

Dennington News



March-May 2016



Issue Four

www.denningtonvillagehall-sportsclub.org

EDITORS VOICE

Welcome to the New Year.

Spring has not quite 'sprung' as I sit here and write this issue, but hopefully the budding of new life will not be too far behind these dreary long, wet and chilly months. Luckily the climate has not been too harsh, we even had our Cherry Blossom tree decide to start to bloom in December...showing that the 'milder' weather we have had this Winter is encouraging the season to rush ahead of its time.

I have a big year of change ahead of me. My only son is soon to be 18, taking his driving test and off to University in September. His world is about to change immensely and for my part I will be a little less involved in his day to day life. This fills me with both sadness and great joy as his life journey is broadening beyond what I can control but also the fact that I can revel in a sense of pride that comes with watching your child grow into an adult, reaching for his dreams and striving to achieve those goals.

I recently lost a close relative, who had lived a long and happy life. She had seen children, grand children and even great grandchildren grow into adulthood. Looking back over photographs and mementos of her time with us I realized what a busy and full life she must have led. I have so many treasured stories and many of my most cherished childhood memories are times spent with her. Life passes us by in an instant. I'm going to take time this year to really heed all that's around me because I don't want to miss a moment, a memory or treasured story that someday I might pass on to my grandchildren or even great grandchildren.

Take Care of yourselves and one another,
Until Next Time,

Sally O'Keeffe (Editor)

St Mary the Virgin Parish Church, Dennington



Church Services

First Sunday 8.00am BCP Holy Communion

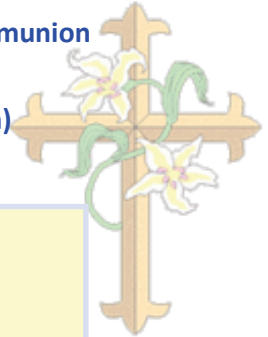
Second Sunday 11.00am Elder led Family Service or Morning Prayer

Third Sunday 8.00am BCP Holy Communion

Fourth Sunday 11.00am BCP Holy Communion

Except Easter Sunday (27th March)

Communion is at 10am



GIANT PLANT SALE

Saturday 30th April

From 9.30am

Dennington Church

Huge selection of plants available

Refreshments available all day

Tours of the Tower

(weather permitting)

HAVE YOUR SAY

Please send all stories or items to be included to the Editor. (**No later than 2nd May**) to be included in the next issue June-August 2016

Via email: denningtonnews@gmail.com or Post to: **Red House Cottage, Dennington, Woodbridge, IP13 8AQ** . Please send pictures as *separate* attachments, preferably saved as jpgs.

*Space is available for advertising. ¼ page - £10, ½ page £15, and full page £25. **There is no VAT.** This will help us cover costs. Please contact the editor for further details.*

Village Personalities: Reminiscences of Elizabeth Hickson

Elizabeth Hickson of Grange Farm, in the 'Dennington panhandle', has lived in magnificent moated 14th century splendour since she arrived in the parish 44 years ago from Beaconsfield in Buckinghamshire. She had previously experienced some exciting times in London, France and Australia, before marrying into farming stock and becoming mother to a son and three daughters, two of whom, Lizzy and Victoria, married in St. Mary's last summer.

Elizabeth remembers that Dennington in the 70s was a lively hub with plenty of local activity. There was a telephone box next to the old post office in the village on the Laxfield Road which was well patronised at a time when few had their own private lines. People generally spent more time outside then, chatting, digging their gardens and allotments and actively participating in village activities. It was a smaller, closer-knit community with a church choir and a Meals-on-Wheels service. The meals were cooked at the school. The Bowls Club and W.I. were active, the playground behind the pub had an enormous slide and there was fierce competition for a place in the bell-ringing team. There was even a man on the Framlingham Hall estate called Julius Caesar!

The church was well patronized, Remembrance Services being quite an occasion. Among some of the distinguished residents were Sir Dudley and Lady Ward who lived at Winneys Farm; he was once Governor of Gibraltar. The Fitzherberts lived in the rectory and held the annual summer fete in their grounds, which the majority of the village attended. David Fitzherbert was the rector solely for the parish of Dennington. At Christmas, a village bazaar found the majority of villagers involved at which there were a lot of home-made foods and crafts on sale. The Easton Harriers Hunt would meet yearly outside the pub; many followed on foot or with bicycles. The bus service was excellent in those days as so many depended upon it. Roads were much quieter with far fewer private vehicles. The village school had two classrooms under Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Heffer who ran the whole thing between them!

Far more people worked on the land then, of course. At lambing time, there was an itinerant shepherd who parked up at Owls' Green and many gypsies who came for apple and potato picking, their girls dancing in the roads. One rarely saw a fox, badger, mink (some did escape from a farm at Worlingworth), magpie, buzzard, or deer in those days as they were well controlled by gamekeepers. It was an era when doors were never left locked when one went out at night;



everybody kept an eye out for everybody else. When the snow was thick in winter, the dairymen from farms would take milk directly to their householders.

At Grange Farm, a levy was still paid then to the Vicar of Laxfield for the pleasure of living in the house. He would invariably come around to the house to collect it in person, and delight in afternoon tea whilst so doing. In later years, Elizabeth magnanimously opened her beautiful home to so many others by running a bed and breakfast scheme. She reflected that Suffolk people have been very kind to her over the years, and she is sad to be moving her base to Oxfordshire in 2016, to be closer to family. She will miss the broad skies, the sunrises and sunsets and the clear starlight skies. Dennington will lose one of its real personalities: we sincerely wish Elizabeth happy times and thank her for her great warmth and company. Elizabeth wished to convey her deep gratitude to all her friends and neighbours before her imminent departure.

As told to Mark Kendall



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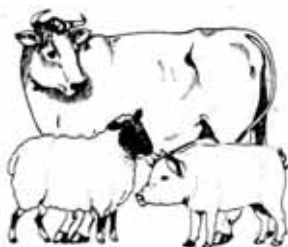
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Watching Sports in the Village hall

This year we intend to make good use of our newly purchased 49" television for showing films, watching sports and having talks of interest, whether it be inviting speakers in or watching and then discussing cutting-edge talks or documentaries of interest.

Watching Sport

We are currently negotiating a Wi-Fi arrangement that will give us access to many of the sporting highlights of the year. As soon as we have this, a programme will be published so that you will be aware of when these days will be and the timings involved. We hope to offer hot dogs and drinks at these events, so definitely events to which you can invite your friends to watch in the warmth and comfort of the meeting room.



Talks and Films of interest – The Delphian Bunch

Wouldn't it be fun to have really good films and talks in our Village hall? Imagine a group which starts off in the meeting room and grows large enough to occupy the main hall, with a three metre screen and a proper film projector?

I propose a loosely knit group called 'The Delphian Bunch' (taking its name from the Oracle of Delphi), where we at Dennington can become a hub for people not only from our village, but from surrounding villages who desire fun, entertainment and inspiration.

As soon as is possible, we shall publish a series of films and talks for the next few months and I really do hope you will join us in bringing some great entertainment to the village. If anyone would like to help start and pilot the group, please contact me on jambomabs@gmail.com.

"Surely you cannot be serious???"

"I am serious.....and don't call me Shirley"

*from the film **Airplane!***



James Maberly

Wildlife Photography

Foxes



I am covering a native mammal to this area and much of the country this issue, it is loved by many and hated by most....it is of course the Fox...

I will not go into "Fox politics" but will talk about the fox for what it is...a British Mammal....one of our top predators...an in my eyes a beguiling creature.

Around nine years ago I spent a year studying foxes, rural and urban...and i learnt so much in this year....they are an animal that "caches" its food, that is...whatever it kills or finds it will dig and store this food for later on, it is a misunderstood animal, people believing that the fox goes out on a "killing spree" which makes us think that the fox must kill for fun...it does not....it kills to "cache" storing the food underground for hard times, yes it may raid a hen house, killing most...with the INTENTION of getting back to put its kill in the "cupboards" so to speak...

I am fully aware a lot of people, mainly poultry and game bird keepers will always carry a dislike for the humble fox....I personally agree that yes there must be a control plan put in place otherwise we would be over run with foxes...however I am happy to live alongside them, they are doing the same as everything else on this planet after all....

The fox forms a very strong family bond....there is usually the Dog (male)....Vixen (female) and sometimes a couple of last years female cubs (young male cubs are chased away around October time) the pair will stay together indefinitely or until one of them loses life....the dominant Vixen is the only female in the family permitted to breed....none of the younger females will have the chance to breed, unless the dominant Vixen dies...then one of the daughters takes her place...if a family is wiped out the within two weeks (or less) a new family moves into their territory...

Once the vixen has cubs, she will not leave them, she relies solely on the male to bring her food whilst those cubs are suckling, if she loses her life at this stage the cubs starve to death, however if the cubs have started solids the male will continue to bring them food.



Photographing them for me is both a challenge (can never find any) and a reward (if I do).....in full winter coat they look stunning, the reds and golds in the coat tipped with black, and the eyes!.... cubs are easy to photograph as a rule, you always get a nose baby, then after around six weeks they become extremely guarded...and it becomes difficult to keep their interest...I have had the pleasure of working with a whole family, they became used to me sitting in one place and become accustomed to the shutter clicking...i enjoyed working with them immensely, however on returning later that summer, despite living on private land away from Farms etc., they were shot one evening. All of them...and just left lying there. WHY?....they were on private land!

Most of the foxes diet consists of earthworms (yummy) grubs and they love apples and blackberries as well.... not just meat....eggs...bread...a lot of varied foods... in the royal cemeteries the staff look after the fox...it is fed daily and treated like a paying guest!....when asked as to why, the security guards (it is a gated cemetery) explained that there were a lot of very wealthy families paying for loved ones to be buried there...the foxes keep the rabbits down and the moles and rats under control too....as I left this guard i drove past a beautiful landscaped garden with a pond and benches within the cemetery grounds...and curled up on the bench was....a fox.

By Bev Carpenter

SUFFOLK LIBRARIES

Saxmundham Mobile Library Route 5

The Saxmundham Library van stops at Dennington Square every 4 weeks on a **Tuesday between 10.35-11.05am**. If you miss this at Dennington the bus also stops at Brundish Crown on the same day between 11.20-11.35am

DATES: 15th March, 12th April, 10th May

Badminton Club - We convene on Monday evenings at the Village Hall at 7.30pm. £2.00 per night. All abilities welcome.

Easter Puzzle Page

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B	A	S	K	E	T	F	H	H	D	B	X	E	I	J
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- Pancake
- Spring
- Bonnet
- Chocolate
- Narcissus
- Lambs
- Daffodil
- Church
- Paint
- Basket
- Hopping
- Tulip
- Service
- Bunny
- Parade
- Sabbath
- Decorate
- Lent
- Crocus
- Equinox
- Chick
- Eggs
- Snowdrop
- March
- Easter

Dennington Village Hall - update on progress

Christmas was a quiet period, capped by a small New Year's Eve party in conjunction with Jon Reeves at the Queen, who provided an excellent buffet. Next year we shall consider a bigger event.

We have had two Fish and Chip Nights – and what a success they have both been! The hall was full of people enjoying their meals in the warmth of the meeting room with kids running around everywhere – both very successful evenings. Our next Fish and Chips date is 18th March, so pop it in your diaries.

Wi-Fi will shortly be available in the Hall, so we will start offering sports viewing evenings and other events. The Meeting Room can then also be used as a business hub during the day for those needing a place to work away from home.

The Hall has recently been awarded £8000.00 in grants towards the refurbishment plans for which we are extremely grateful and we are currently pursuing larger Lottery grants for the Hall. We have just ordered a new regular pub-sized Pool table which will be the only decent one for miles around!

James Maberly



WHEELS TO WORK SCHEME

The Committee would like anyone who is currently **residing and living** in the village and who is interested in taking up the Wheels 2 Work scheme, to contact **Peter Lamb** (clerk to the Trustees) if they wish to be considered for a grant from this Charity. If you are interested, please write to him at the address of the "**Coach House" The Square Dennington IP13 8AA.**

Subject to means testing, and along with approval from the Trustees, help in the form of a grant may be available to the person/s after they have taken up the scheme.

When making a decision the Trustees would also like to know from the applicant how much has been received from the Job Centre, apparently they can help with some of the costs associated with this scheme.

Dennington Primary School

The school offers a '**Stay and Play**' drop in session for children who are aged 3 and upwards **every Tuesday between 2.15pm and 3.15 during term time.** it is the perfect place to meet up and chat, share advice and experiences.

Also there is a **Toddler Group on a Friday afternoon**, during term time only. It is from 2pm until 3.15 in the school hall. It costs **£1.50 per session with refreshments.**

For further details, **please contact 01728 638206 .**

We have a '**Rag Bag Textile Bank** in our car park. If you have any unwanted clothes, shoes, etc. we would be very grateful if you put them in our Rag Bag Textile Bank. Please ask at the office for the recycling bags to place your unwanted textiles in. For examples of what we can recycle please visit their website – www.rag-bag.co.uk This is a really good way to raise funds for the school.

VILLAGE COFFEE MORNINGS

We meet fortnightly at the Village Hall

Come and join us for tea and cake for a small donation of £1.50

All dates are Thursday mornings and start at 10.30am

3rd, 17th & 31st March/14th & 28th April/12th & 26th May

There is a warm welcome waiting for all. Hope to see you there!

Call Binkie 638813 or Maggie 638963

Dennington WI

Meetings are held in the village hall in Dennington on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm.

Although WI meets on the second Wednesday of the month, there are a number of arranged visits and events during the year. In addition to these, there are a number of events that are organised by Suffolk East WI and members can attend for a reduced charge. The events range from countryside walks to cookery or gardening demonstrations.

We have many interesting speakers to look forward to! Here's what's coming up in the next few months!

13th April - Wildflowers in the Garden: Robert Maidstone

11th May - Resolutions

8th June - The Changing Face of Funerals: David Hampton



The Village Hall bar lacks any identity, so we feel it needs a name!

For example, how about 'The horse's legs', or Chaucer's nose'?

We're offering £20.00 to the person who chooses the best name for the bar

Send entries to denningtonvillagehall@gmail.com

Dennington Sports Club

News Update

We have been delighted this winter to let the football pitch to a couple of teams of lads, mainly from Framlingham. We also plan to spray the field for weeds in early Spring. Notices will be displayed.

Plans are in hand to erect a basketball post and net at the top end of the playing field. It will be height adjustable for children and adults to enjoy and to show off their basket skills.

The children's play area equipment will shortly have a safety inspection by ROSPA. This will ensure the equipment is safe to use and any problems that are identified can be quickly remedied.



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Dennington Village Hall



Kurling is now played every
Friday evening and on
alternate Thursday mornings.

Come and join the competition

SEE HOW TALENTED YOU ARE!

Dennington Village Hall

**The Friday Night
Social is back!**

and

Every third Friday there
will be a family night with
a fish and chip van on
site.

**Why not join us for a
drink at 'hall rates'
and some table tennis?**



9	2	5	3	4	7	1	6	8
1	4	8	6	5	2	3	9	7
7	6	3	8	9	1	4	2	5
8	1	4	5	6	9	2	7	3
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2	3	6	4	7	8	5	1	9
3	8	7	1	2	4	9	5	6
6	9	2	7	3	5	8	4	1
4	5	1	9	8	6	7	3	2

**Answers to the Easter
Puzzle Page on page 12**

The Dennington Queen

At the Dennington Queen you will immediately receive a warm welcome from our team and feel the friendly and relaxed atmosphere. Whether it be a light lunch, a la carte meal or our famous Sunday roast, we're confident that you will thoroughly enjoy your experience at The Dennington Queen and will be back again!

We offer baby changing facilities, as well as an exciting children's menu. We also now allow dogs in the bar area.

2 course lunch every weekday for £10

**Fish & Chip takeaway menu available every Friday evening. We take
telephone orders between 5.30-9pm
Food served 12-2pm & 6.30-9pm daily**

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Framlingham Vets-	01728 621666
Castle Vets-	01728 723480
CrimeStoppers-	088 555 11
Dennington Village Hall- Binkie	01728 638813
Parish Council-Ruth Hart	01728 685622
Dennington Primary School-	01728 638206
Dial-A -Ride-	01728 830516
Local Council-Suffolk Coastal	01394 383789
Local MP- Dan Poulter	01728 726588
District Councillor- Paul Rous	07920205294

March

15th March	Mobile Library
17th March	Coffee Morning (Village Hall)
18th March	Fish 'n' Chip night @ Village Hall
24th March	Kurling @ Village Hall (10.30am-12.00)
31st March	Coffee Morning (Village Hall)

April

1st April	Friday Night Social @ Village Hall
7th April	Kurling @ Village Hall (10.30am-12.00)
12th April	Mobile Library
13th April	Wi Talk 'Wildflowers in the Garden'
14th April	Coffee Morning @ Village Hall
21st April	Kurling @ Village Hall (10.30am-12.00)
22nd April	Friday Night Social @ Village Hall
28th April	Coffee Morning @ Village Hall
29th April	Friday Night Social @ Village Hall

May

5th May	Kurling A Village Hall (10.30am-12.00)
6th May	Friday Night Social @ Village Hall
10th May	Mobile Library
11th May	WI Talk 'Resolutions'
12th May	Coffee Morning @ Village Hall
13th May	Friday Night Social @ Village Hall
19th May	Kurling @ Village Hall (10.30am-12.00)
20th May	Friday Night Social @ Village Hall
26th May	Coffee Morning @ Village Hall
27th May	Friday Night Social @ Village Hall



Early Reminder for **The Queen's Birthday Celebrations.**
Sunday 12th June " Queen's Birthday Picnic " on the
Sports Field. Times and details to follow.

