

VILLAGE MAGAZINE

Aldborough & Thurgarton News

Easter 2021

www.aldborough.co.uk

Latest News >>

- Surgery & School News
- Village News
- Community Groups
- Kidzone Lockdown Lives
- Village Fayre
- A word from Duncan Baker MP



**ALDBOROUGH
& THURGARTON
Parish Council**

WELCOME ALONG

The Easter Parish Council Newsletter has now landed on your doorstep.

We have stories from all ages – my life in lockdown, the long winter, snow, and the anticipation of Spring. A roadmap of freedom has been laid out, so plans can now be made for the summer. Everything has a very different feel to a few months ago.

We have new additions to the Newsletter, "KidZone" and we hope that this will be a regular feature with articles, recipes and things to do for summer vacations. As we said, this Newsletter is for EVERYONE. We also have a Shepherdess describing a day in her life with her sheepdog Jazz. This also will be a regular article with updates of shepherding during the seasons. She's hoping that questions will be asked regarding her flock and the importance of the job of Shepard.

The articles of this Newsletters are contributed from the community, sharing with us their thoughts and hopes, for a brilliant summer, meals and drinks at the pub and seeing friends and family and finally giving and getting that well awaited Hug.

I hope you enjoy this issue and please keep us posted on anything you would like to share with us and the community.

Aldborough & Thurgarton Parish Council

To raise any issues with this newsletter please use the contact details below.

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SURGERY & PPG

Having penned a piece for last month's magazine, I was asked if I could say a little more about the Patient Participation Group and our role with the Surgery.

All surgeries, as a part of their G.P. contract, are required to have a Patient Participation Group. Your PPG is affiliated to the National Association for Patient Participation (NAPP).

The main aims of the PPG are:

1. contribute to practice decision-making and will consult on service development and provision;
2. provide feed-back on patients' needs, concerns and interests and challenge the Practice constructively whenever necessary; although for patient confidentiality reasons we are unable to engage on clinical issues. They should be referred to the Practice Manager.
3. assist the practice and its patients by arranging voluntary groups/support within the community;
4. promote good health by encouraging and supporting activities within the Practice and promoting preventive medicine;
5. keep under review the option to raise funds to support the community's health care;

Membership:

Membership is open and free to all Patients and staff of the Practice.

Committee Officers:

The Committee comprises of six members currently in addition the Practice is represented by a Partner (Dr Mark Fleming) and the Practice Manager (Alex Reid).

What has been achieved?

The PPG have been actively involved in a number of Campaigns including reducing missed appointments, raising awareness on antibiotics use "Only order what you need". If you have visited the Surgery you will have seen those on screen. Through Bob Evans, our link with the Gardening Club, the raised herb bed was created for people to help themselves to culinary herbs and also the wildflower bed at the edge of the carpark and the wood was sown and maintained. We started the "Friends of Aldborough Surgery" small charity to raise funds for those things not provided for by the NHS. To support this fund raising a very successful quiz was organised by Yvonne Tiffany, one of our committee

members, at the Spread Eagle in Erpingham.

Recognising that mobilising and socialising are good for both physical and mental health, working with Village Care, we started "Try Yoga for Free" at the Community Centre. Our first session was better attended than we anticipated, but sadly "lockdown" kicked in and the Community Centre closed. We are committed to an Active Aldborough agenda so will look to restart some form of exercise activities when we are all able to move about more freely. Another idea is a weekly walking group starting in the Surgery car park. Nothing too adventurous to start with but gradually building up as people get a little fitter. We are always open to other suggestions.

We have always had a link to Village Care but have forged much closer links with them during the lockdown period to try to ensure that people are supported through what has been a difficult time for us all.

F.A.Q.

Why can I not take a prescription issued elsewhere into the surgery dispensary?

Very simply the dispensary is only licensed to issue medication that has been prescribed/authorised by the Surgery clinicians. There is no retail element to their services.

As a second home owner can I access the Surgery services?

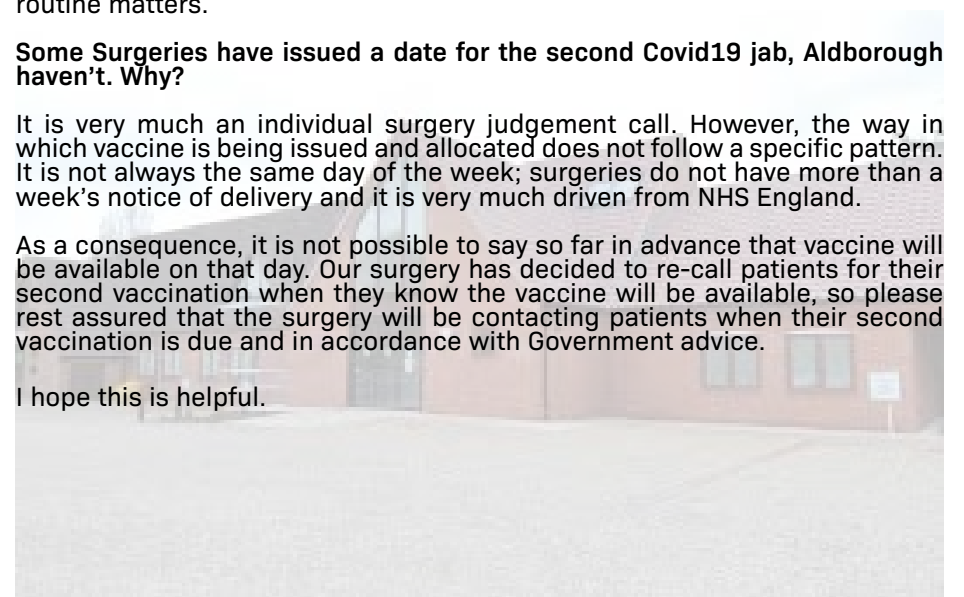
A patient can only be permanently registered at one surgery at any one time. If there is an emergency situation then the Surgery can and will deal with the issue on a "temporary resident" basis. However, they are unable to get involved where someone is involved in ongoing treatment/non- emergency routine matters.

Some Surgeries have issued a date for the second Covid19 jab, Aldborough haven't. Why?

It is very much an individual surgery judgement call. However, the way in which vaccine is being issued and allocated does not follow a specific pattern. It is not always the same day of the week; surgeries do not have more than a week's notice of delivery and it is very much driven from NHS England.

As a consequence, it is not possible to say so far in advance that vaccine will be available on that day. Our surgery has decided to re-call patients for their second vaccination when they know the vaccine will be available, so please rest assured that the surgery will be contacting patients when their second vaccination is due and in accordance with Government advice.

I hope this is helpful.



JANE MAGUIRE
01263 761578
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VILLAGE CARE

Village Care continues to provide help with transport to medical appointments, including to vaccination clinics. We can still also deliver your groceries and prescriptions. We are so grateful to all our wonderful volunteers.

As we are hopeful of a return to more normality, it seems like a good time to take stock and review the aims and activities of Village Care. We would value any comments and suggestions that could contribute to the debate. New activities that had been planned last year include Yoga classes and occasional outings (possibly to open gardens). Are these things that people would like? Should we continue with Village Lunch and Coffee Mornings and should they stay the same or should we look at changing their format?

Please let us know how you feel. All ideas (and criticisms) welcome.

MAGAZINE PRODUCTION

The Magazine is established and now has a committee to oversee production but volunteers to share the workload are still being sought.


If you wish to be part of the team producing the Magazine please be assured any input and assistance is very welcome. Particularly we are looking for someone to assist with design and Graphic design experience with Adobe InDesign and Adobe CC would be ideal.

For advertising or to join the team please contact Andy Hicks on andyhick428@gmail.com or 07494277303. Additional copies of the magazine are available from Phil on phil@davlos.co.uk and digital copies at www.aldborough.co.uk

Magazine content should be sent to [ricki.gadsby@btinternet.com](mailto:ricket.gadsby@btinternet.com)



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VILLAGE VOICES

IF YOU HAVE COMMENTS WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE FEATURED PLEASE DO LET US KNOW.

THANK YOU,
Glenys Padgham would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their kind thoughts, cards, offers of help and the lovely flowers and bulbs sent during her recent illness. You have done the trick, she is slowly improving.


Dear Editor,
Firstly, what a great magazine! Secondly, Regarding speeding through the village, would it not be possible to create a cycle path all around the outer edge of the village green so that young children could use it to practice and develop their cycling skills. It's been great to see such an increase in the number of cyclists over the last 12 months. Even though it is safer on rural lanes than on main roads it's still not entirely safe because of vehicles speeding, dangerous bends, pot-holes, grit and mud in winter etc. I disagree with the comments about cyclists on Weavers Way; on most parts of the Way it is not possible to cycle fast and cyclists are a minor risk to walkers. It's about time that rural paths were developed better so that cyclists can use them and keep off the major roads. Even the Marriots Way could be improved in certain places in order to encourage cyclists to use it more and stay off the major roads. Another suggestion: when Covid ends perhaps we should set up an Aldborough/Thurgarton Cycling Club

Dear Editor
Well February has been a strange old month, we've been locked down, snowed in and now towards the end of the month the sun is shining and the temperature has been rising. It was nice to see snow on the ground, a bit inconvenient for travelling but to be honest it did not disrupt village life to much. It was nice to see the children playing in the snow and a few snow people appeared. It was difficult to tell if they were snow men or women as there was not that much detail. The mind the frogs and toad signs have gone up and it's good to see villagers out at twilight helping the little creatures across the road. There have been a few casualties amongst the amphibians but I'm please to say that up until writing this all the villagers have survived. I'd like to thank the Parish Council for relaxing the rules on displaying signs for the benefit of these guys that are not to good at the old crossing the road code. The surgery made a fine job of jabbing all the oldies and that in conjunction with people taking care to abide by the governments edicts with regard Covid 19 things seem to be improving nationally. As I say "it's been a funny ole month" or was that Jimmy Greaves?

NORFOLK CHILDREN'S BOOK CENTRE



You can also visit our bookshop.org page to browse our **CURATED LISTS**, or search for **ANY** book and order online! uk.bookshop.org/shop/norfolkcbc

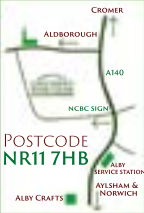


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COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Future.

I am sure you will agree that the new Village Magazine is a triumph in every respect - it enables societies, clubs and community organisations such as the Community Centre to communicate with every resident of Aldborough and Thurgarton - so I would like to use this opportunity to raise with you all a matter of importance regarding the future of our Centre.

With the growing prospect of lockdown restrictions being lifted it is necessary to plan for the resumption of activities. It is already apparent that some of our users will not be returning so if we are to balance the books we will need to find new users. If you have any ideas as to how the Centre might be used in the future or, better still, if you would like to form a new group or run a new activity etc. please let me know. Unfortunately Bingo will not start again unless people come forward to take over from Steve and Val Barnes – maybe you would consider taking it on ?

As stated in the December issue of the magazine, we will also need a new management committee as most of the current members have already retired or will do so at the next AGM in May (Covid permitting). Unless new volunteers come forward we may face the prospect of not reopening at all! I would like to thank those who have shown interest so far but we still need more volunteers. Please do give it some thought in order to secure the future of this village amenity.

However, it is not all doom and gloom during the past year we have benefited from grants awarded by the government to help small businesses which have been required to close under the Covid restrictions. These funds have enabled us to pay the bills and ensure the building didn't deteriorate during closure. We are also securing contracts for various fire safety improvements to ensure the building is fit for purpose. Please do not let all this effort be in vain.

If it is not possible to form a new management committee this year, or if there is insufficient demand to keep the Centre open, then the only course allowed under the Charity Commission's Governing Document is to hold a village meeting to review its future.

Hopefully it would be considered desirable enough to be retained as a village hall, but if not it would have to be disposed or utilised for another charitable purpose (still for the benefit of the inhabitants of Aldborough and Thurgarton) as may be approved by the Charity Commissioners or Secretary of State. For example, it might become a theatre or other such centre for the arts.

The Centre is an extremely important asset to the area both in amenity and financial terms (it is currently insured for over £600k) and I'm sure the majority of inhabitants will join me in hoping that it is preserved for future generations. Please give these points due thought and if you have suggestions or can assist in any way please contact me.

The Community Centre was set up as a registered charity in 1972 and it is bound by a Governing Document. Should you wish to view either this document, or even the original Minute book, this can be arranged by appointment with the Secretary, Peter Wordingham, Tel: **01263 768546** or email:

peterword@aol.com

To finalise

Your Village Needs You !

Sue Metcalf, Chairperson
TEL: **01263 761310**
EMAIL: sue_brian_m@hotmail.com

Aldborough Village FAYRE

Will the Aldborough Fayre be held this year?

Many people are asking this question. The answer is, we can't be certain. The committee are hoping it will go ahead, but we are waiting for official guidance. Once we know we will inform you.

We are, nevertheless, making plans for an even bigger and better event to be held on the Village Green. One that is a traditional day out and has something for all ages. The Fayre will aim to support local crafts, produce and businesses.

We would like to hear from anyone who would be interested in helping either in the planning or on the day.

Thank you.

Please contact: Valerie King - val_kingjj@hotmail.com



SHEPHERDESS

My name is Louise and I live in Aldborough with my sheepdog Jazz overlooking the green. For the past 19 years I have worked with sheep. I presently help shepherd a flock of 500 ewes and through the winter months a few thousand store lambs and cull ewes with



Alan and his dogs Tommie and Bert.

It's generally a 7 days a week job as sheep unfortunately don't know if it's a week day Sunday or Xmas day! The weather hasn't been kind to us or the animals for the past few months. I'm not sure who is more fed up with the mud and waterlogged fieldsme or the sheep at

present !

Once the grass stops growing from September onwards the store lambs (a lamb born last spring which is now 10 months old) are fattened on fodder radish before moving onto stubble turnips (high in protein) for the winter.

Stubble turnips are strip grazed using electric fencing. It's lots of work extending the fencing as the food is eaten. The quad bike comes in very useful to help us do this job.....saves getting stuck with the truck!

Sadly someone pinched one of our new fencing units before Xmas leaving the sheep to roam the roads. Could have caused an accident.... **perhaps the thief may like to return it?**

The store lambs are graded every 2/3weeks (a manual "hands on job" feeling how much flesh cover /fat is on the lambs shoulder, loin and tail dock. A skill taking years to learn....Alan being the master of it !) If lambs are over fat they are not wanted by the abattoir/consumer and so are downgraded on price per kilo.

They also have to be wormed / injected against 8 diseases and mineral drenched. Due to the muddy conditions some of the fat lambs have their belly wool /tail area sheared so the abattoir doesn't reject them otherwise these lambs are killed and thrown away....a loss we can't withstand.



The ewes were pregnancy scanned mid January. Results good this year apart from too many forecasted triplets/ quads and 2 sets of 5 ! Always a headache as often born very tiny, weak or sometimes dead. A ewe has only 2 milk teats ...need I say more ? Lambing is fast approaching mid/late March which I'll update you on next time.

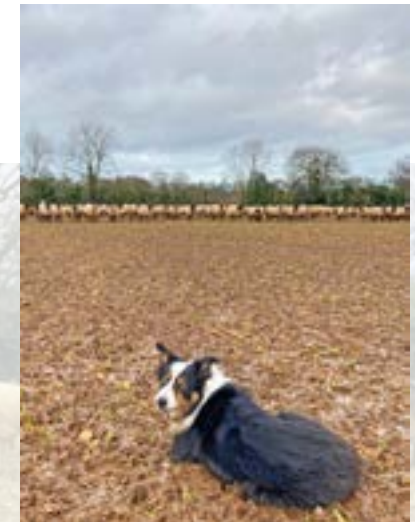
So everyday sheep are checked making sure they are not ill / out / dog worried or stuck on their backs.

Being upside down for too long they soon die....so if you see 4 legs in the air please roll them over or get in touch .Trying to keep one step ahead of sheep is tricky....not always the peaceful looking animal you imagine !

And finally ...when out walking you dog near sheep please keep them on a lead.

Your placid pet dog can soon turn into a "wolf" getting over excited when sheep run away nervously. We have suffered a few serious dog attacks locally and it's not a pretty sight.

If anyone (particularly children) have any questions about Shepherdessing or about sheep please email the magazine at phil@davlos.co.uk and I will try answer the questions in the next issue.



VILLAGE FAYRE - HELP NEEDED

As we have heard in the History article there has been a fayre on the green for at the very least a few centuries and reportedly far



longer. Village talk suggests that the summer fayre was chartered by King John and the fayre could attend as a right for time immemorial so long

as it was set up for the solstice. To achieve this during the war a single stall was said to have been set up to comply with the terms of the charter. If that's so then the charter was broken a few years ago when the fayre failed to attend but it had largely died out over the years and was a shadow of the fayre held in the 1980's which saw the entire south green and all roads surrounding the green covered in parked cars. In the pre-car days people would walk considerable distances from surrounding villages to attend.

At times it appears to have been a trade fayre, an animal market, and latterly a fun fair. More recently a new/old fayre has been established and its reinvented itself with the emphasis on family entertainment and this has been very well received within the village.



In 2020 it was of course necessary to cancel the fayre but hopes are high that with careful planning it might be able to take place in 2021. The fayre is currently in the planning stages but as with any event of this size it takes a lot of work. The fayre committee is therefore appealing for help and assistance in managing this event. Events of this nature are only possible due to volunteers kindly donating their time.

To offer your assistance please contact val_kingjj@hotmail.com



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**ALDBOROUGH
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

KIDZONE - LOCKDOWN LIVES

Eliza

Hello, during lockdown I've enjoyed spending time with family, dogs, chickens and we recently got some Guinea pigs that I love so, so much. I've also enjoyed learning the piano and learning how to do art. My family and I have been going on a lot of walks which helps our health. I can not wait for Spring!

Edward

Over lockdown I've done many different things. I made the Aldborough Book Swap during the first lockdown and I'm pleased people are enjoying reading different books. I've enjoyed chatting with my friends online but I'm really looking forward to going back to school and seeing my friends again.

Emily

My name is Emily, and I live in Aldborough. During the lockdown, I have been doing lots of different things with my family.



I like to go on nature walks with my dad in the evening, and I walk my Grandads dog, Dylan, during the day. I have taught him some tricks he is a clever dog. I also like to look after my chickens and my Hamster, Peanut.

I enjoy baking at home, and I've made a heart shaped cake, brownies and biscuits. I gave some mince pies out, to people in the village, at the Christmas food bank collection.

On Tuesdays, I have zoom meetings with my Cubs group. Sometimes, we all watch an entertainer. One week, someone in New Zealand gave us a talk about the Space Station and another week, a Forensic Scientist gave us all a talk about crime scenes and clues. On Pancake Day, all of the Cubs made pancakes and we flipped them, over Zoom.

When we had the snow, I built a snowman with my dad, mum and brother, Jack. My dad took us sledging, and we built an amazing snow cave.



Gruff

On lockdown, Gruff, age 7 said "I didn't really like home schooling because there was a lot of work to do by myself and I missed not seeing my friends at school.

I am looking forward to going to the shops again without having to wear a mask and seeing people's faces and their smiles. I am also really looking forward to being able to go into my friends houses and to attend birthday parties. I have missed seeing my cousins and grandparents.

I liked that my parents worked from home more and all the time and home meant I got to know my pets better!"



Daniel

Good things have happened in lock down said Daniel (also 7). I liked that in the last lockdown there was snow. It was fun and it was very tall!!!!!! It came up to my knees and a bit.



I had less school hours because I was at home which was really good. I really really liked home school - it's very very very very good!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I also enjoyed seeing my mum and dad a lot more . It was nice going to Norwich for my schooling with my mum and dad to our office which is an old shoe factory!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I really loved the big pizza!!!

I liked having more time playing with all my toys and video games and watching other people playing video games such as Minecraft, Minecraft Dungeons, Animal Crossing New Horizon and other real life games.

When lockdown is finally over I am really looking forward to seeing my Nanny and my Grandad because I have hardly seen them in the last year.

Story Time with Grandad

When the first lockdown was imposed back in March 2020, like most grandparents I missed seeing my grandsons, the youngest three of my grandchildren, who had only the previous year moved to Hevingham.

Talking to them we came up with the idea of using WhatsApp video to link up in the evenings for a story. I could see them and they could see me. A happy compromise in the circumstances. We all took it in turns to chose the book, including me.

As lockdown ended, we talked about dropping off reading as they could move about a little more freely. No way! "We look forward to the story time"and so we continued and are now on our tenth book.

The ten books we have read are: The Amazing Tale of Ali Pasha, Just William stories (That was me), Stig of the Dump, Minnow on the Say Wilder boys, My Name is River, Wilder Boys. The journey home Kensuke's Kingdom, The Wreck of the Zanzibar, and The 1000-year-old boy (our current read)

I commend it to all of those that cannot meet up with grandchildren, but don't just take my word for it.....this is what the boys say.

Harry

It's really hard to choose my favourite story, but I think Wilder Boys The journey home was my favourite. I liked it because they met lots of interesting people. The best bit was the boys saved the day in the end. Grandad does lots of different voices and picks really good books, ones I haven't heard of before.

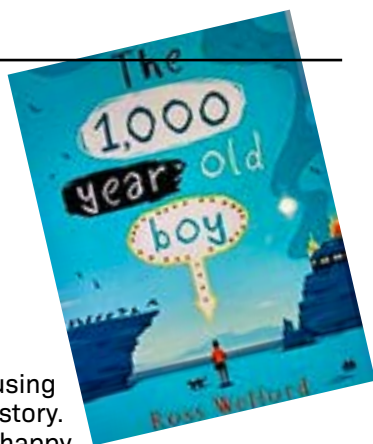
Oilly

My favourite was Kensuke's Kingdom, I liked how Grandad did Kensuke's accent and Kensuke called the boy Micasan, which sounds cool. I liked the animals and Kensuke had a connection with them. I like grandad reading, he has lots of expression. It's nice to see Grandad and nanny every night but I really want to give them a cuddle!

Billy

Stig of the dump. I liked this story because it had a great twist at the end. It gave me anxious excitement in the build-up. The creativity of the story was really abstract. I enjoy sitting back and relaxing while grandad reads the stories.

David Hooker



ALDBOROUGH SCHOOL

Learning at Aldborough Primary has continued throughout the Spring Term, whether it be remotely for the majority of children at home or for those of critical workers in school.

Our hardworking, skilled teaching team have quickly and expertly learnt how to use Purple Mash (our remote learning platform) to share teaching videos, set tasks and keep communication alive between home and school. It has certainly been a learning adventure for us all, however it is time for our school community to come together again.



Now that all children are back in school it is so lovely to hear them playing and chatting together again. We have returned to staggered start times, bubbles, one way systems, etc... alongside school staff doing Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing twice a week. It certainly is a very different world for us all but the children are happy and learning has continued.

Local community support has been incredible during lockdown. Aylsham Rotary has enabled children to access remote learning through the provision of additional laptops for home use and Village Care, supported by Norfolk Children's Book Centre, has provided quality reading books for children at home and in school. We cannot thank them enough.

As the anniversary approaches since the first lockdown in March 2020, we



continue to be thankful for our spacious building and large outdoor spaces. Forest School has continued to be a highlight of the week, providing much needed opportunities for children in school to explore, play and discover. This week's addition is a child inspired Wormery which will no doubt fascinate us all as it grows during the coming weeks.

CHURCH SERVICES

St. Mary's Church, Aldborough

It is with great delight that we can announce that the Church will once again be open for services. Halleluia!

Sunday, 4th April at 11am: Easter Day. Everyone will be most welcome! Come with your mask, your social distancing, and your good cheer!

Sunday, 11th April at 11am.

Sunday, 18th April at 8am.

Rev. Tony Lynn
 TEL: 01263 735524
 EMAIL:
 revtonylynn@btinternet.com

Church Warden - Jill King
 TEL: 01263 768077
 EMAIL:
 jill.king4@tiscali.co.uk

KIT/CCN

Although no longer delivered to Aldborough the ever popular *Keeping in Touch* is available online.

<https://www.scarrowbeckbenefice.org.uk/keeping-in-touch/>

The alternative Church publication *Community and Church News* is also available via email.

admin@aylshamparishchurch.org.uk

PRINCE ANDREW'S CHAPEL

The Chapel is closed at the moment but looking forward to reopening when appropriate.



If you are feeling isolated and alone and in need of a chat please contact

John
 TEL:
 01263 577624
 or
 Peter
 TEL:
 01263 577646

They are happy to pray with and for you.

CHURCHES TARGETED

There has recently been another spate of crimes within the community with one property in Thurgarton broken into. Police and Forensics attended the premises to obtain evidence of the mindless vandalism.

It is understood that within a 48 hour period four churches in the area (Thurgarton, Sustead, Bessingham and Hanworth) were also broken into. Not only were these premises burgled, but it is believed further offences of criminal damage were committed, with cupboards broken into, fire extinguisher discharged, lead taken from the roof and thrown down on the ground, donations box opened and contents taken. The list of the damage caused is not exhaustive. For those who are not familiar Thurgarton and Sustead Church's are within a stone's throw of each other and can easily be seen from each other while Bessingham and Hanworth churches are only a short distance apart. The Police state that an arrest has been made but are unable to comment further.

Police are also investigating a public order offence and criminal damage in Hanworth.

These things are rare so we don't want anyone to panic, but please do be vigilant, and take care to secure properties and vehicles. It's too easy to become complacent in our small friendly community. You can report anything suspicious to the Police on 101 if we see or notice anything unusual or are aware of any other incidents. For urgent immediate issues use 999 as always. The Police have told the Parish Council that patrols within the area have been increased and discussions are ongoing about how to protect the Churches.

INTERESTING DATES

March 28th Palm Sunday

The day Jesus rode into Jerusalem, on a donkey and people waved palm branches as flags. They laid coats on the ground for the donkey to walk across as they cheered as Jesus rode by.

April 2nd Good Friday

The day that Jesus was killed. *spoiler alert* He did not stay dead.

April 4th Easter Day

The day that Jesus rose again. Great celebrations are held around the world to mark this. Signs of new life, such as eggs, flowers, chicks, and lambs are used to celebrate new life and new beginnings.

Easter day is on a different day each year. Easter Sunday is on the first Sunday following the full moon after 21st March.... unless that full moon falls on a Sunday, in which case, Easter is on the following Sunday.



DAVID WAINE



It is only two and a half years since David, at the age of 90, moved from Aldborough to live near his daughter, Christine, and rest of his family in Southampton. For over thirty years he had been a popular and very active member of our community. David died peacefully in his sleep in mid-February.

We first encountered David in July 2001, a week or so after we moved into the village. Ruth Bayes had given him the good news that our removal van had

come from Leeds – David’s home town. There on our doorstep stood this cheery chappy with twinkly blue eyes, a shock of silver, wavy hair, and a cheeky grin. David was one of the first people to introduce us some of the regular community groups and activities.

He took us along to the Gardening Club, where he was on the committee, and a key person in helping set up the Flower and Produce Show. We soon found out that David himself was a prolific gardener. Come Spring the garden and greenhouse of his little cottage opposite Thurgarton Church was a hive of industry – every year he grew annuals, and planted up literally dozens of hanging baskets, which then bedecked many a village garden.



Less than two months after our arrival we were pleased to see that once great, annual community project, The Aldborough Show (previously The Trade and Leisure Weekend) hosting all kinds of trades and activities on the Green. David was one of the team which organised this event, which raised quite a bit of money for good causes.

David was a founder member of the Aldborough Players. Every Winter he trod the boards - some of you may remember him in the pantomime playing the Dame, on more than one occasion. Then his memory gave him problems when trying to learn lines, so the Players wrote a special part for him as Mr Forgetful. Later still, David still remained active – this time front of house, we would see him smart in his dinner jacket and bow tie guiding us to our seats in the audience.



We think that pretty well everyone whoever lived in the village knew David, partly because every single day he would go for a long walk, greeting everyone and chatting along the way. This helped the community support him when he developed dementia, because we all kept an eye on him. The Post Office, Shop and Surgery are all to be commended for their patience, when he might turn up several times a day, forgetting he had already got his shopping, his pension or his pills.

In his heyday David contributed much to the life of the community, and to the life of the church, where for a long period he was a Church Warden alongside Ruth Bayes. He served for many years as a Parish Councillor, organising our entries for the Best Kept Village Award as well as the annual weeding of the edges around the Green. He was an active member of the Village Care committee and for a long time he delighted children as Father Christmas arriving on the Green each year to switch on the Christmas tree lights and distribute presents.

Clearly, in this era of Covid, the family cannot have the celebration of his life here, as they would like to have. For the moment there will be a small private funeral in Southampton. But Christine and her family hope there can be such a celebration later this year, when they can bring David’s ashes to be interred alongside those of his wife, Margaret, in Aldborough Churchyard. Meanwhile they wish to thank the folk of Aldborough for supporting David so much during his latter years here.

Pauline Hill

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The last meeting of the Aldborough and Thurgarton Parish Council took place on the evening of 1st March 2021 and was a virtual meeting as has become usual practice. Very brief summary below – full details are in the draft minutes now on the website.

- The feedback on the Village Newsletter is positive
- Community Centre – The Secretary reported that the Centre Committee had ordered a new fire alarm and shutter. The work should be completed within a few weeks. The Centre would possibly be open in June or July. Elections would be held in the Centre
- Cllr. Gadsby received a “letter to the Editor” regarding gritting in the snowy weather and if we could have salt bins around the village. Cllr. Gadsby agreed to investigate this matter.
- Cllr. Hall had obtained a quote for an upgrade to the electrical connection. The Committee proposed that this work should be done.
- The drains on the Green were discussed and the Highways Engineer has been seen on the east of the Green. The Clerk will get an update on this to report next meeting.
- Village Newsletter – Cllr. Gadsby reported that the next issue would be in time for Easter. The Newsletter is a success and looking forward to receiving new stories for the next issue.
- More advertising is needed for the Newsletter
- Discuss and approve application for a Newsletter grant – Cllr. Hicks had received two grant applications for a Sustainable Communities Grant of £1,000 each – one for the Newsletter and one for the website.
- Draft Terms of Reference had been previously circulated and these were accepted.
- Village Speed Safety – Update of SAM2 – Cllr. Elliott explained that the signs were shared between Erpingham/Calthorpe, Ingworth and Aldborough. Cllr. Hall would assist in setting up.
- It was also discussed that an Incident Log for near misses and accidents should be kept.
- Planning Applications – PF/21/0201, PF/21/0273, PF/21/0397 and LA/21/0398. Details on NNDC website.
- Update on Rectory Farm applications and Parish Council Communications (see relevant S.A.V.E. page in this magazine)

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 4th May 2021 due to Bank Holiday on 3rd of May. Link to virtual meetings can be obtained from the vice chair or clerk and you are invited to contact any councillor 2 weeks in advance if you would like a particular subject raised. Members of the public are invited to attend and will be given the opportunity to speak.



Please feel free to contact your friendly Parish Council team on any Parish Council matters using the contact details on the website.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

Volunteers are still needed to help tackle the common complaint of speeding in Aldborough.

Although there has been a good response and we have sufficient volunteers for SpeedWatch we would welcome more. If you were holding back until after Covid please note that at this stage we simply need numbers to plan training.



Further information: www.bit.ly/ALD-SW or PC Pete Davison at North Walsham Police Station (calling 101 or emailing peter.davison@norfolk.pnn.police.uk)

There has been some speeding enforcement within the village which has been welcomed. We hope that this will continue, although the objective has to be the adoption of 20mph speed limits throughout the area due to the number of residents on foot and on bike in the area.

To volunteer or discuss what is required please contact Andy Hicks on andyhick428@gmail.com or 07494277303

BRITISH SUMMER TIME

The old saying that Time & Tide waits for no man is not quite correct, man has successfully interfered with time but thankfully not tide except perhaps in respect of rising water levels.



Time traditionally was measured by the simple sun dial, but John Flamsteed who became the first Astronomer Royal, came up with the formula in 1670 for converting “solar time to mean time”, his development brought about the Greenwich Clock that shows the yearly average of the time each day when the Sun crosses the prime Meridian at Greenwich (GMT), the first public clock in 1852 is known as the Shepherd Clock (a slave to the master clock) is mounted above the gates of the Royal Observatory. GMT was then declared as the “Time” standard for the World in 1884, primarily because the USA had adopted Greenwich as the basis of its own time zone and the majority of the world’s commerce depended on sea charts based on Greenwich.

From the early 1700’s Town, Village and Churches had clocks made by local blacksmiths replacing traditional sun dials but set by them, truly local time. A good example was Bristol Mean Time that was 10 minutes behind Greenwich Mean Time which had been in existence from the 1700’s. An excellent local example is St Andrews the Holt Parish Church clock was made by Isaac Nickals in 1733, modified by Johnson Jex of Letheringsett in the 1820’s, Jex a reclusive blacksmith from a family of blacksmiths with a nautical background, a self-taught watchmaker and man of science. Notable machinery that he had developed during his life was examined by the Science Museum and is presently on show at the Bridewell Museum, Norwich

The explosive development of the many Railway Company’s in the mid 1850’s found that the trains could not rely on town clocks such as the example Bristol Mean Time to develop timetables, the agreed solution adopted by the railway companies in 1847 became the countrywide standard known as “Railway Time” replacing town standard “times”, GMTnow became the new time standard for the UK that we all know. Man ‘s interference with natural time began with the introduction of

British Summer Time introduced in 1916 to reflect the needs of the nation in times of war, WWII brought in British Double Summer Time (BSDT) between 1941 to 1945 reverting back to GMT in 1946 but by 1947 BDST was again reintroduced until 1948 reverting to BST until 1997 when the UK’s Summer Time order was endorsed



by the European Parliament in a 1997 directive requiring European Countries to implement a Common Summer Time. During this period from the end of WWII endless Private Members bills and Government proposals and emotive debate occupied the House of Commons with attempts for change. But a surprisingly in 2019 the European Parliament backed the proposal to scrap the annual time switch by 2021, this March would be the last change, however member states strongly objected, and a compromise was found allowing each member state to make their own choice!

CRICKET



As the weather slowly starts to turn, Aldborough Cricket Club are excited about the prospects of a return to The Green for what will hopefully be a full seasons-worth of Cricket.

Providing Government Guidelines do not change, we look forward to opening against Coltishall CC on the 24th of April. Unlike previous seasons, unfortunately Winter net sessions have not been possible, however we are reliably informed by our batsmen that form is temporary and class is permanent!

With what hopefully looks like a return to normality by the Summer, we look forward to seeing friends old and new, either out at the wicket, along the boundary rope or for a post-match drink in the Black Boys.

The Club would again like to thank the parish for the use of the Green and hope to provide onlookers with a season of entertaining Cricket!

Youth and Junior cricket.

Having missed one seasons sessions we really don’t want to miss another! However, we must follow the guidance we are given.



We are watching that closely and are hopeful that we can start sessions again in May.

We are looking forward to seeing you all and will keep you posted.

DUNCAN BAKER MP



January has come and gone in a flash. Although it's been rather damp and wet since the New Year, and now we had lots of snow and there is a great deal of fresh optimism in front of us now.

The vaccination program continues to be an incredible success - not just throughout the country but in North Norfolk too. I know Aldborough surgery have been absolutely amazing and I thank them all for what they have been doing.

As I write this, we have just passed the milestone of administering 12 million jabs. That makes us one of the leading countries in the entire world and an achievement we are rightly proud of. Throughout North Norfolk we have now vaccinated all our over eighty year olds, care homes residents and are on target to have vaccinated the top four priority groups by the middle of February.

But that is not the only good news, because our infection rates are declining on a daily basis too. When you read this we will most likely be under the 100 cases per 100,000 mark and the lowest local authority area in the county again. That is a tremendous effort given that only on the 4th January we peaked at 422 cases per 100,000.

We're determined to get our children safely back to school. Every parent and grandparent knows they have missed so much. As a parent myself with young children, I feel that too. Our aim is have schools begin returning within a month and that this should mark the slow beginning of the lockdown easing as we look to brighter times. As we usher in the Spring I am reminded of the quote from Lady Bird Johnson, 'Where flowers bloom, so does hope.' A quote that was ever so apt.

You may have seen my Prime Minister's Question in January. Social Care continues to be an area I want to see major reforms in. We need a long term plan for social care in this country. I thank all our carers for the tireless work they are doing and Richard Parker the former Chief Operating Officer of the NNUH for helping support my campaigning on this.

It leaves me to once again to thank everyone in our community, for the incredible efforts to protect one another. There are some phenomenal community heroes who I can't praise enough. But lastly I want to thank the GPs, nurses, volunteers and everyone else who has worked tirelessly to support our vaccination program. You make us all extremely proud in this special community of North Norfolk.

ECO-HOUSE

Most people in the village will know us (the Hudsons) or have heard of us; a straightforward, hardworking couple from Peterborough who fell in love with the village some 20 years ago.




I am Teaching Assistant and my husband Dave is a self employed painter and decorator. We had the very great fortune to be taken into the hearts of the villagers and quickly felt at home here. In the fullness of time we were extremely lucky to be offered the opportunity to do a self-build property in the village and made the decision to re-locate at the end of 2017.

The process, we thought would be relatively easy and we would soon be able to have a kit house erected on the site. Unfortunately, this was not the case and unhappily we became involved in a three year battle and an appeal. Many friends and acquaintances were happy and patient to listen to a never-ending story that had many twists and turns.

The project now appears to have finally left behind the dark days of despair and sees a twinkle of light at the end of a very long tunnel. On the 19th April we will see the house being delivered to site and the long awaited property will rise up and hopefully become the forbearer of eco properties representing the twenty first century.

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GARDENING CLUB

www.aldboroughgardening.com
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Bob Evans, our retiring Chairman, wrote last month's article for the magazine but he has passed the baton to me for this next publication to update villagers and beyond!

Covid has had a huge impact on the social life of the village and for lots of us, social media has played a role in keeping us connected. Whilst not all of us want to join on Facebook you can view the posts for Aldborough Gardening Club by Googling 'www.aldboroughgardening.com' clicking on the 3 bars (top right of screen) and selecting Facebook group.



Gardening Club members have now received their annual reports from the Gardening Club Committee but in the current situation we will be unable to hold our usual AGM until restrictions are lifted on meeting in groups. As Bob referred to last month, we are looking at the possibility of joining the Gardening Club and the Wildlife Group enabling

one committee to be responsible for the funds, activities and speakers. The reason for this is the reluctance of members to 'step up' and help organise events etc., many of our members are involved with both groups and many of our activities and speakers are of interest to both gardeners and wildlife enthusiasts. Unfortunately, if by the AGM (potentially late April/May) we have had no significant interest in anyone putting themselves forward for election, the current committee will have to seriously consider the viability of continuing to run the Gardening Club in its present form.

We have had a Gardening Club allotment for the last 3 years and initially had a group of supporters who helped set up the raised beds and the paths. We would love to invite anyone (gardening club members or not) who would like to get

involved, initially, preparing the plot for spring sowing and refreshing the paths. The allotment is run on a 'no growing food and plants with the added benefit of having social interactions with others whilst staying safe. It is a fact that many of the clubs in Aldborough village are more inclined to our older residents, apologies for mentioning this! For our village to continue to be vibrant community and for 'succession planning' we do need to attract younger members.



It would be really interesting to hear suggestions from readers of the magazine who may still be working or studying. What would encourage them to get involved particularly with the Gardening Club community allotment? We would also like to hear from anyone who has a little more time on their hands and still some energy to get involved particularly with organising some of the events and activities.

Aldborough Primary School allotment potato trial, 2020, and some of the results If you would like to get involved or make suggestions, please forward your contact details to aldboroughgardening@gmail.com
Tina Hooker (Aldborough Gardening Club Secretary)

ALDBOROUGH ALLOTMENTS



We all enjoyed the benefits of our allotments whilst we adjusted to being "locked down" last year. The pleasure of being in the open air, combined with exercise and suitably distanced socialising was most welcome and the bonus was enjoying freshly grown produce. Having survived a very strange year we are getting ready to start planning and planting for the year ahead. Thankfully, nature continues its seasonal rounds regardless of what humans throw at it.

As the new season approaches we may have one or two plots (or half plots) available. If you would like to know more please contact Sue at sue_brian_m@hotmail.com or call 761310.

S.A.V.E.

Rectory Farm Pig Farm Planning Application

Since reporting the status of the Rectory Farm Planning Application in the January/February issue, there have been a number of minor developments.



On 31st January, a submission was sent by SAVE, (the 'Save Aldborough Village Experience' campaign), to register with NNDC a number of further issues that have progressed in recent months. These showed that a number of the applicant's claims in their submission

documents contain falsehoods. Specifically, the key misleading statements relate to flooding, odour, ammonia, biodiversity and land contamination.

Also included was an assessment of the Public Health Risk arising from Zoonotic Pathogens that has only recently become apparent, (as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic); an understanding that was not apparent in August 2020, when NNDC's Environmental Impact Assessment report was written.

On 5th February, the new NNDC Planning Case Officer, James Mann, wrote to A&TPC explaining the need for him to assimilate all the information on the case. He also stated that he awaits further input from the applicants, before revisiting the Environmental Impact Assessment, and he gave assurance that there will be a further public consultation period.

A reply was sent by NNDC to James Mann on 14th February, to assist him to understand the level of contentiousness surrounding the application for a unit to accommodate



1900 pigs within the Conservation Area of Aldborough village, within 250m of 30 homes, by summarising the key issues and the overwhelming grounds for objection to the proposals.



Meanwhile, as an aside to the Planning process, SAVE has written to Tulip/JBS, (the vast global corporation with whom Rectory Farm will contract to set up and

operate the pig operation), to enquire how Tulip's Corporate Responsibility Statement can be reconciled with their intentions at Rectory Farm.

In respect to the Planning Application, it is anticipated that the next step will be for NNDC to notify commencement of the 3rd public consultation period.

Meanwhile, we await an update specifically with regard to NNDC's decision for a full Environment Impact Assessment, and the announcement of a date for the 3rd public consultation period.

The 'SAVE' campaign group, (Save Aldborough Village Experience www.aldborough.uk), is funded by donations from village residents opposed to this new development.

To help fund this campaign please visit www.aldborough.uk

April 23rd St Georges Day

St George is the Patron Saint to England. St George lived in the 3rd Century. Most people know the story about St George killing a dragon, but it is highly unlikely that he did so and even more unlikely that he even came to England. The origin of the story seems to be that the dragon represents evil and George, as a Christian, fought evil. Despite this, he is still known as the dragon slaying Patron Saint of England.



FINAL WORDS

One more word from Ricki Gadsby Vice Chairman of the Parish Council.

The joy of Easter and Spring

Traditionally, spring is known as the season of rebirth, rejuvenation and new beginnings. The trees are in blossom, the flowers are blooming, the smell of newly mown lawns wafts around the village. There couldn't be a better time for a slow and safe return to normality after the long winter of Covid.

We have had a couple of weeks now since the roadmap to freedom was announced. I am, like everyone I am sure, beginning to allow myself to plan ahead. I am planning the recipes for family and friends' barbeques, picturing myself singing Happy Birthday in person and not on Zoom, seeing the smiles of loved ones, hugging my grandchildren and great-grandchildren after a very long year.

Sadly this freedom doesn't come in time for Easter, however, I am sure that within your households you have some lovely plans. Sadly, this does mean that our hoped for Easter Egg Hunt on the green cannot go ahead, but, like Father Christmas, Covid will not keep the Easter Bunny away from the gardens he usually visits.

I look forward to seeing more of you all in and around the village within the next few months. At this symbolic time of resurrection, rebirth and new life, I hope, like us, you can take comfort in the feeling that there are happier days ahead.

Wishing you all a wonderful spring and Happy Easter!



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Sunday:	5pm-8pm

You will find us on the A140 between Norwich and Alburgh near the A140 roundabout and next to the Service Station

The Black Boys ALDBOROUGH



The Black Boys and the Foundry Arms will remain closed until May.

Both have undergone improvements during lockdown and we look forward to showing you when we reopen.

<https://www.facebook.com/BlackBoysAldborough> **01263 761649**
www.blackboysaldborough.co.uk

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