

THE *Mardler*

BROCKDISH & THORPE ABBOTTS



Edition No. 234 August - September 2021

**THE MARDLER is FREE and delivered to all
houses in Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots**

Also available on-line at www.themardler.org.uk

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Welcome to this edition of The Mardler, and in particular, a very warm welcome to our new readers who have moved into Thorpe Abbots and Brockdish recently. I trust that everyone enjoyed the return of the Pink Ladies Tractor Run, which I am sure you will agree was back bigger and better this year after last summer's absence. One of the highlights of the summer, this event has raised over £750 000 for cancer charities. Thank you to everyone who has donated to such a worthwhile cause. The country is now opening up again, and it is fantastic to see events being advertised again in The Mardler. I look forward to seeing you out and about in our beautiful piece of South Norfolk, albeit with a facemask! As ever, if anyone would like to contribute articles for the magazine, please get in touch with the editorial team - we would be delighted to hear from you.

Rob Buck, Editor



REMEMBER

Closing date for entries in the October / November 2021 issue is 5th September 2021.

Articles received after this date may not be included in the next issue.



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Village Information

Brockdish Common

Good work continues by the Common Working Parties and we do get positive feedback from folk who enjoy using the Common. If you want to join in, then come along on the 2nd Monday of the month at 10.00 am.

Apologies that we had to cancel the Moth & Bat evening but, it will be re-arranged and given due publicity. Two of our number have been on a 'wild flower meadow' course so we hope that next year will see a more colourful Common. By the time you read this, there will also have been a course in the Village Hall on 'kick fly fishing', so we can tell you a bit more in the next Mardler.

The other action is the preparation of a walks map that links the 4 commons being worked on by the Conservation Volunteers. This is a 7 mile circular walk through lovely Norfolk countryside, with many points of interest along the way. It will be made widely available when published.

Derek Clark (01379 669201)



It has been a long time since our members have been able to enjoy the weekly outings with us, but we are happy to announce that we are hoping to start these again in July 2021, fingers crossed! If you would like a copy of our outings leaflet when it is ready please contact us.

We are currently looking for more trustees and volunteer drivers to support our vital community transport service. Our services provide a lifeline in the community so anyone who can help would be making a worthwhile contribution to local life. If you have some spare time and would be interested in helping us we would love to hear from you.

For all enquiries, please contact the office on 01379 854800 or email adminborderhoppa@btconnect.com.

Village Notices

Can anyone help please? – Harleston Players need storage space!

We shall shortly be losing the space where we store our set, props and costumes, and wondered if there is anyone out there who might be able to save the day?

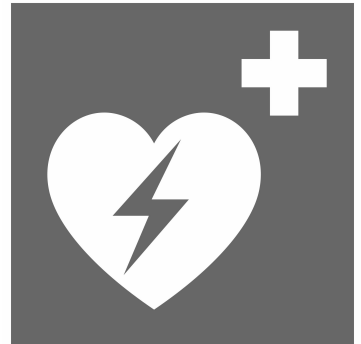
Ideally, we would like a dry space of 120m²- 150m², which has lights and a power socket, is rodent-free, has a big enough entrance for large pieces of set and access for vehicles – we don't ask much!! We are of course prepared to pay rent.

If you think you might be able to help us, could you please get in touch with David Cumming on 01986 788439 or email davidcumming75@gmail.com

Village Defibrillators

Brockdish Defibrillator is located on the outside wall of Brockdish Village Hall. At the Village Hall there is a clothes bank. All proceeds from this go towards the running costs of the Defibrillator.

Thorpe Abbots Defibrillator is located outside the Village Hall.



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A Village 'Thank You'

Even though (as yet) they have not been able to have their annual open garden events for charity, Jackie, John and Jean have still worked tirelessly raising funds for local charities. They have raised the amazing sum of £1500 distributed as follows:

- EAAA £500
- EACH £300
- St. Elizabeths Hospice £300
- PACT Animal Sanctuary £300
- Hallswood Animal Sanctuary £100

Thank you again for your hard work. Local charities would miss these funds.

Arty Crafty Tuesdays

Arty Crafty Tuesdays is a safe, relaxed and friendly community art and craft group for all ages and abilities, run by local Artist, Julie Filmer. Bring along your own materials/project. Anything arty and crafty goes - knitting, drawing, embroidery, crocheting, colouring... whatever you like. A still life table will be set up for those who would like to draw or paint.

Drop in sessions (no need to book): £5 per session or five sessions for £20. Refreshments available at a small extra cost.

1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 10am-12pm, The Space Burston

2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month, 10am-12pm, Waveney Heritage Centre, Brockdish

Julie is also running some taught art and machine embroidery workshops over the next few months - contact Julie on 01379 309273 or the.peacock.emporium@gmail.com for more details.

Harleston
information *plus*



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www.harleston-norfolk.org.uk
Charity number 1146735





My Walk with Granny
By Bethany (age 11)



Harleston & District Dementia Friendly Community & Café

<https://www.facebook.com/CafeHarleston>

<https://twitter.com/Harlestonddfc>

We were hoping to be able to give a definite date in this issue when we can re-start the Dementia Café, but when the Government extended the date for removing social distance restrictions to mid July, it meant we cannot yet confirm the exact starting date. 'Fingers Crossed' that it will still be ok for September. We will also be holding some Dementia Friends Sessions where everyone will be welcome to come along. All details will be in the September issue and on Social Media as soon as we know.

The Dementia Cafe in Harleston has been created as a safe and enjoyable place for both people who are experiencing some memory loss, or have a diagnosis of Dementia and their family, carers and friends who may be feeling a little more isolated than others. Along with tea, coffee, cake and conversation, there are activities to engage, inform, stimulate and entertain everyone. Plus it is an opportunity to make new friends, keep active and feel more confident.

If you would like more information about getting involved, or coming along. Please do contact Pat.

Patricia.simmonds@mail.com or 01379 676557



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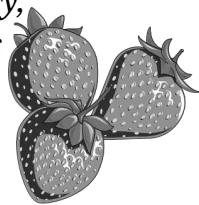
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Shotford Bowling Club OPEN DAY

Saturday September 4th
10 am to 2:00pm



Shotford Bowling Club are holding their annual **indoor Open Day** on September 4th, followed by six consecutive Saturdays of **free indoor bowls coaching** for prospective new members.



Our team of **NCBCA accredited coaches** will welcome you to the club, show you the facilities we have to offer and if you are interested, sign you up to our free coaching sessions. Light refreshments will be provided.

No previous experience is necessary and bowls will be provided for the 2hr coaching sessions.

The club is situated in **Spirketts Lane, Harleston, IP20 9JL**

From the town exit towards Needham, turn left into Shotford Road and left again into Spirketts Lane. The club is on the right just past the water tower.

From the A143, exit at the sign to the industrial estate and turn immediately left into Spirketts Lane. The club is on the left.

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Waveney Heritage at The Old School **Grove Road, Brockdish**

We've got started again - We hope!

Here is some information about what we're up to. As always, it's all interesting and informative, with talks given by local experts on local topics, and just what you want to prompt your interest, whether you have lived here for many years, or have recently arrived and maybe wondering what happens in sleepy Brockdish.

You might also like to have a look at our website, www.waveneyheritage.com to see details of our previous newsletters, our activities, details of who we are and what we hope to achieve.

We've been a long time closed, but that has given us time to keep working, improving and thinking. The Old School was leased to us in 2018, four years after the school was closed, and so there has been lots of work to do: refurbishing the building, dealing with the weeds, the cobwebs, decorating and all the many other tasks (and expenses!) associated with running a large, old building, untouched for four years.

We have been sustained, as have many other small organisations such as ours, by several government grants, for which we have been very thankful. It is a sobering thought that many thousands of such worthwhile undertakings would have collapsed without these grants. In our case, it has enabled us to maintain the original ethos of the school when it was founded by the Rev George France in 1846, of providing a building for the education of local people, not only children. Quite a forward-looking aim in 1846!

On Saturday 11th September we have an open day from 11.00am to 4.00pm, where we formally open our vintage technology exhibition upstairs. We have a lovely collection of radios and all things sound-related which will evoke many memories for us "oldies". Do you remember listening to 'Children's Hour', 'The Goon Show' and 'Round the Horn', to say nothing of pirate radio? Some of our items date right back to the early phonographs, just like the one which used to be pictured on "His Master's Voice" records.

Waveney Heritage at The Old School **Grove Road, Brockdish**

That really is a thing to be proud of! In addition, our amateur radio group will be on hand demonstrating the world of amateur radio - definitely a niche hobby! Downstairs, we'll have more displays of our archive material, and of course, drinks and cakes. The doors and windows will be open and you'll be able to sit in the garden if you wish.

Then, on 26th September at 2.15pm, Rosemary Steer will talk to us on "Children in Care, 1834-1929". I think that might be a rather sobering experience as we compare how things were then and now, but we shall see. Rosemary has given us several talks, all of which have been entertaining and informative, and shine a light on how communities coped before the advent of the welfare state.

Many of you may know Roy Goodwin, whose family have farmed on both sides of the Norfolk-Suffolk border for five generations. He will be talking to us on 6th October at 7.15pm, and is sure to have lots of stories to tell.

I'm sure you will agree that is a lovely mixed bag of subjects, and there is more to come in November and onwards, including our Christmas bash, but more of that later!

In view of the uncertainty re. isolating and so on, it would be really helpful if you could phone Jill (669057) or me, Mary (668279) beforehand to tell us you're coming. See you there!

Mary Thompson

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

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At Thorpe Abbots Village Hall



Grand re-opening

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- Bar courtesy of Adnams, Harleston
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- Games
- Outdoor seating available
- Children and dogs welcome
- Brockdishers welcome!

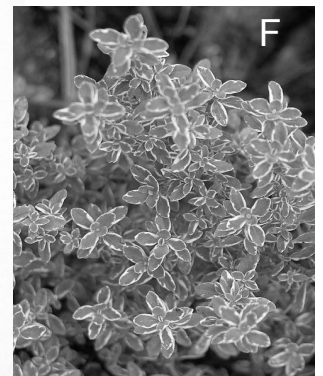
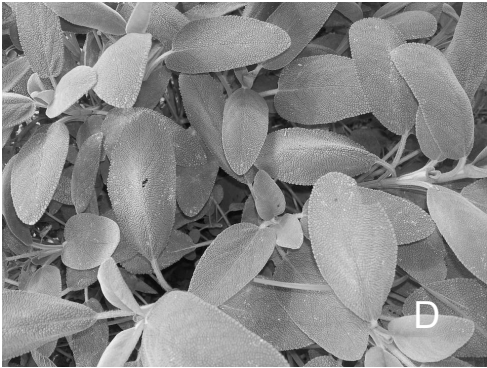
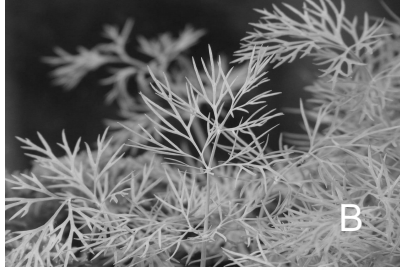
**A village get-together at long last.
We look forward to seeing you there!**

All enquiries please contact Paul Slater tel. 668585

Picture Quiz

How well do you know your herbs? Test your knowledge with our quiz.

(Answers on page 31)



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“What is piped water, exactly?”

Bringing mains water to Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots

© Elaine Murphy

The water supply to Harleston and surrounding villages, including ours, was a vexed question in 1935. At their September meeting, Depwade Rural District Council had just received their perennial letter from the Ministry of Health urging RDCs to invest in piped water. One member, Mr. Neville, did not really see there was a problem; there was plenty of water available for all. Heavens, the River Waveney had plenty of water in it - the Ministry was surely ‘overstating the case’! Was there any need to get water piped through underground tubes to individual households? One member, Mr. Martin, asked what ‘piped water’ was exactly? The general consensus of the meeting was that a piped supply was a luxury, not a priority, and it would be very expensive for the council to put in, even with a government grant. In any case, larger houses had their own wells to draw on. The Reverend Unthank noted that many of these larger households generously allowed their neighbours to use them.



*Left: Thorpe Abbots Village Pump
Above: Thorpe Abbots Pump Canopy,
February 2021*

Bringing mains water to Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots

Most villages, like Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots, relied on village pumps that were maintained by the parish council, and most households collected fresh water in huge rainwater butts and tanks that saw them easily through the winter months. Collecting the water daily was, however, a chore for many. Some villages nearby, like Fressingfield, relied on local ponds (fortunately for Depwade the responsibility of another RDC in Suffolk). There was no sewerage system as such; earth closets in an outside privy, which had to be regularly emptied into a cesspit in the garden, were the normal provision. The notion of hot and running cold water available instantly from taps was not even a dream, so far removed was it from normal experience. If you consider that London had some piped water from 1230 (no, that's not a misprint) and most of London had mains water by the 18th century, rural areas were far behind. One pump in Brockdish stood outside Pump Cottage in the Street, the Thorpe Abbots pump, of course, stands in the centre of the village under the canopy.

By 1937 our indefatigable and highly frustrated local Medical Officer of Health, Dr Frederick H N Maidment, who had been campaigning for 24 years for a healthy water supply to south Norfolk, pointed out again the children's diseases that flourished as a result of the discharge of untreated sewage in to Harleston Beck, and ultimately to the river. He complained about the fact that less than 50 WCs in the locality drained into a proper waste pipe. Legislation came and went; funds were never enough to pay for the private water company's infrastructure investment. The Government in typical fashion passed enabling legislation but then left it up to local initiative (remember electricity, gas and BROADBAND!). And so things went on unchanged through the last war. No wonder the USAAF men at Thorpe Abbots Airfield were surprised by the primitive living conditions in our villages.

Local History

Bringing mains water to Brockdish and Thorpe Abbotts

After the war, the public was no longer willing to put up with the reality that nearly all towns and cities were on mains water but rural areas were not. As one 'Countryman' wrote to the Diss Express in 1947, at the end of a long hot summer:-

'The most serious privation the countryman must endure is the want of piped water. The writer's rain water, collected in underground tanks, usually begins to smell in June and dries up altogether in July, my so-called deep well dries up at the same time. There is then no water for flushing the cistern and I go away and stay with friends until the position improves. Many villagers cannot do that.'

Attlee's post-war Labour government did not impose unified nationalisation on the water supply industry as they did on other utilities, but decided instead to give the responsibility to 198 statutory water-supply organisations, entities that included 64 local authorities and 101 joint water boards of groups of local authorities acting as separate legal entities. The 33 private companies were left in place. Sewerage and sewage disposal was dealt with by more than 1,300 country borough and county district councils. The outcome was very slow progress indeed in some rural areas, notably ours. In fact, investment in water dropped after the war and almost no progress was made until the government introduced The Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Bill in 1955 to increase massively central government investment. Finally, in 1956, pipes were laid to bring running water to Brockdish and Thorpe Abbotts.

And with pipes and tanks inside the house, one could get a water heater, and - hey presto! - hot water for a bath, and for washing clothes without lighting the old copper boiler. A sewerage system for at least those at the centre of the village was put in.

Bringing mains water to Brockdish and Thorpe Abbotts



Advertisement in national press, 1935

But now spare a thought for the little Welsh village of Hebron in Camarthenshire. Since 2018, the village now has the very latest gigabit capable 'Fibre-to-the-Premises' ultrafast broadband, courtesy of BT. Optical fibre can be seen gracefully swinging its way between local overhead telegraph poles. However, Hebron is still waiting for mains water, as is much of rural Camarthenshire. Instead, locals still have to rely on wells and boreholes for their supply, with new boreholes costing up to about £8,000 for a single property. In the heatwave of 2018, households around Llandeilo were relying on bottled water, since wells and boreholes dried up. One resident, Helen Rees, said in September that year: "We haven't showered or washed at home since June. But the real issue for us is flushing the toilet." Her home is usually supplied with water from a well in her garden but it started to run out in June. "We had to start buying in drinking water and trying to find solutions for our normal day-to-day basic sanitary needs," she said. "We fill up buckets of water and we only flush the toilet with those buckets of water, maybe once or twice a day."

So we may not have quite the right quality of broadband yet but at least we have a good supply of water.

The Book Club recommends...

I hope you are enjoying the book reviews as much as I am. Again we have two very interesting books by different authors. Thank you to both Terri and Sarah for their contributions to this edition.

If you would like to share your thoughts on the books recommended so far or, indeed , write your own review for a much loved book , do let us know. You can send your review to judecham@gmail.com.

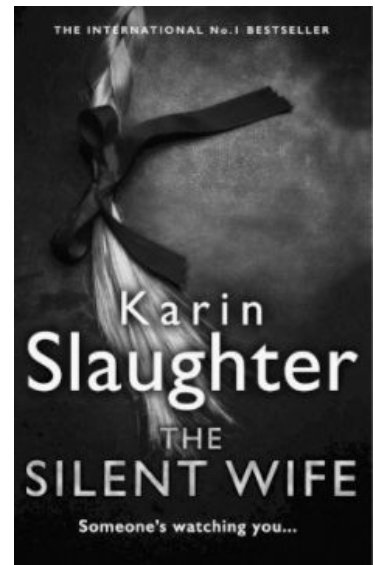
'The Silent Wife' by Karin Slaughter

(reviewed by Terri Bailey)

Karin Slaughter is a prolific writer of murder mysteries set in the USA. This particular story is set in Georgia and centres around Grant County. It is in fact two stories entwined, one being the personal relationships between the main characters in small town America and the other concerning what appear to be accidental deaths.

I have read around half a dozen of this authors previous books and although they can be rather grisly in their description , they are very well written and gripping to the end. However, this book has one large flaw, in that it jumps around from the present to 8 years previously from chapter to

chapter, which is maddening in the extreme and I feel the need to tear up the book and rearrange the chapters chronologically. Despite this, it is a good story revolving around the four central characters in the local police and medical establishments and how they deal with what at first appear to be accidental deaths. At times I admit to skipping over some of the highly technical medical details and being confused by some of the references to American culture. It being a new title, there is some reference to #Me Too in the story and the Silent Wife not only refers to the victims but also to secrets kept by wives. If you have not read any Karin Slaughter, do give this one a try, she is a very good storyteller and if the beginning of this one is a little confusing, stick with it and you can always read it again.



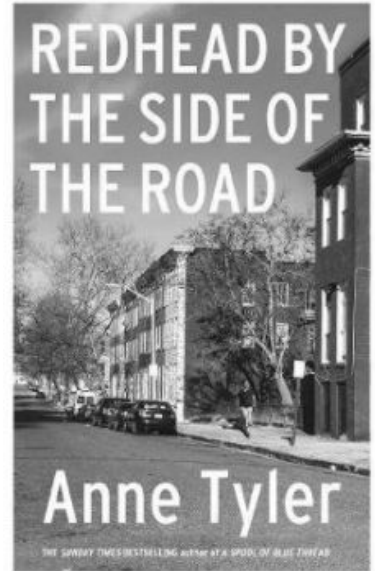
The Book Club recommends...

'Redhead By The Side Of The Road' by Anne Tyler

(reviewed by Sarah Young)

Anne Tyler lives in Baltimore, where the majority of her novels are set. You may have read 'Breathing Lessons' for which she won the Pulitzer Prize, or seen the film 'The Accidental Tourist' which is based on her novel of the same name.

For nearly fifty years she has been capturing the unremarkable lives of ordinary people. In her novels there is very little in the way of plot, but there is always a story, and the story is developed in such a way that people are not only revealed in their complexity, but will change by events, conversations and shifting relationships.



Her latest book, 'Redhead By The Side Of The Road', tells us about Micah Mortimer, a 44-year old who it might be said is very set in his ways. He measures out his days running his one-man computer repair service – his TECH HERMIT sign cheerily displayed on the roof of his car – and moonlights as caretaker for his rundown building, fixing broken switches and putting out the rubbish. In his basement flat he maintains an impeccable cleaning regime and at 7.15 every morning he goes for his daily run.

But then his ordered life turns upside-down when his woman friend Cassia (he refuses to call anyone in her late thirties a 'girlfriend') tells him that she's facing eviction and, to make matters worse, a teenager shows up at his door claiming to be his son. The time has come for Micah to wake up and re-evaluate his life.

In a recent interview Anne Tyler said: "Aren't human beings intriguing? I could go on writing about them forever." I for one hope she does.



*The Pink Ladies
Tractor Run, 2021*



Local interest





Jokes

Wife to Husband: "Choose. It's either me or the football!"

Husband: "Give me 90 minutes to think about it."

Q. Why is tennis such a loud sport?

Ans. Because the players raise a racquet!

Q. Why did the man keep doing the backstroke?

Ans. Because he had just eaten and didn't want to swim on a full stomach!

Q. What is harder to catch the faster you run?

Ans. Your breath!

Quiz

1. What is Usain Bolt's 100m world record time?
2. In what sport do you wear a plastron?
3. What colours are the 5 Olympic rings?
4. Who did England beat in the 2019 cricket World cup final?
5. What colour medal did Tom Daley win in London 2012?
6. In which year did Roger Federer win his first Wimbledon title?
7. What does WWE stand for?
8. The Fosbury Flop is a technique used in which sport?
9. Which snooker player is nicknamed 'The Rocket'?
10. Modern pentathlon includes running, shooting and horse riding plus which 2 other sports?
11. What country did F1 legend Ayrton Senna come from?
12. Katarina Johnson-Thompson is a world champion in which sport?

Answers on page 34



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Memories of Brockdish by Joyce and Glyn Catchpole **as told to Jan Croxson**

The Village Green

The village green was originally a vegetable allotment owned by Corner farm. It was registered as a village green in 1975. Andrew Longe dug it over with farm equipment. Captain Keeley-Peach donated the grass seed and Mrs Hayden donated the trees, which Glyn planted. Joyce and Glyn were the main helpers getting the green ready, and in fact, Glyn maintained the green and hedges for many years as a volunteer before giving up in the 1990's. Homer Young donated wrought iron ends to make the original seat, Glyn and Joyce finished it off with planking.

One morning Glyn was woken by a loud bang. Running down to the green, he discovered a pea lorry had crashed into the pottery's wall, bounced off and veered across the road, flattening the hedge and seat. The lorry ended up in the wall of the cottage by Commerce House.

Commerce House Grocery Shop

Mr Mutimer, Joyce's father, moved his family from Stradbroke to the shop in November 1942. It was owned by Mr Hitchcock who also had a shop in Stradbroke. Mr Mutimer was needed as manager.

The family lived in Commerce House with two girls who worked in the shop. These girls were lodgers, their names being Edna Warnes and Mercy Knights. Mercy started work in the shop at the age of 14 and worked there until she was in her 60s.

The shop had all wooden floors with big wooden drawers under the counters where dried fruit was kept. These all had to be weighed out; Joyce filled the bags, and the two girls wrapped them. Potatoes and sugar were kept in sacks on the floor.

Rationing was in because of the war. The cheese allowance was 2oz per person a week, but if you were a land worker you were entitled to 4oz.

Memories of Brockdish by Joyce and Glyn Catchpole **as told to Jan Croxson**

The shop sold all groceries: green grocery and wine and spirits. As business progressed Mr Mutimer had to stop being roundsman as he was needed in the shop, so Mr Hitchcock sent his man from Stradbroke to do the round in his Austin 8 van.

Joyce's Dad told her that when rationing finished he would buy her a jar of sweets, and true to his word he did, a 7lb jar of Murray Mints.

Mr Mutimer retired from the shop in 1965, moving to the cottage next door. This had been rented by Mrs List who used to make rock, pulling from a hook in the ceiling. The double decker bus crews, on their waiting time by the shop, used to call in to Mrs List's for cups of tea. The shop was sold to Colman's of Norwich but they didn't keep it for long, selling it to the Hammond's from Shelfhanger.

Mr Hitchcock sold the four cottages to Mr T King, the butcher.

Glyn was born at 1 Waveney Terrace, Syleham, one of three children. He attended Brockdish school. If the lane was flooded, which it often did, he couldn't get to school. Glyn remembers clearly one special day in November 1942. The teacher at the school, Maggis Martin, introduced this new arrival to this village. The young girl was wearing black patent shoes, white socks, a red kilt, white blouse and red cardigan, with pretty blonde, bobbed hair. Glyn was 10 years old and this was his first meeting with Joyce. The fact he remembers it so vividly says it all. In school Joyce sat next to Elsie Frost nee Hines.

When Glyn was 11 years old he went to Mr Mutimer for a job which he was duly given, his hours were 4-6, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and all day Saturday, all for 2/6d a week!

Glyn did gardening, but also did chores in the shop. Mr Mutimer taught him how to skin cheese off it's muslin, which took a long time. The cheese came

Childhood Memories of Brockdish

in ½ cwt blocks. Glyn also had to weigh out potatoes, corn and meal. When these jobs were done there were always shelves to fill.

Glyn can remember being up on the foreland with school friends in 1942-43, when planes from Thorpe Abbots base flew over in formation. One of them broke in half, and they watched as 10 men came down in parachutes, landing near Rushall. Joyce can remember making petticoats out of parachute silk, but cannot recall where the parachutes came from.

In 1945, Geoff Flatt started a junior cricket team. He was captain, so he kept all the equipment. The team travelled to Fressingfield, Wortwell, Dickleburgh and Denton. They had to travel by taxi sometimes. Glyn was wicket keeper and Joyce was scorer. Glyn played until 1952, when he was called up.

Tubby Dunnett used to work out at Horham, in the cookhouse on the airbase. Glyn can remember Mickey Dunnett, Johnny Hall and himself cycling there and joining the queue at the cookhouse. They were given fruit and other food, which they stuffed up their shirts and rode home.

Mr Catchpole worked on the airbase at Thorpe Abbots on the water softening plant. He did 8 hour shifts. Mrs Catchpole did laundry for the airmen. They came in a jeep, and one time they took Glyn for a ride round the fields. Not heeding Glyn's warning of ditches around the fields, they ended up in a ditch. The local sand lorry, complete with hook and chin, had to come and pull them out.

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Childhood Memories of Brockdish

Shops and businesses in the village during the war were:

- The Commerce House grocery shop
- A post office and grocery shop (owned by Harry Brighton who sold it to Mr Kubale)
- A bakery owned by Mr Cook
- A garage owned by Walter Seaman. The garage petrol pumps were worked by hand, and he lived at 15 The Street. His taxis were used to take the girls from the school into Church Street, Diss, for cookery classes and the boys to Redenhall Road, Harleston, for woodwork.
- The Forge owned by Mr William Reeve
- A wireless shop owned by Mr Geoff Moss
- A builder and coffin maker owned by Albert Strange
- Two well-used pubs

Joyce and Glyn moved into their home, Rose Cottage, in 1955. This was owned by Mr Hitchcock and rented by Miss Letley, who was born there and had lived there for 70 years. Joyce and Glyn still reside happily there at the time of writing this.



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Answers to picture quiz:

A - coriander; B - dill; C - parsley; D - sage; E - chives; F - thyme; G - basil; H - rosemary

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A message from Councillor Martin Wilby

It was great to see the Pink Ladies Tractor Run back in action in July. Where I live, which is near to Thorpe Abbots Airfield, I could see the organisers arrive on site at 6am in the morning, getting ready for all of the tractors and their support teams to arrive on the concrete runway. It was good to see them all set off on their journey around our villages and through Harleston. They all arrived back safely later in the day, then loaded their tractors on to low-loaders or drove them home. The site was all clear by 6pm. Well done to Annie, her team of helpers and congratulations on the amount of funding they have raised for their charity.

A new single point of contact for flooding in Norfolk has been launched, allowing residents to report any sort of flooding quickly and efficiently. In the event of flooding residents can call 0344 800 8013 to report it. Alternatively, residents can continue to report flooding via www.norfolk.gov.uk/flooding or if you are in immediate danger call 999. The new number gives residents a single point of contact and allows reports to be made swiftly. Lord Dannatt, who heads the Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance said “When flooding hits, people have to make quick decisions on how to react. For those that want to alert others and report a flood, the process of finding the right agency could be slow and frustrating, wasting valuable time. This new initiative makes reporting a flood faster and easier, allowing residents to get on with protecting their families and property.”

A boost for voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations who have helped Norfolk's communities during the pandemic has been agreed by the county council. Cabinet has agreed two reports that will see £1 million capital funding pot for major projects and a lift for the county's voluntary sector support services. The Social Infrastructure Fund will award up to £1 million of capital to community groups for new initiatives, or improvements to existing facilities. Last year the same fund helped 10 different projects across the county, supporting everything from an interactive science hub in Thetford to the Norwich City Community Foundation's Nest project. This year's grant will widen the offer to make money available for smaller projects, with 25% or

A message from Councillor Martin Wilby

£250,000 on offer for grants of between £5,000 and £50,000. To find out more visit www.norfolk.gov.uk.

The second grant is to see the funding for Norfolk's voluntary sector organisations increase by 45% from £172,000 to £250,000. There will also be an additional cash boost of £150,000 over 3 years that they can use to help local voluntary groups. This grant is currently shared between Voluntary Norfolk, Community Action Norfolk and Momentum (which has now merged with Voluntary Norfolk). The increased funding will support voluntary groups across 5 key areas: Funding and Finance, Advice and Support, Volunteer recruitment and deployment, Training opportunities and Forums and Networking.

South Norfolk Community Awards 2021

These awards recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements from residents across the district, who go above and beyond to support others or complete incredible achievements.

If someone in your community has made a positive impact on you or the wider community, helping make lives better or inspiring others, then please nominate them. Nominations are open to the public for eight categories. The winner in each category will receive £250 to give to their chosen community group or voluntary organisation. Make your nomination by the 5th of September and give volunteers the recognition they deserve. To nominate please visit:

www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communityawards

Best Wishes

Martin

Coffee Break Answers

1. 9.58 seconds; 2. Fencing; 3. Blue, yellow, green, black and red; 4. New Zealand ; 5. Bronze; 6. 2003 ; 7. World Wrestling Entertainment; 8. High jump; 9. Ronnie O'Sullivan; 10. Fencing and swimming; 11. Brazil; 12. The heptathlon

Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots Parish Council

COUNCILLOR VACANCY

We still have ONE Councillor vacancy to fill. We are looking for a Thorpe Abbots resident to join us. You would be a valued member of the team and would be the 'eyes and ears' of your local community. If you are interested and would like further information, then please do not hesitate to contact Christine MacKenzie (Chair) on 01379 668818.

MAY MEETING

At our meeting on 18th May 2021, Cllr Christine MacKenzie was re-elected as Chair and Cllr Derek Clark was re-elected as Vice-Chair. Our other Councillors are: Christopher Wolfe, Enrico Castagnetti, Terri Bailey and Marc Finch (all are residents of Brockdish).

JUNE MEETING

At our meeting on 24th June 2021, held at Thorpe Abbots, we were pleased to welcome several Thorpe Abbots residents and the route taken by the Cranswick Chicken lorries/Chicken Site, Mill Road was discussed. It was agreed to seek the views of all Mill Road residents and a Thorpe Abbots resident will be knocking on your door soon.

PLANNING (www.s-norfolk.gov.uk)

Applications: (approved by PC, awaiting SNC decision)

- 2021/1071 8 Church Road, Brockdish. Erection of single storey rear extension.
- 2021/1290 Rectory Cottage, Church Road, Brockdish. To clad the rest of the building with pressure treated 7x1 feather edge board, the same as used on the side extension.
- (2018/0730) 2021/1189 10 Church Road, Brockdish. Demolition of existing porch & lean to extension & replace with new porch & rear extension.
- 2021/1259 Grove Thorpe, Grove Road, Brockdish. Retrospective application of a new section of facing brick wall to each side of the Existing retained, painted timber gates & construction of an open storage building.

Decisions: (approved by SNC and PC)

- 2021/0180 12 Waveney Heights, Brockdish Removal of existing lean-to and replace with single storey flat roof extension. Addition of new ground floor window to North elevation.

Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots Parish Council

Decisions: (approved by SNC & PC)

- 2021/0618 Old Post Office, The Street, Thorpe Abbots Create a front parking area (retrospective).

DATES OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Members of the public are most welcome to attend. Agenda posted on both village boards prior to the meeting.

Tuesday 27th July 2021, 7pm at Waveney Heritage Centre, Brockdish

No meeting is held during August.

Thursday 30th September 2021, 7pm Thorpe Abbots Village Hall

Chairman: Christine Mackenzie (tel. 668818)

Clerk: Teresa Hines (tel. 308617)

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Village Cluster Plan

At our last meeting the Parish Council considered South Norfolk District Council's Village Cluster Plan and agreed to object to it. The Plan is to allocate sites for 1200 new houses in villages in the District in addition to those currently committed and without attempting to bring vacant properties back in to use. The basis for our objection is as follows:

It is not in conformity with the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP). The quantity of development proposed is unnecessarily high. There is no reasoned justification for the Plan and the distribution of development does not meet the aim of sustainability. Moreover there are no measures to ensure that people most in housing need will have access to the houses built.

In addressing climate change the GNLP aspires to move away from the use of the private car but scattering development around the countryside, as this Plan does, can only increase car usage as people necessarily have to travel to towns for shopping, schools, doctors and many other services and facilities. It is clear that developments in villages will not bring back those services to villages. The Parish Council also noted that the GNLP aims to concentrate development near to Norwich and urban areas so that houses, jobs and services can be closely linked. In scattering development around rural areas the Village Cluster Plan does the opposite to this and undermines the objective of protecting our countryside.

The issue of flooding and the distance to the nearest primary school appears to have been ignored in relation to the site proposed in Brockdish.

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Each month there is a themed session with a variety of activities. Refreshments included. Toys and games are also provided to keep younger children occupied.

All sessions are 10.30am – 12pm.

Sunday 15th August

Summer Party - fun and games
(with Coffee and Cake for Adults)



Sunday 12th September

A trip into Space

We will follow similar guidelines to schools to ensure our crafts and activities are Covid-19 safe. Weather permitting, sessions will be held outdoors. Please do not attend if you or your child shows symptoms of Coronavirus.

To cover the costs of materials, we ask for a donation of £1 per child. Any crafty donations also gratefully received!

For any enquiries please contact Jo Slater
tel. 668585 / jogslater@hotmail.com

Pest and Disease Control

There's nothing more annoying than finding that plants you have nurtured are being attacked. Disease can be missed until the plant is showing signs of distress. Pests and diseases should be remedied as soon as possible.



Always check the labels of any pesticides that you apply to fruit and veg. Note the number of times it can be used and the interval required between each usage. Netting and insect protection mesh can also be used.

Aphids such as greenfly and blackfly are easy to spot. Look for curled or contorted leaves or a black mould that feeds off the honeydew that is produced by the aphids. Woolly aphids attack woody stems further down the plant. Treat with a systemic insecticide that works inside the plant and kills the aphids through the sap they consume.

Black spot is commonly found on roses and appears on leaves from July eventually causing the leaves to go yellow. Use a rose spray in advance of symptoms emerging and clear up fallen leaves, as the disease can remain on these over winter. Powdery mildew is a common disease for roses, honeysuckle, apples and asters. It is a white powdery mould that forms on leaves stopping photosynthesis. Spray with a suitable fungicide.

The grubs of vine weevil usually attack perennial and alpine plants in containers. The adult beetle eats U-shaped notches in foliage during the summer and leaves their eggs. These hatch out, eating the roots and leaving the foliage above loose and shrivelled on top. If plants have been attacked bag up with the compost and dispose the lot into a dustbin. Wash all pots and containers thoroughly. Treat nearby containers with a soluble vine weevil killer.

Caterpillars, slugs and snail are real beasties that can be picked off and destroyed.



Brockdish Church
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The Mardler Recipes

A Summer Lunch

Courgette Ribbon Salad (serves 4)

25g pine nuts
4 large courgettes sliced into ribbons
½ lemon, zested and juiced
Small loaf of sourdough bread or stale bread, cubed
1 tbsp olive oil
60g baby kale
100g crumbled goats cheese
25g raisins
Handful of mint leaves



Preheat the oven to 200°C (180°C fan) or gas mark 6

1. Put the courgette ribbons into a bowl with lemon zest and juice.
2. Put pine nuts and bread cubes onto a tray, drizzle with the oil and season well.
3. Roast for 5 mins until nuts have browned. Remove nuts but bake the bread cubes for a further 5 mins.
4. Add the kale, goats cheese, mint and raisins to courgette mixture. Toss.
5. Make a dressing: 2 tbsp olive oil, 1 tbsp honey, 1 tbsp lemon juice
6. Pile the courgette mixture onto a plate. Drizzle over the dressing and top with nuts and bread cubes. Season with black pepper.

Strawberry Jam Ripple Ice Cream

600ml double cream
395 can condensed milk
½ tsp vanilla essence
½ lemon juiced and zested
200g soft set (must be soft set) strawberry jam

1. Beat cream until it forms soft peaks, on a lower speed gradually pour in condensed milk, vanilla essence and then lemon juice. Put this mixture into a shallow dish, that will fit into the freezer.
2. Drop the jam in blobs over the top of mixture and drag a skewer through it for a ripple effect.
3. Cover and put into the freezer for 3 hours. This is a soft set ice cream so it need not be taken out of the freezer too far ahead of serving.
4. Will keep in the freezer up to 3 months. Serve with fresh berries.

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Thorpe Abbots All Saints Church

You may have seen earlier in the year the “Churches Count on Nature” initiative. This involved walking the Churchyard to try and identify the wildlife and plants living there. Flower-rich lowland meadows and pastures were once a feature of every farm, but only a tiny fraction remain today. Much of the loss has been recent (97% since 1935) and is due to changes in farming, including the use of artificial fertilisers, changes in cutting regimes (with a move from



The Long Horn Beetle

summer hay to earlier silage cutting) and drainage, as well as abandonment. Churchyards are often a local remnant having been largely undisturbed. All Saints is a typical example, with the recent survey finding over 100 plant species, added to which are a wide variety of insects including the likes of the Long Horn beetle which was photographed during the survey.

The Churchyard at All Saints has been managed for wildlife for well over 20 years, with the area under management slowly increasing to about 80% today. I am a regular visitor so have the delight to watch it over the seasons. Aconite and snowdrops are the first players in January,



Meadow Saxifrage

followed by a succession of flowers, including the pretty white Meadow Saxifrage which was once common in fields but now is mainly found in Churchyards.



Pyrimidal Orchid

With June/July come the orchids! This year has been a real surprise. Where once we would have about 10 plants, this year it is over 100! The vast majority are the Pyramidals but also a few Bee Orchids as well. I have posted on the Village Facebook page about the orchids, which have been an absolute delight this year. I have no idea why these flower populations vary quite so much from year to year, but I am sure that the

Thorpe Abbots All Saints Church

weather over the winter and spring has an effect. I wonder this year if our cold wet spring might be responsible for the abundance of orchids.



Harebell

Another resident once common is the Harebell. Its delicate, nodding bells are one of the prettiest additions to our grasslands. Flowering between July and September, the harebell mostly grows on dry, undisturbed ground, which is very typical of the ground of the All Saints Churchyard.

There are not just great displays in the Churchyard of course. Those of you who regularly travel the A47 around Norwich will have seen a wonderful population of the yellow spikes of Hoary Mullein, whilst often growing there, but have never seen in such numbers. Ten years ago it was only found locally on the A14 around Bury St Edmunds.

The Churchyard at this time of year is a real treasure trove of wildlife from the huge variety of wild flowers, bug life and birds. Well worth a wander around as there is always something new to be seen or heard.

Simon Beet

Brockdish Church

Due to Covid restrictions, sadly the July quiz night was cancelled. Hopefully, the September 4th quiz night will go ahead as planned.

Advance notice: the brass band concert will be held 7th December. Numbers are limited, so if you wish to attend phone Jan on 668630 to reserve seats.

By the end of September the repaired windows will be back in situ, and the Chancel will be being painted. The Church is open daily so call in and have a look.

Jan Croxson - Churchwarden

Church Contacts

Minister in Charge

www.7churches.org.uk

Revd Nigel Tuffnell

rector@7churches.org.uk

Benefice Administrator

admin@7churches.org.uk

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Brockdish Church Wardens

Ann Cork - 01379 668635

Jan Croxson - 01379 668630

Thorpe Abbots Contact

Christine McDonald - 01379 669116

Church Service Times - August and September

1st August:	Brockdish 9.30am Morning Prayer
8th August:	Thorpe Abbots 9.30am Holy Communion
	Brockdish 9.30am Morning Prayer
15th August:	Brockdish 9.30am Holy Communion
22nd August:	Brockdish 9.30am Morning Prayer
29th August:	Brockdish 9.30am Morning Prayer
5th September:	Brockdish 9.30am Morning Prayer
12th September:	Thorpe Abbots 9.30am Harvest Celebration
	Brockdish 9.30am Holy communion
19th September:	Brockdish 9.30am Morning Prayer
26th September:	Brockdish 9.30am Harvest Celebration



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