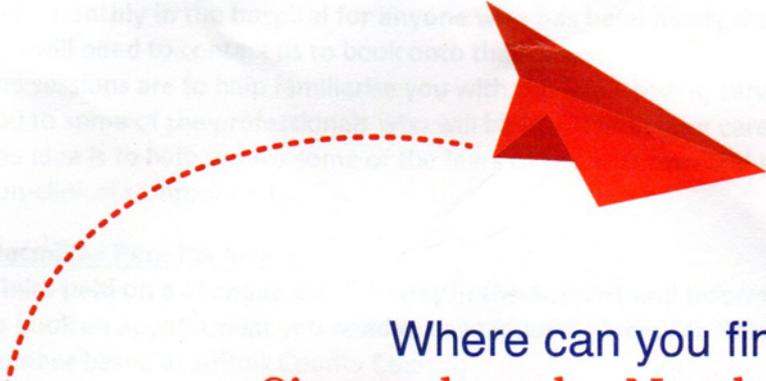
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[yogaclasseswithmichelle@gmail.com](mailto:yogaclasseswithmichelle@gmail.com)

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How can you contact us?

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Email: [cancer.support@ipswichhospital.nhs.uk](mailto:cancer.support@ipswichhospital.nhs.uk)

**[www.ipswichhospital.nhs.uk/cancer\\_info](http://www.ipswichhospital.nhs.uk/cancer_info)**

**The Centre provides Support and Information  
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“If you are not sure what you need, then come in and have a chat  
and a friendly cup of tea or coffee, we will let you know  
what is available for you.”



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## Register now!

You can register online or by calling us.

For more details visit [www.eaaa.org.uk](http://www.eaaa.org.uk) or call 03450 669 999.



**SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018**

**10am – walks finish 3pm**

## Some WI members enjoying tea and cakes !



## At beautiful Wells in Norfolk

