August

Now came fulfillment of the year's desire; The tall wheat, coloured by the August fire, Grew heavy-headed, dreading it's decay.



And blacker grew the elm-trees day by day.

About the edges of yellow corn,

And o'er the gardens grown somewhat outworn

The bees went hurrying to fill up their store;
The apple-boughs bent over more and more;
With peach and apricot the garden wall
Was odourous, and the pears begain to fall

Was odourous, and the pears begain to fall From off the high tree with each freshening breeze

William Morris (1834-96)



"A dripping June puts things in tune" and this year it has come true. At the beginning of June we did at last see some much needed rain which continued with some short breaks until nearly the end of the month. It wasn't the warmest that I have known but the growing conditions were very good and it did become quite hot at the end. The rainfall for June was 3.55 inches which is the most monthly rainfall that we have had this year.

Russell Ling

CITIZENS ADVICE - HERE TO HELP!

Leiston Citizens Advice gives free advice, help and support to hundreds of people throughout East Suffolk every year. We advise across a wide range of issues including benefits, debt and money, employment, housing, consumer problems, utility issues, relationships and family problems.

On an everyday basis our advisers help clients make and manage benefit applications, including Universal Credit, and advise on benefit appeals. We support and help clients through managing and dealing with their debts, and we guide clients through the issues they face when relationships break down, or they face separation or divorce. We are there to help in emergencies when people become homeless, are escaping abuse or have nothing to eat. We are

also the first point of contact for people who have a consumer problem, for example, with repairs or something they have bought.

The majority of Citizens Advice advisers are trained volunteers. In our East Suffolk Leiston office volunteers have the back up of a small group of paid staff - a manager, two supervisors and a dedicated money advice specialist and assistant.

Our main office is in Leiston and we hold outreach sessions in Woodbridge, Saxmundham, Aldeburgh, Wickham Market, Alderton and Framlingham. We work from GP surgeries, libraries, children's centres and community centres in an effort to reach isolated communities and address poor public transport in the rural areas of Suffolk.

Anyone who needs to contact us can drop in – no appointment necessary. Our Leiston office is open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays between 10am and 2pm. Our outreach offices are open at different times throughout the week – for

information phone 01728 832193 or check <u>www.leistoncab.org</u> for venues and times.

Finally, a word about Citizens Advice volunteers. Citizens Advice is always looking for new volunteers, including to help with fund-raising. If there is anyone in the parish who would like to talk to us about volunteering – there are a range of roles available – please be in touch with our Manager, Martin Jones, at bureau@leistoncab.cabnet.org.uk or give him a call on 01728-832193.



"A mind that is stretched by a new experience can never go back to its old dimensions"

Otley & District Gardening Club

Hello again to all you budding gardeners and enthusiasts. This month has been a great one for those gardening for home produce or for their plants and flowers. As long as you have a hose to hand that is. It's not been particularly wet now has it?! And it comes to that time of the year, where its membership renewal time. We accept members at any time of the year, but this is the best time to join! You get a full year's membership for only £10 plus £1.50 per meeting entry fee. For this you get a 10% discount when you shop at Ashbocking Nursery, regular meetings that cover a wide range of gardening and environmental topics (delivered by experts in their field) and invitation to two yearly trips to gardens of interest. As you will have seen in last months Signpost, this year we went to Kew Gardens. You also get to become and meet our wonderful members and committee. So please come along to our next meeting on September 2nd 19:30 at Otley Village Hall to join or renew your membership. We will be very happy to see you all.

We had a very successful representation at Otley Hall's event to raise money

for the Blossom Appeal. We managed to raise over £140.00 selling freshly cut flowers from our members gardens and some plants that were left over from our Annual Plant Sale. This contributed to the grand total of £1062.00 or there abouts. A fantastic



amount that goes towards the new breast cancer unit for Ipswich Hospital.

That is about it from me, other than to say our next meeting's topic is "A year in the life of a cottage garden". This will be presented by Andrew Sankey. Please come along and see if you like it. You don't have to join straight away but come along as a guest and try us out. What's the worst that could happen??

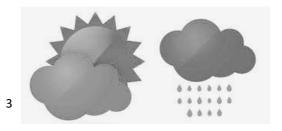
The Green Gardener, Phil Pollard

"Heavy dew at night,

next day bright,

Hot day, dewless night,

Rain in sight

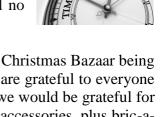


NEWS FROM OUR CHURCHES

ASHBOCKING

August is a fairly quiet month as far as things going on in Ashbocking. Children have broken up from school and families are thinking about their summer holidays.

Therefore, there is no Knit and Stitch in August and no Bible Group. These will be resumed in September.



By then we will be all systems go in preparing for the Christmas Bazaar being held at the church at the beginning of December. We are grateful to everyone who have taken on making gifts to sell. As last time, we would be grateful for donations of books, nearly new items of clothing and accessories, plus bric-abrac. Any donations can be given to John or Linda Pollard at Hawthorns, The Green, Ashbocking or if you prefer, we can collect. We will be having refreshments again and hope to extend the menu. Please phone us to arrange or if you have any questions.

Our Pet Service in July was a great success with a variety of dogs, as well as a guinea pig, and three horses. The horses in the nearby field were very interested and seemed to join in too, as did the Cattle next door.

Our next service at Ashbocking is the Songs of Praise. This is a very enjoyable service and if you have a favourite hymn please let me know so that I may include it.

Water will be available to lubricate the vocal cords and tea and coffee will be on offer afterwards.

Everyone is invited and I look forward to welcoming you.

The next coffee morning is on August 2nd at Brenda Forsters house, Chimneys, The Green, Ashbocking, starting at 10:30am. Please do join us for coffee, cake and a chat, all welcome.

Finally, there will be a memorial service for David Bendall of Ashbocking Hall who served on our PCC for many years. It will be on 31st August at 2pm and everyone is welcome to attend. Fern Elbrick, David's daughter, would like to know numbers beforehand so please let me know if you intend to go by 16th August.

For those on holiday in August I wish you good weather, a relaxing and pleasurable time and safe journeys.

Linda Pollard

CLOPTON

The Strawberry Tea on one of the hottest days in June was a great success and raised £304 for the church Fabric Fund.

Andrew Schurr has spent hours refurbishing our old roofing felt covered vestry. It is looking very smart and the work is progressing well. Do go and look at it if you are in the area. It is such an improvement on the old building.

We are hoping that lots of people will come to visit our Festival of Hobbies, Crafts and Skills this month. It takes place on 24th, 25th and 26th from 10am until 6pm in the church. There are many people in Clopton and surrounding areas with a wide range of talents so come and see our displays, you may be tempted to start a new hobby. There will be demonstrations and live music at various times and tea and cakes will be available all weekend. Phone Jenny Schurr on 01473738357 if you have any queries and it is still not too late to display your items.

The Hobbies Group will meet on Wednesday 7th August from 10am until 12 noon in the Village Hall. Everyone is very welcome and if you are debating whether to show something at the Festival bring it along to show us. We are a very friendly group.

The Coffee Morning on Wednesday 21st from 10am until noon in the Village Hall is being hosted by Penny Moon. Come and join us, you don't need to live in Clopton!

There is no Lay-led Service in August but we look forward to seeing you at the next one on Sunday 8th September.

Doris Main

OTLEY

The Fete was a good community occasion and very well supported. The dog show, organised by the Liddell family, was great fun as always, and caused much amusement as the dogs and owners went around the course with quite a few refusals! It was won by Pip, a pretty little cocker spaniel, owned by Emma Tiley-Nunn and chosen by the judges Amy Liddell and Jemima Ling. After the dog show, the rain began in earnest, unlike last year's sweltering event, and the Samba Dancers got very wet as did the egg throwers, but they were good sports to keep going. Only the tug o' war had to be cancelled. The Samba Dancers make a colourful and energetic addition to the Fete and, having been invited by Sue and David Montgomery, do not make a charge. The bar, the barbecue and the teas were very popular and the other stalls did good business. For those who are interested - and can remember! - the cake weighed 3lbs 6oz and was won by Sam Salter of Swilland. At the end everybody was huddling under the tents



and gazebos to avoid being drenched, but there was such a good atmosphere. What a great village this is. Vanessa wants to thank everybody who helped with the organisation of the Fete or on the day by putting up marquees, manning stalls, baking cakes, etc. She says they have lots of ideas but just need extra helpers - for

next year. It raised in the region of £1,500 for the Community Council, which looks after the village hall and the playing field.

For summer, there are going to be two Baby Sensory sessions at the village hall, suitable for babies from newborn to 13 months. One is on Monday 29th July, Beach Party, and one on Monday 5th August, Jungle Jitters, both at 11 o'clock. Tickets are £8 per session, and book at babysensory.com/burystedmunds or 07725 477980.

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride, previously called the Sponsored Bike Ride, will take place on Saturday 14th September. Now that cycling has become so popular it would be



that cycling has become so popular, it would be great to have some new entrants in this so do consider taking part. Sponsorship forms will be available in church. Last year across the county it raised £150,000 for grants and repairs to Suffolk's churches and chapels.

There <u>will not</u> be the usual coffee morning in August but we shall start again in September, on the 12th, at the home of Nigel and Pauline Crowley.

We wish everybody a very happy holidays.

Rose Rogerson

Certificate

Village diary

29th July Baby Sensory - Beach party

1st Aug Friendship club - lunch at Suncroft

5th Aug Baby Sensory - Jungle jitters

15th Aug Friendship club - games afternoon

22nd Aug Community lunch at The White Hart

Church flowers: Ruth Farnhill

SWILLAND

The Witnesham and Swilland Village Show was well supported, but not many entries from Swilland. Those that did enter came away with some first and second certificates. It brings together people in the villages who have common interests. Thank you to those who organised it.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride will take place on Saturday 14th September from 9a.m. to 5p.m. I have sponsorship forms for anyone who would like to take part. There is a vintage and classic car event, Pedal and Drive, happening in tandem with the Ride and Stride also raising funds for SHCT. Details of this can be found on https://SHCT.org.uk/pedal-drive-car-rally/. We shall need people to sit in the church for these events.

The next coffee morning is on Saturday 3rd August at the church, hosted by Shirley and Andy. All welcome.

Flower Rota

4th AugustGill Reidy11th - 18th AugustJackie Williams

25th August - 1st September Ann Kent

Ann Kent

RUSSELL LING REPORTS

Last month I wrote about the red clover crop that was under sown in the spring, we also carried out the same operation for grass mixtures. It was called mixtures as the grass seed also contained other types of grass such as meadow fescue, ryegrass, cocks-foot and wild white clover etc. These mixtures were formulated by a specialist firm depending on what the grass mixture was to be used for. The most common is a ryegrass which is only for making hay and this was grown for two years before ploughing and provides a break crop for cereals. There are also long term mixtures which are sown for horses and others for cattle grazing. Some single varieties would be grown to be harvested for its seed.

In the past these grass mixtures would be under sown in the spring barley crop, it was difficult to get a good seed bed in the early autumn that was good enough for the grass to get established before the winter which were much colder than we get now. As soon as the spring barley had been drilled and before it had



got established the grass seed would be either drilled with a Smyth's drill or it was sometimes sown with a grass seed fiddle. The advantage of a fiddle was that there would be no more wheeling's to make ruts and a competent man could sow two acres an hour. The fiddle consisted of a strap which went over the shoulder and a bag for the seed, an adjustable opening allowed the seed to drop onto a vane disc. This disc was spun back and forth by a bow which had a cord attached to both ends and encircled the disc, this is why it was called a fiddle. After the seed was sown it was harrowed with a light harrow and then rolled to consolidate the soil.

Under sowing in a barley crop was a much cheaper way of establishing a grass crop for the following year, however there were other problems with this method. In a wet year the grass/clover seed could grow as high as the barley crop and this would make harvesting more difficult due to having to leave the barley sheaves longer to dry before carting.

Russell Ling

STOP! The Northern Bypass!

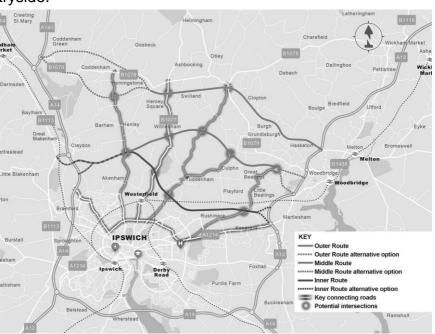
Campaign against the Ipswich Northern Bypass

Suffolk County Council, in collaboration with the Suffolk District Councils, have launched a consultation for an Ipswich Northern Bypass which if built will devastate the natural beauty of our county and local villages forever. We must all work together in a cohesive manner to stop the construction of this route.

Here's how you can help!

- Sign our petition. Our voices must be heard
- Attend Consultations. To have attended one of the consultations
- Read our guide and complete questionnaire. Firstly look at our guide, then complete the consultation form.
- <u>Download our Stop campaign poster</u> and post it up to raise awareness (eg in your window, village shop, church, pub, school, etc...)
- Share the message. Get on your social networks and spread the word about Stop!

There are a lot of new homes also proposed to be built along the route which will only increase the problem by producing more cars, along with more roads, more congestion which all adds up to more co2. All of this with no evidence of economic growth and destruction of our beautiful countryside.



Please visit our website, details below, giving information on how to get involved and back our campaign:-

www.stopipswichnorthernbypass.co.uk

Smile Lines

Several children found a dead rabbit. Feeling that a proper burial should be performed they found a small box and put the rabbit in. They dug an appropriate hole and prepared to dispose of the deceased. The Minister's 5 year old son was chosen to say a prayer. With great dignity he said, 'Glory be to the Father and to the Son and into the hole he goes'.

The Sunday School teacher was describing how when Lot's wife looked back at Sodom she turned into a pillar of salt. Bobby interrupted 'My mummy looked back once while she was driving and she turned into a telephone pole'.

Lot again A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read 'The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt'. His son asked, 'What happened to the flea?'



CHILDREN'S CORNER

Can you spot all twelve differences......



Souther 1. Shewine chiro. 2. Line on right shell removed 3. Seam in boy's but nembed 4. Other chiro. 2. Line on removed 2. Line on season in case of principle of principles in control of principles in the control of principles of the control of the

Q. How's your job at the travel agency?

A. I'm going nowhere.



Q. What is brown, hairy and wears sunglasses?

A. A coconut on vacation.

| Summer H | oliday Bucket Lis | Consul (Manual) |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Treasure Hunt \square | Make Fairy Glow Jars | |
| Make Play Doh 🗌 | Do A Puppet Show | |
| Fly A Kite | Family Movie Night | |
| Plant Seeds 🔠 | Bake CupCakes | |
| Build A Den | Feed The Ducks | |
| Make A Pizza | Have A Water Fight | |
| Go On A Pienie 🗌 | Make Lemonade | |
| Read to Books 🔲 | Catch A Butterfly | |
| Go Swimming $\ \square$ | Play Hide & Seek | |
| Go To The park 🗌 | Play Dressing Up | |
| Bug Hunt 🔲 | Make A Time Capsule | |
| Visit The Zoo 🗌 | Go On A Bike Ride | |
| Family BBQ | Build A Sandcastle | |
| Write A Story 🗌 | Make A Photo Book | |
| Save £1 A Day | Have A P.J Day | |

Clotheslines

A clothesline was a news forecast, to neighbours passing by,
There were no secrets you could keep, when clothes were hung to dry.

It also was a friendly link for neighbours always know.

It also was a friendly link, for neighbours always knew If company had stopped on by, to spend a night or two.

- Laxibaaa 111

For then you'd see the "fancy sheets", and towels upon the line; You'd see the "company table cloths", with intricate designs. The line announced a baby's birth, from folks who lived inside, As brand new infant clothes were hung, so carefully with pride!

The ages of the children could, so readily be known
By watching how the sizes changed, you'd know how much they'd grown!
It also told when illness struck, as extra sheets were hung;
Then nightclothes, and a bathrobe too, haphazardly were strung.
It also said, "On vacation now", when lines hung limp and bare.
It told, "We're back!" when full lines sagged, with not an inch to spare!
New folks in town were scorned upon, if wash was dingy and grey,
As neighbours carefully raised their brows, and looked the other way.

But clotheslines now are of the past, for dryers make work much less. Now what goes on inside a home, is anybody's guess! I really miss that way of life, it was a friendly sign When neighbours knew each other best... By what hung on the line.



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