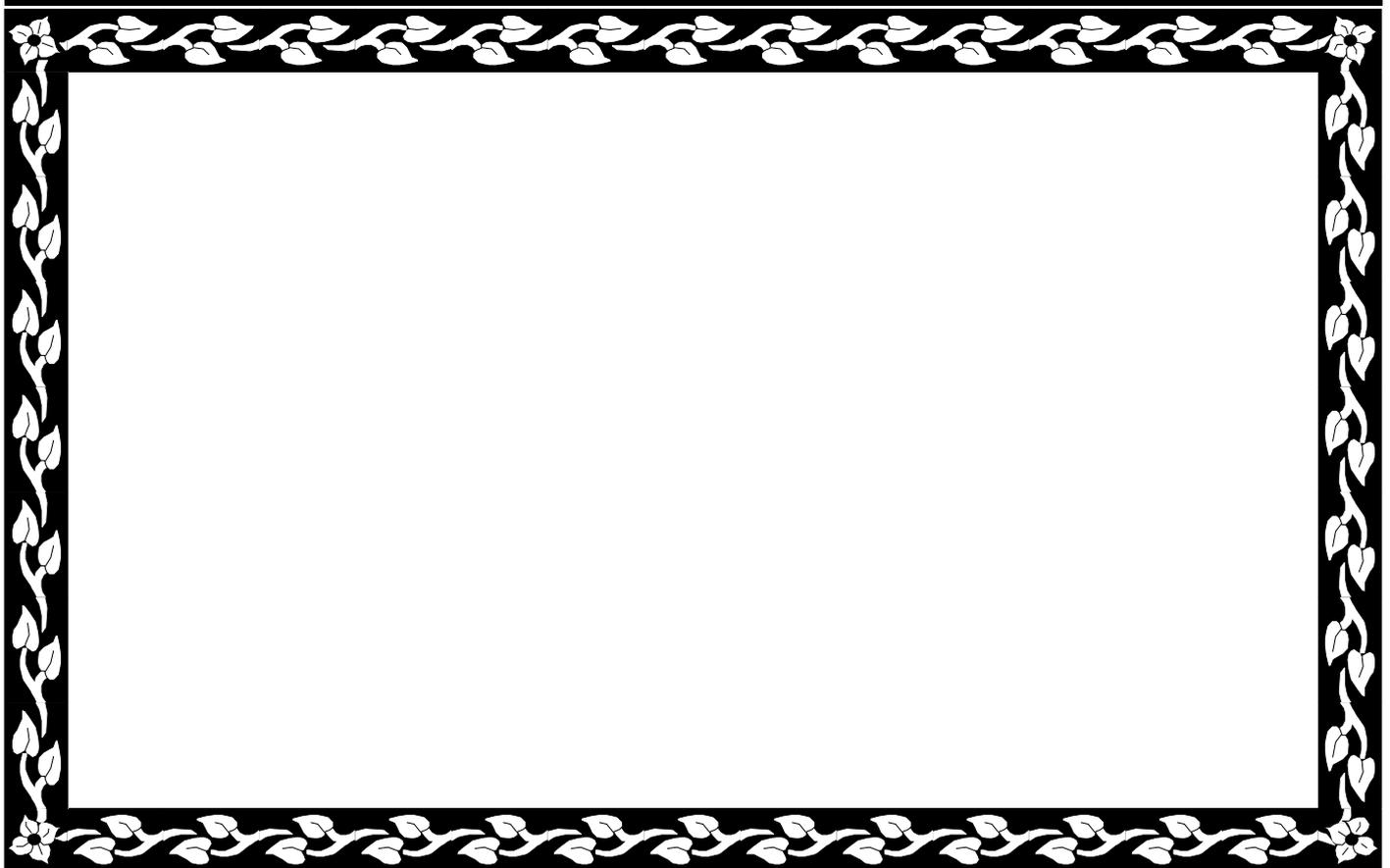

The Tuddenham Tattler

Issue No 26

February 1995



Spring seems to be coming very early this year and it is heralded by the cherry blossom on the road to Ipswich as well as the croci on our lawn.

It must be PANTO time says my year clock! Do support the T.A.D.P.O.L.E.S. this year. They have lots of new members - isn't that what they do best - as well as some of the "old hands".

There are some rather controversial articles in this issue. They certainly made me sit up! We welcome any articles you may wish to put in so contact us on 785588 or 785314. The Tattler remains our contribution to amusing, informing, educating but most of all promoting the community of Tuddenham. Thank you to all the new contributors in this edition.

We are grateful to Pat Hurrel for this lovely drawing to grace our front cover for the New Year. Although we can have photos in the Tattler now, we would prefer to have drawings on the front page to retain the village feel of our Tattler. Are you willing to volunteer? Please contact us on 785314.

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Cartoon Caption Competition.

We decided to extend entering opportunities to those who attended the quiz night on January 7th. The result was that we had 44 entries which were all read out on that night midst lots of laughter. Here is a selection of the mildest ones:

- * Beam me up Scottie
- * You are Lord Lucan and I claim my prize
- * Sorry, but I couldn't find any toilet paper
- * Tug that again and I'll shorten your 'elf life by two weeks
- * Eight out of ten goblins prefer Whiskers
- * Is your name really Malcolm
- * I didn't know you were a beer drinker but good elf anyway



We asked the writer of the caption which got the biggest laugh and the most applause to judge the competition. The winner was a butterfly on table 19 ;

***Who says stroking isn't good for your elf?**

Please contact us for your prize on 785588.

Thanks to William Taylor for choosing the winner.

Poetry corner



When icicles hang by the wall
 And Dick the shepherd blows his nail
 And Tom bears logs into the hall
 And milk comes frozen in pail,
 When blood is nipped and ways be foul,
 Then nightly sings the staring owl,
 Tu-whit, Tu-who! - a merry note,
 While greasy Joan doth keel the pot

William Shakespeare, "Winter" from Love's Labour Lost.

*Thank you to **Neville Whitman** for this poem from his book, Weatherwise. This lovely book also contains some predictions on the weather for each of the seasons and I have chosen a relevant one;*

*If Candlemas Day is bright and clear,
 There'll be two winters in that year;
 But if Candlemas Day is mild or brings rain,
 Winter is gone and will not come again.*

The question is, what was the weather like on February 2nd??!

TATTLER QUIZ NIGHT

Your Tattler was so glad to welcome all of you to the village hall in January for their village quiz. The evening was a great success thanks to the many players and helpers. We not only made £323 for Tattler funds, but also had a great time.

You may like to know how Tattler money is spent? Well, we spend around £40 per issue for printing and other expenses - phonecalls, petrol, computer paper, photographs, etc. Our big spend this year was a new computer for over £500, which allows me to type the Tattler during the day - no more sleepless nights! We also spend money on village activities - refreshments for the Christmas concert, biscuits and tea for some of our older residents at Christmas this year, a salt and sand bin, over £100 village sign donation, and £500 for the village hall. We have organised lots of village events - sunflower competitions, concerts in Ipswich and Tuddenham, sponsored swimming, parties, quizzes, village sales, and fashion shows. Now that we have paid for the computer and have some spare money I hope that we can organise something big in the Spring....perhaps you can make some suggestions?

Back to the quiz, and the winning team was The Squirrels; **Bob and Pat Tanner, Doug and Joan Bloomfield, and Carol and Adrian Frost.** They all received plates with a selection of fruit, and a team trophy - an engraved Tuddenham Toad - to be returned for the next quiz. Did I say next? You may doubt my sanity after the hard time I was given for all the mistakes I made in the questioning but I put it down to my poor diet (!) and hope that the next meat-free twelve months will leave me refreshed and ready to fight the fight!! In the meantime you also need to look at your technique - we can't let The Squirrels win for a third time, eh? And to the "Good Sports" my *helpful* observation is to note that last year's losers came through to win the caption competition this year. Everyone may take strength from the small difference between the top team on 134 and the lowest score of 113 - not much in it, eh?

I thought you might like to read some of the comments overheard from the question master's table: *Not another mistake *Worth getting a babysitter for *Well, Margaret *acts* like the Parish Chairman *How great to see a meat-free plate of refreshments *O.K. I said that* *When is the next quiz *I told you that was the answer *What do you think Erica is drinking *I thought you said you knew about this. So there we are for another year. Look forward to seeing you next quiz when

The competition will be hot,
The questions will be right,
The prizes will be great



DEVON RAFFLE.

Some of you may remember that in January I sold raffle tickets for my son who is on the Axminster Hospice Committee, and be interested in the letter below.

The organiser of the HospiceCare Draw has asked me to write to you to express his gratitude for your help. The winner of the Axminster was, appropriately, someone who lives in Axminster. I am not able to divulge her name since she has asked for no publicity. A subsidiary prize, which I enclose, has been won by Kay Anderson of Tuddenham. Thank you for your support.

Raffling Reporter.

Brightlingsea

Editor: We have been unable to get a balanced report for this article - we would welcome any views to further this discussion....and would publish them next issue. We have gone ahead this issue because The Tattler was there and didn't want to miss the opportunity to report something which was in the national news. Please forgive this imbalance.

Although we have been unable to obtain an interview with anyone who feels strongly against banning live exports we have heard various remarks in Brightlingsea, some of which we have written below;

You should be at home, looking after your family.

The so called protesters are causing distress to the animals they are supposed to be concerned about.

A lot of them have never been on a farm or dealt with animals.

They are a disgrace, behaving like that, marching and shouting.

What about the homeless? Why don't they do something about that?

They'll end up by putting us out of business and what happens to the family then?

They are in a dream world. We are in the real one.

Nutters, the lot of them.

Blame those people abroad who want fresh meat.

Brightlingsea and Point Clear are such attractive names. I was brought up in that area and know these places well. Hearing this, the editorial office of The Tattler asked me to go there to try to give an unbiased report on the "Sheep riots". I have now been five times.

The People.

All kinds, all ages, from babies in prams to the over eighties. Possibly more women than men. I saw and spoke to trademen, housewives, students, county types in

Barbour jackets in green wellies and hunt saboteurs. A man next to me told a little chap in overalls, who had been bailed to appear before Clacton Magistrates in March, "Don't pay the fine."

A few days in cells is a holiday, good food, telly, snooker, sleep when you like. I have just done eight years.” Most however were “ordinary” residents of Brightlingsea, quiet, law abiding, normally with their small local police force, but now all shouting angrily together and committing the crime of blocking the Queen’s Highway, hundreds of them.

The Police.

On the second day they appeared in helmets, visors, body armour, carrying batons. Shoulder to shoulder, in the cold dawn light, they looked formidable indeed. All you could see of a human being was their eyes, some of which showed concern, some steely resolution, some resignation, some humour like the one who, eyeball to eyeball to me said “Shall we dance?”

I have had to do similar Internal Duties when I was in the army overseas so I know what it is like. They had to clear the road and no messing about. This they did with firmness, as politely as possible.

Three of them saved an elderly lady from martyrdom right in front of me. She tried to throw herself under the wheels of a sheep lorry but was hauled out and led away, crying helplessly. I saw no unnecessary violence but the riot gear was a mistake. It made them look alien and sinister.

The Animals.

Only sheep so far. Yes, they are creatures who like to flock together but in the fields they can move around. In the transporters they were jammed tight in three tiers. The stench was the worst aspect, not the normal animal smell of barns and fields which I quite like. This was the diarrhoea of fear. I saw a leg twisted sideways over another’s back and it remained like that for an hour until the animal disappeared onto the wharf out of my sight. Another had its face rammed between two bars which had rubbed it raw.

Apparently these sheep are taken all over the Continent like this, sometimes as far as Greece, Spain and Italy and then slaughtered. What must that be like in the heat of Summer?

Opinion.

I eat meat and shall continue to do so. It is acceptable to me that animals are used; food, wool, leather, bone, feathers etc. There is plenty of reference to this in The Bible.

As for rights, in my view they only have one - to be treated well and humanely killed when the time comes. Our cattle, sheep, pigs, etc. could be killed here in Britain, if we had more local abattoirs, as we used to have. If the Continentals want fresh meat it could be flown out as are the live calves at present. Otherwise, carcasses could be frozen or processed here and the surplus exported. More work for the country and no loss for the farmers. That is what I have suggested to Mr. Gummer, our M.P. and I await his reply.

Editor: I am printing the following letter to show the views of one of the protesters from Brightlingsea as this seems a subject of interest to many people at the moment. Your Tattler continues to try to be on the spot for news as it happens.....!

Dear Editor,

I have lived in Brightlingsea for twenty-six years. I am an ordinary resident. I have never liked to see farm animals moved in lorries, so tightly packed that they cannot move. The lorries carrying the sheep have a minimum of three layers. The floor of each layer is slatted to allow the drainage of urine and faeces. It is no wonder that these lorries stink as they go past and this is the middle of winter. Think how much more vile this will be in the height of summer! Last week, as I stood with hundreds of other people outside the wharf gates a policeman facing me was holding his nose as the lorries went past for he could not bear the stench.

Some newspaper reports have stated that incidents of violence have occurred. I have attended most of the protest meetings (including standing and waiting for 9½ hours because the lorries were

expected at any minute) and not personally seen any violent acts perpetrated by protesters, 90% of whom are, like me, ordinary residents of Brightlingsea. I have, however, seen people shoved and pulled by the police who will grab people by any part they can get hold of. The type of protest undertaken has mainly been walking slowly in front of the lorries with some sitting in the road - these are the ones that end up getting arrested.

Today I was there again, before 7am, and when the police had pushed their way through the crowd to where I was walking, they asked me to go through their lines to the back and as I went on the pavement I was told that if they had to send me through the line again I would be arrested. I wonder what I would have been charged with!

Brightlingsea is a small town with 8000 residents. There is only one road into the town and that has a very sharp bend by the old Church. The approach to the wharf is along a narrow road which is blocked if cars are parked on both sides and

Two of the parties at Brightlingsea on their best behavior....

and lined with houses whose front gardens are only 3-4 feet deep. This is not suitable for the movement of lorries (some with trailers as long as the lorries themselves) carrying livestock.

I personally do not see why animals need to travel any further than the nearest abbatoir unless they are breeding stock. The government tell us that we cannot take a unilateral decision to ban these exports and yet we banned the use of veal crates in this country unilaterally. I am not a vegetarian. I like eating meat but I do not want to see these animals suffer a journey that is longer than absolutely necessary. I am not opposed to the export of meat in carcass form and I will continue to protest for as long as necessary to stop this cruel trade.

I would be grateful if anyone reading this would write to their member of parliament, & local council. The only way we can stop this needless cruelty is by weight of public opinion.

Yours, Susan.

Report by Roving Reporter:

I interviewed someone who walked with the crowds right up to the inner gate of the wharf through which the transporters enter. This was possible because the lorries had already gone through that morning and the police did not expect anyone to return to the docks. The group were led by Carla Lane, the well known T.V. situation comedy writer; remember Butterflies, Bread, etc. She is an active demonstrator at Shoreham and had come to Brightlingsea to support "Brightlingsea Against Live Exports". Mr. Oliver, the wharf owner was on the dock as the ship was being loaded. Carla Lane used a megaphone to attract his attention. He came over to the gates on his own, without police protection, and

bravely faced the hundred or so people who asked him if he was ashamed of the trade and what they could do to stop it. He listened and talked for some time. After he left the sheep, were loaded into the ship right in front of the crowd as Carla Lane talked to them to boost their morale. She promised her continued support to Brightlingsea, reminding them of the successes in Shoreham, Swansea, Dover, Harwich and many other areas. Also that some ports had already banned live exports from starting, including Ipswich.

Interview of Pamela Shorrocks, from Colchester Animal Rights:

Do you feel violence is justified to support this cause?

I would not advocate any violence though I can understand how with passions high and the political process apparently unfair - did you see the M.P.s talk the bill out of Parliament - sometimes things get out of control.

How do you feel about taking away a farmer's livelihood?

Our animals sell well on the Continent because they are good quality so trading in carcasses will not damage the trade. If this were not true we would not be able to sell them now for there are already cheaper sources of live animals eg. Eastern Europe.

Aren't you all a load of cranks?

We are not all vegetarians but we have a sense of the moral imperative governing our lives and want a cruelty free lifestyle. Is that cranky?

William Waldegrave said not to protest against this legal trade....

Veal crates are against the law in Britain on the grounds of cruelty. The Government has allowed itself to be trapped as its much vaunted market system has already decided that this trade is not viable - Dover stopped live exports because of the way they disrupted other trade and because of public opinion. This may be a legal trade but is it a moral one?

Carla Lane meeting Ric Morgan, Mayor of Brightlingsea, and Terry Hunt, a regular protester at the docks.

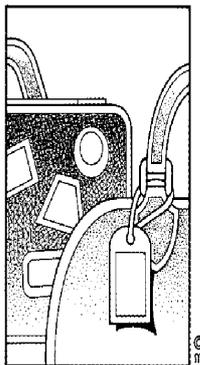
This photo, along with the other two for this series of articles, was taken for us by a keen amateur photographer in the crowd. John kindly gave us these free of charge. We wish him luck in his course on photography for which he is doing a project on demonstrations.

Eurostar

Maybe I'm not the first resident of Tuddenham to go through the Channel Tunnel, but I do hope I am not the last. It is a gorgeous experience on Eurostar. From Tuddenham you can go by taxi or car to Ipswich station, speed - well that's unfair so let's say progress - by good old Anglia Intercity to Liverpool Street, Whip across to Waterloo and then this fantastic, futuristic train awaits you. It's very long - eighteen articulated coaches - but sleek and lithe. Waterloo International - like Stanstead Airport - is a wonderful piece of architecture which - like Stanstead Airport - is also functional. Eurostar is currently going through its discovery phase; there are only four trains a day to Paris and three a day to Brussels at present (when I went there were only two to each city) but that doubles next month, until eventually there will be thirty passenger trains a day in both directions.

The train is quite beautiful inside; bright yellow in standard class, blue in first class, but with lots of red in both. All the seats are roomy and comfortable and it's efficiently air conditioned.

The train accelerates as it goes along; you don't notice it leaving Waterloo, it daudles through South London, meanders through Kent, shoots through the Channel Tunnel, and hurtles across France to Paris, or across Belgium to Brussels. The food in the two buffet cars is French, and very good. If you go first class it's free, but you can take a Discovery Special Ticket which will get you to Calais for £33.10, and the same coming back. Well, maybe it is a bit expensive but how often does something



Welcome

Hello to our new village woman police constable, Cathy Ellis, PC.998. Cathy kindly gave The Tattler an interview this week revealing that she comes from Southwold but now lives in Melton with her partner, Calvin.

Cathy hopes to specialise in C.I.D. work in the future but has only recently joined the police. Her pet hate is remarks about her number being one short of...and her favourite food is chocolate cheese cake so if you fall foul of The Law you know what to do and what not to do!

Cathy's ambition is to swim with a dolphin but in the meantime back to the real world and here are some hints from our new protector:

Remember, check the lights on your car and fill up the wash bottle for good visibility.

If you see a police car behind you with a blue flashing light it will indicate left and flash its headlights if it wants you to pull in, otherwise take care to pull over where it is safe for the police to pass - not on a blind bend.

There have been several Church break-ins in this locality recently so do call the police if you see anyone acting suspiciously near St. Martin's Church.

We look forward to seeing Cathy around the village; perhaps at the panto. *Editor.*

totally new become available? Ten minutes into the tunnel I thought "I'm a lucky man to be doing this" and you too could share the experience. Bad news sells newspapers - except the Tattler which is hugely popular because of all its good news - the press had a field day when Eurostar broke down on its inaugural run but it has not broken down since, and I loved it.

Try it!

Frank Wells

PARISH CHURCH SERVICES

Come to the Church on the hill!
One hundred and sixty eight hours in the week.
Who says you can't find an hour for public worship?

19th February **9.30am** Morning Prayer
Modern words, traditional
shape

26th February **9.30am** Family Communion

1st March **10.30am** Ash Wednesday
Holy Communion

5th March **8.00am** Holy Communion
9.30am Family Service

12th March **9.30am** Family Communion

There are four different ways of worship offered each month.

Michael Stone.

Another Poetry Corner

Two small dogs with pointed ears
Run over my garden without any fears
While these white dogs bound over my plot
Their owner walks on not caring a jot.

I suspect these dogs have no lead
I certainly think their owner can't read
So, if ,when these dogs get on a leash
Keep them off our grass verges please
It's no joke, when the verges to mow
One meets up with a load of doggles pow!

*Doris Hogger
Fynn Lane.*

RECIPE

8oz S.R. flour
1 tsp Baking Powder
2oz Marg.
1oz Caster Sugar
2oz Currants
4fl oz Milk
milk to glaze
220° C, 425°F, gas mark 7

Sift the flour and baking powder into a bowl, rub in the marg. until the mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs.

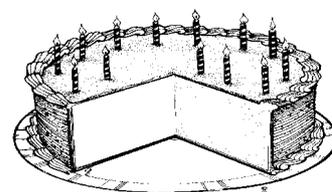
Stir in the sugar and currants, add the milk and mix to a soft dough.

Turd the dough onto a floured surface, knead and roll out to a 3/4" thickness.

Cut into 2" rounds with a fluted cutter. Place onto a floured baking sheet and brush with milk.

Bake in a pre-heated oven for 12-15 minutes.
Makes about 14.

Happy Birthday



Our greetings to Rob and Elizabeth Kerry, Matthew Nicholls, Edward and George Jennings, and any other "birthday babies".

Notices

Our thoughts are with Derek and Janet Welham and family. Reg and Derek were so close as brothers; a villager commented that wherever you saw one the other was sure to be close by. Reg was a quiet man but always happy to stand and chat. Many will remember his cap tilted to one side and his willingness to help when asked. His contribution to the village of Tuddenham may be measured by the large congregation at his funeral service.

Joan Giles, wife of the world famous cartoonist, died on Christmas Day. They used to live in the village many years ago and have many friends here who have shown me photographs and told stories of their days out together. I met Joan when delivering the Tattler to their farm in Witnessham. She told me she and Carl thoroughly enjoyed reading it. She took a great interest in our activities supporting us very well. Her sudden death was a great shock. She was a delightful, unassuming lady. Our condolences to all the family.

Our congratulations to Di and Stephen Aulsebrook of The Old Glebe House on the arrival of their first son, Charles, a belated Christmas present. Sandy and Peter Burn have our congratulations for the very early arrival of their first daughter, Emma Harriet. We were delighted to see her at a panto rehearsal last weekend....starting early, eh??!

Our congratulations also to Christine and Tony Burton on the marriage of their daughter Emma. Emma is to be married in St. Martin's on March 11th and we wish her well for the future. Will we be congratulating Emma Burn on her wedding one day??!

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

On Tuesday, 14th Feb. Mrs. P. Kitchener's talk entitled "Godspeed to the Big Apple" about a journey up the East Coast of America.

On 14th March, Ms. Adria Pittock of Tuddenham will be talking on "Living and working in Nepal".

On April 11th Mr. Kinsey will be talking on "Life on a Country Estate". Meetings start at 7.30 in the village hall and visitors are always welcome. *Joan*

Parish Council

Last week you may have noticed that there was a lot of debris on the road through Tuddenham which some residents saw falling off a lorry. This foul waste is unacceptable in a residential area and the Highways Dept. have been notified. They agreed to clear it up and to trace its source in the hope that further problems can be averted. If you see any other lorries overloaded or without covers can you phone Mr. Ian Hayward on 0394 383789.

I have contacted Mrs. Moore regarding the village sign and unfortunately Hector's illness has slowed progress. However the second side is now nearly complete. We need to decide how the sign is to be erected - with a ceremony, village event, or whatever?! Please come to the next parish council meeting and help decide on **March 7th at 7.30pm.**

Planning permission has been granted for a two story extension on the back of Manor Cottage.

We have been contacted by the organisers of the Inter Parish Sports Tournament. Please contact Mrs. Taylor or Julie Welham if you are interested

Thoughts from a Fairy.

It must be 200 years since I last landed here in Tuddenham and remembered what a nice place it is. Christmas was busy, but with the cold dark nights and wet days of January I was flying over the village hall when to my amazement I heard people singing, laughing dancing - who were they? I just couldn't help myself - I had to drop in and find out.

Well, there was Caroline Crusoe, a fine figure of a woman, who does wonderful things with cotton wool, and has a particular fancy for sailors (don't all we girls). She has two sons; Robinson Crusoe, a bright upstanding young man with a bit of an unfortunate walk,(I think with my help he will go far), and his brother Billy who is neither bright upstanding nor young, though everybody loves him. His stray dog Bosun just occasionally stands up on his hind legs and pretends to be a young man, otherwise he is fine.

Pretty Polly Perkins wears her heart on her sleeve for Robinson, and Miss Molly controls The Jolly Jack Tar pub with zeal. But all is not well when the pirate captain, mad

bad Will Atkins, arrives with his bosun and mate Bob and Bess . He says he is friendly with lots of fairys but he doesn't fool me..... They have adventures on the Island of Bally Hoo; find a Man Thursday and his sister, Girl Wednesday; visit Borassic Park to see the very very very rare WETHINKHESAWUS and so much more, and they are still singing, dancing and laughing. Of course I have had to help them a lot, weave some spells and that sort of thing.

I know that to all other fairies out there this is just an average day's work but for the rest of you.....come and see for yourselves, and join in the fun!

Fairy Foghorn

Village Sign

I have included a drawing of the sign by Mary Moore in the article below. You are welcome to visit her at the forge if you want to see how things are progressing. We wish Hector well after his recent illness.

Editor.

VILLAGE SIGN

My wife and I visited Mary Moore just before Christmas to check on the progress of the village sign. The Brandeston forge is a fascinating place to visit as, although it is still very much in use, it is like stepping back in time to walk through the workshop with all its strange shaped tools and odd looking equipment. Mary's husband, Hector, who incidentally made the Grundisburgh village sign, is sadly unable to work in the forge now and you could almost feel his frustration as Mary showed us around and explained the progress with the ironwork.

This is indeed craftsmanship as the attractive scrollwork and angles showed the remarkable skill and care that had gone into their production. By the look of these supports and framework it looks as if the sign

Can You Help?

I'm doing a project on Complementary Medicine particularly;
ACUPUNCTURE
AROMATHERAPY

SHIATSU
REFLEXOLOGY

HOMEOPATHY

If you've had any of these treatments and wouldn't mind filling in a simple questionnaire please contact;

WILLIAM TAYLOR
PEAR TREE COTTAGE
TUDDENHAM ST. MARTIN
IP6 9BT

☎0473 785314 MANY THANKS!



itself will be well and truly held firm.

Earlier, Mary had taken us into her studio at the rear of the forge which was another Aladdin's cave. The wood and plaster mould was practically finished on one side and the thing that struck us was the attention to detail.

Some of you will remember the final design that was chosen and may know of the existence of the sample photographs taken at the time the Tuddenham Brick works was in its heyday. Here the workers were depicted wheeling bricks and it is this scene that is the centrepiece of our sign. Should the man with the wheelbarrow have dungarees? Well, the old photograph definitely shows a pair of braces. "That's it then", said Mary "it must be braces!" This is typical of Mary and was highlighted in the detail of St Martins church that appears

CARPET BOWLS CLUB

The Club continues to make steady progress in the Winter league series of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association, although now being in the first division east, the matches are all more contested by the opposition both at home and away. However, despite some early setbacks, we are currently mid-table position, which at this stage of the season, is quite a healthy place, considering this is our first year in the top division. Our away performance has steadily improved, with several very close matches which could have gone either way, and we only just lost out 6-4 on several occasions. The breakthrough in away performance came recently at Stratford St Mary where we won 6-4, notching up our very first away win in the first division. We are now fifth in the table with 60 points from 13 matches, and have four home matches and one away match left. Hopefully if we can keep our present form we should once again be in the first division next year.

On the suffolk scene we have 5 pairs entered in the Suffolk Pairs competition on the 19th February at Holywells School, Ipswich, and on the 19th March we have three Fours in the Suffolk Fours competition. Good luck to all of them.

If there is any new blood in the village who would like to have a go at Carpet Bowls do come along any Monday or Thursday evening to the Village Hall at 7.30, where you will be made most welcome.

Malcolm Rees - Captain.

Thank You

I would like to thank The Royal British Legion , Jim Kerridge and everyone else concerned for the lovely parcel received just before Christmas.

This is much appreciated.

A Happy New Year to all of you
Neville Whitman (Sonny).

