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# The Tuddenham Tattler

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Issue No 35

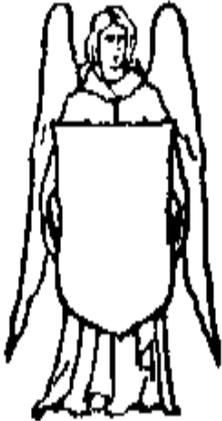
Christmas, December 1995

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# A Christmas Message

You may be one who loves Christmas and everything connected with it: the busy shops, the kitchen preparations, the wrapping of presents, mince pies and turkey and crackers in any order. Or you may be one who can't wait until the 27th December or some such date when you will feel safe that, for another year, "it" is all over.



I fancy that most of us are somewhere in-between. If pressed, we could give a list of things we love about this season, and things we don't. Some things trigger off childhood memories, which I hope are happy. Others encourage dreams of a wonderful world of peace on earth and goodwill to all.

I hope that all of us can share in the idealism of this season, but the song of the angels recorded in the Gospel does not start with earthly peace and universal goodwill. It starts with "Glory to God". To me, the saddest people are those who are not able to see anything beyond this earth.

The Good News of Christmas is about that Supreme Being (beyond this earthly compass) whom we call God, and what he is and does. For here is not some remote figure who dislikes us human beings, and tries to catch us

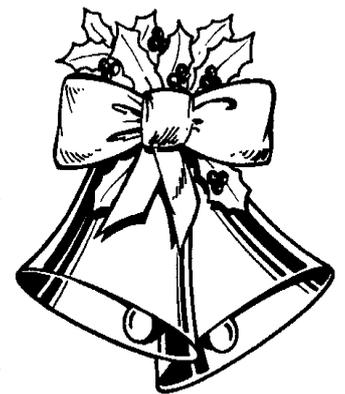
mis-behaving.

So used are we to the Christmas story, the birthday of Jesus, that we forget the meaning of it, the scandal of it. As Christians we make the shocking claim that God became for us a tiny baby, helpless in his mother's arms. He came himself to share our human condition because he loved us. We go on to say that God is like that, today. He is with us because he loves us, and wants for us the **best** of things: love for and love from each other, joy, hope and a living relationship with him for every day in the year.



I pray that this Christmas season you as readers of The Tattler may know that love and joy and hope in your own lives, your hearts and your homes. I add to that the prayer that we may all, in the 366 days of 1996, know something more of these spiritual qualities and may contribute to their spread.

God bless each one of us.



# THANK YOU

Dominic, Alistair and I would like to say a very big....

**THANK YOU...** to all in Tuddenham for giving us such a warm welcome.

We feel very privileged to be part of this thriving village and already feel very much at home.

*Denise Read.*



## TRAVEL LE SHUTTLE

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CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

**12th December 1995**

**only £28.50**

To book contact Gemini Travel  
(01473)212705 or (01473)785819

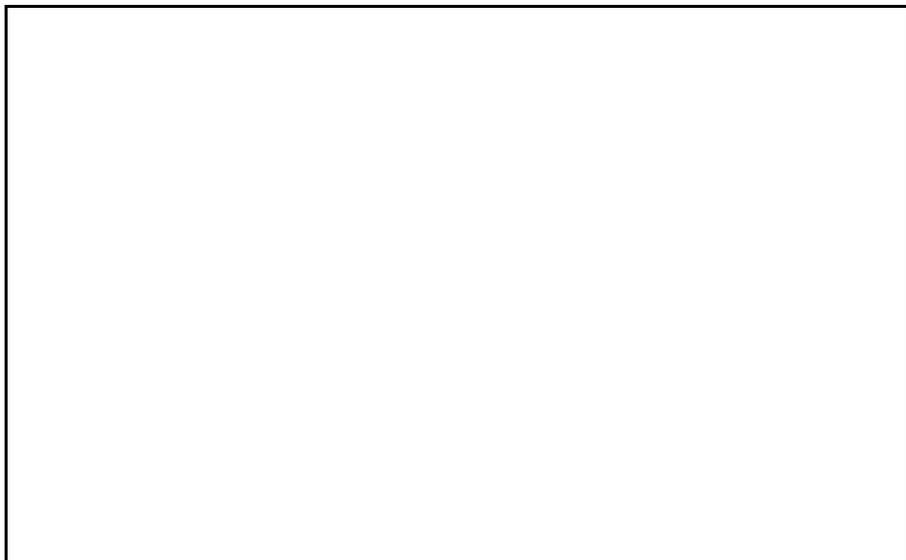
### Recipe For Chocolate Chestnut Pudding

- 15oz Chestnut Puree
- ½ lb Good Plain Chocolate
- 7oz Double Cream (thickened)
- 2 tbsp Brandy

Melt chocolate over boiling water. Mix chestnut puree, brandy and melted chocolate together then fold in cream.

Line pudding basin with cling film. Tip ingredients into lined basin. Chill in fridge for at least two hours. Tip out and serve with cream.

Delicious! *Denise Read.*



*The drawings on this page were drawn by Alistair Read, aged 9. Could this be a talent for the future?*



# BOOK REVIEW

A few thoughts about books I have recently read. I thought I'd kick off with two comedians - Michael Palin and Adrian Edmondson. If you have read these books and your opinion differs, remember this is only a personal view!

## "The Gobbler" by Adrian Edmondson

Julian Mann is a fading alternative comedian who drinks copious amounts and is unable to control his sexual urges. Faced by various catastrophes (losing his agent, a film rôle and nearly his wife to a pompous rival) and having to face up to a "psycho-fan", Julian faces spiritual and physical reform. Will he make it? Who cares? Not a laugh or tear in sight, poorly written, filled with uninteresting characters, this novel left this reader utterly cold and disappointed. I'm a great fan of Edmondson's comedy but this novel would not have been published if written by an unknown. Don't bother.

## "Hemingway's Chair" by Michael Palin

A novel about a shy,

retiring Post Office assistant manager, this book has the direction Edmondson's lacks. Martin Sproale finally stands up for himself and the Post Office in a startling climax reminiscent of Sproale's hero's life. Small town England meets broad-minded America in this book, which is also an attack on privatisation. Some serious issues are raised and Palin seems to be saying that we all have something of the adventurer in us. If Sproale's self-destructive tendency reflects Hemingway's, what is Palin saying about privatisation and the lengths people will go to in order to achieve it?

Palin writes and paints characters well, though they tend to be rather two-dimensional, fitting into the novel rather than shaping it themselves. Depends on what you like. A good light read; but not

a patch on Stephen Fry.

*Rob Jones*



## MRS. D.O. READ RGN MSSCh MBChA (Chiropodist)

Tudor Cottage, The Street,  
Tuddenham St. Martin,  
IP6 9BT

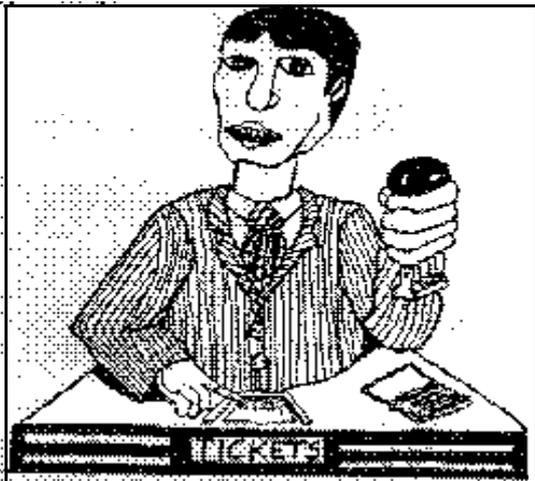
home visits: ☎ 01473 785122



# A London Diversion Worth Making.

**Next time you are in London with nowhere to go why not sample the delights of Covent Garden?**

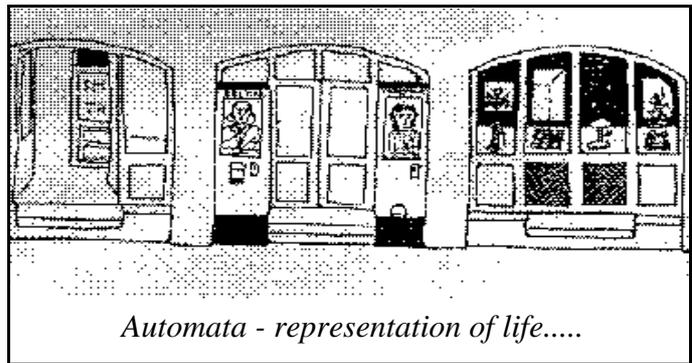
Have you walked the cobbled streets where Eliza Doolittle sold her violets? Have you cheered at the street entertainers under the portico of The Royal Opera House? Have you sampled the delights of the many cafés and restaurants where, once, the flower market was held? Have you applauded the musicians as they serenade the market with



you been to the Mechanical theatre? The what???

Surely this is the place to where all should head; children and adults alike. Go downstairs to the lower courts in Covent Garden Market and explore this collection of contemporary automata (as they put it) or machines that will surprise and delight you (as I put it)! There are over a hundred machines with a shared eccentricity and a skewed way of looking at the world. What do I mean? How can I tell you of a dog that “whets” your appetite as you enter? Or a man into whom

you can “breath” life? This is real “hands-on” theatre. I don’t like to give too much away but this is a



*Automata - representation of life.....*

haven for all grown up children, and for those who want to laugh at themselves as well as others.

How do I get there? Well now, here’s more good news. British Rail are offering return tickets to London for £13 from Ipswich, including underground and bus once you arrive! Quite a reduction from the regular fare of £36. If you want a “London Day Out” ticket you have to reserve your seat at least two days in advance. Contact Ipswich Station on 01473 693369 to make your booking



# THE TATTLER QUIZ

1. Why is 25th November, 1995, a memorable date?
2. Which village dignatories, dressed in bow-ties and sequins, and played host to a crowd of hundreds (nearly) in the Tuddenham Village Hall recently?
3. Where can you meet strange people, knock back a drink or two, answer mind-boggling questions, enjoy a first rate meal, try your luck in a raffle, knock back another drink or two, answer more mind-boggling questions - all for less than a cost of a ten minute phone call? (Ipswich to Sydney, peak rate).
4. How much fun can you have in one evening?
5. How come the same team (more or less) has won the quiz three years running?  
Did they:
  - a) Have an extremely broad general knowledge complemented by a wide range of specialisms
  - b) Use a cell phone to cheat
  - c) Slip the judges a quid?

To find the answer to all these questions, you'll have to wait a whole year, for the next Tuddenham Tattler Quiz night!

*Adrian Frost*

The tattler "crew" would like to take this opportunity to **thank** all who helped and all who took part in the quiz. We raised over £320 and had a great evening at the same time!  
p.s. Thanks for the quid, Adrian!

## Certificate of Achievement Tattler Quiz

Stuck on my fridge door, in pride of place, I now have a Certificate of Achievement. For what you may well ask. Well, at the 1995 Tattler Quiz I was a member of one of the two teams who jointly scored the lowest number points. I have had my fair share of failures and no doubt will have more, but NEVER, have I been awarded a certificate for same, and not only that, a prize as well. It was an excellent evening!

How enjoyable it was for the very modest sum of £3 for my ticket, to arrive at the village hall, having had nothing else to do but get myself there, be entertained by the evening's events, scoff delicious refreshments during the interval, enjoy the company of Tuddenham people (and I spotted several ex-residents back for the evening) - all this and a prize as well!

Thank you to The Tattler for putting on such a good evening. All the hard work behind the scenes is done so efficiently and without any fuss. Long may this event feature in the social life of Tuddenham, and who knows, one day we lesser mortals may rise up and defeat the perpetual winners (but I would miss the certificate).

*Cherrie Starling (a member of a*

## **Green Lane - Bridleway or All Traffic Byway?**

At last, the permanent status of Green Lane (sometimes known as Reedings Lane) will be determined by a Public Inquiry to be held by a Dept. of The Environment Inspector on

**TUESDAY, MARCH 12th 1996**

at 10.00am at The East and West Meeting Rooms, St. Helen's Court, County Hall, Ipswich. This is an important event for Tuddenham people, and especially those who enjoy Green Lane as a quiet country walk, as cyclists or joggers, or as a track for horses to be ridden.

Two previous notes in The Tattler (Feb. and Nov. 1994) have explained the history of, and reason for, the reclassification of the lane, and why a public inquiry, following the County Council proposal for a bridleway, is necessary. For readers who may still be unclear on these points, I should be unhappy to explain.

A brief word on procedures at the inquiry may be useful. It is chaired by an independent inspector with no local attachments. First, the County Council will present its case for a Bridleway Order using ancient and O.S. maps etc. Witnesses may be called who may be County Council officers or members of the public. Witnesses may be questioned by objectors to the Order. Next, supporters of the Order can speak. I plan to participate at this stage.

Statutory objectors, i.e. those persons who objected in writing when the Order was made, then speak. They can give evidence and can be questioned by County Council representatives. Any other objectors can then be heard.

County Council will bring relevant

maps to the inquiry, and the public has a chance to study them. When all evidence has been heard, closing speeches, which summarise evidence presented and emphasise important points, are made. The length of the inquiry cannot easily be forecast though most, but not all, are completed within one day. A site inspection usually takes place at the end of the inquiry.

The Inspector's decision is normally received by the County Council two to three months later. Relevant evidence at the inquiry is of a documentary kind (e.g. from ancient and other maps) or user evidence. Amenity and environmental factors are not acceptable. Statutory objectors will probably include 4-wheel drive and Driven Horses Clubs, and the subject is expected to be contentious. At the same time the inquiry will refer to improved description of four footpaths which bear on Green Lane and this should be generally acceptable. It could help our case for a bridleway decision from the inquiry if Tuddenham residents could attend, demonstrating an active interest.

*John Arthur*

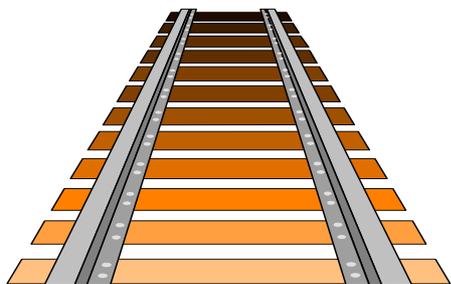
*Editor: I have not included a map due to lack of space. Please contact John for details.*

# TOP OF THE SHOPS

I always believe in passing on the good and bad experiences from my shopping sessions. Unlike some British housewives I don't "put up" with unsatisfactory service and goods.

If there are queues at a checkout, yet some tills are not open, I always go to the manager and hey presto, another checkout opens like magic. Even though I hear mumblings of, "Who does she think she is?" I notice those people are quick to rush to my newly opened checkout. If I have to make a phone enquiry about anything and am asked, "Could you hold on for a little while while I go and look for.....?" I always, very politely say, "Thank you, but I'd rather leave my number. I'll be in all day".

I can imagine some of you lady readers saying to your husbands, "Aren't you glad you're not married to her?" But I am not always complaining, I frequently compliment those who have taken time and trouble to help. Recently I wrote a letter to the director of Anglia Train Services, drawing his attention to an extremely pleasant, helpful member of the timetable team. Yes, I can see some



of you raising your eyebrows, those of you who are frustrated B.R. callers, but this man was the best timetable adviser I have ever spoken to.

If I see someone buying something I haven't yet tried I always ask them about it. I find people are only too pleased to give me their opinion. Of course there are occasions when I learn that my experience is not necessarily as satisfactory as theirs such as when I bought an expensive tube of savoury spread and found I couldn't get half of it out!

About a year ago I discovered "Deb's", a shop opposite The Co-Op in Carr Street and have been buying bits and pieces and cards there, ever since. I had searched everywhere last year for a couple of windmills for a small child to wave. I even enquired in a variety of towns hoping to be lucky, and was often told, "Oh, there's no call for them these days."

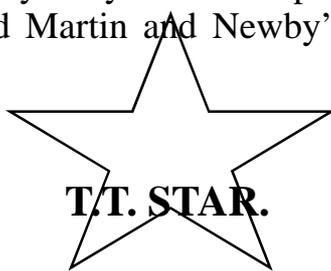
When I'd almost given up I saw a few on display in the doorway of "Deb's". They have given endless pleasure to the recipient who has waved them to hundreds of lorry and car drivers in Devon. Similarly enjoyed was a tiny, brightly coloured wrist watch, the hands of which have been whizzed round endlessly. I have recently been stocking up with lots of little fun fillers. The staff in there are always very helpful, pleasant and have time to listen. The shop deserves to thrive. We award it a



(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

A shop that has been established for many years and thrives on attention to detail and excellent customer service is Martin and Newby's in Lower Orwell Street, just past the traffic lights. It's an Aladdin's Cave for the D.I.Y. enthusiast. I have never seen so many nuts and screws and strange pieces of metal anywhere else. I hasten to add I was only meeting my very creative spouse there. We award Martin and Newby's an even shinier



If you have been particularly satisfied with service, or otherwise, please let us know so that we can



# WELCOME

A very belated, but never the less, warm welcome to Peter and Jean Woods who have moved from Ipswich, where for many years they ran their own gardening and nursery business. It's great for them to be near David and Fiona Woods who have lived in the village for many years and good for us that Peter has become a regular contributor to The Tattler.

And to Paula and Peter Rose with their children Daniel and Charlotte, from Kesgrave, welcome to Tuddenham. I think they are already interested in the Toddler's group and we hope to see them at the pantomime.

## Inter Parish Sports Tournament, 1996.

Calling all Tuddenham Sport's teams members. The date has been fixed for Sunday, May 19th **BUT** all the football will be played the previous Sunday, May 12th, because there are so many entries. If there are any new residents who can take part, either playing or coaching, we would be very pleased to hear from them. We require teams for TableTennis, Badminton, Rounders, Volleyball, Netball, Darts, Obstacle, Football and Carpet Bowls.

**Please phone me on 785314 for details.**

## poet's corner

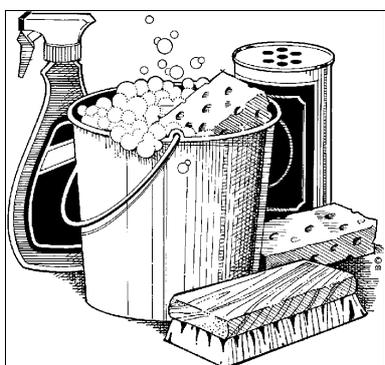
there was a young man  
from tuddenham,  
who slipped on a soapy  
Suddenham,  
he tripped over his feet  
and whizzed down the  
street  
that silly young man from  
tuddenham

*Dominic Read.*

# A Grower's Diary -December

The month of December is a quiet month, daylight hours are short and most work is confined to the greenhouse.

If you have a greenhouse this is the time for a good clean. Wait



(hopefully) for a fine sunny day and remove all plants to a sheltered spot outside.

Brush down or remove the staging and thoroughly sterilize with a strong solution of Jeye's Fluid ( $\frac{1}{4}$ pt to 2 gallons of water) by spraying the glass, benches and paths. Close all windows and doors for an hour or two, then towards the end of the day open all doors and windows for about an hour. Finally bring all the plants back in, close down, check the heating system and close the windows and doors.

## Dahlia Tubers

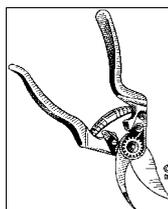
Check for any rot, removing it with a Stanley knife, dust with "Flowers of Sulphur" or a fungicide. The tubers are best stored under the greenhouse bench,



they should not be allowed to become wet, howsoever they must never be allowed to dry out completely; never store near a radiator or in a hot room. If you do not possess a greenhouse store your tubers in a good frost free garage or shed, cover with a sack if there is a spell of cold weather.

## Fuchsias

These should have been cut back by a third and de-leaved in November.



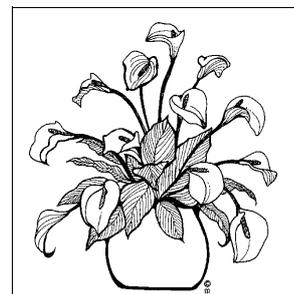
Keep an eye on them and water very sparingly during the winter months - they need to be kept dormant until late January.

## Geraniums

(Zonals, Regals and trailing varieties). If you are keeping these in pots, restrict watering to every 3-4 weeks, remove any dead flowers and decaying leaves, ideally do not let them flower at all.

## Pot Plants

In general pot plants require little watering during the winter months, in fact over watering is probably the main



(Continued from page 10)

cause of plants dying in the winter.

Do not replot in the winter; most plants are dormant and do not require it. Keep Cyclamen in a cool room, preferably on a window sill, not in the full sun, and water from the bottom of the pot by keeping the container in a saucer. Remove dead flowers by pulling off the stem.

Poinsettias are fairly tolerant of most conditions, water when dry, keep in good light in the same room and they will give many months of pleasure.

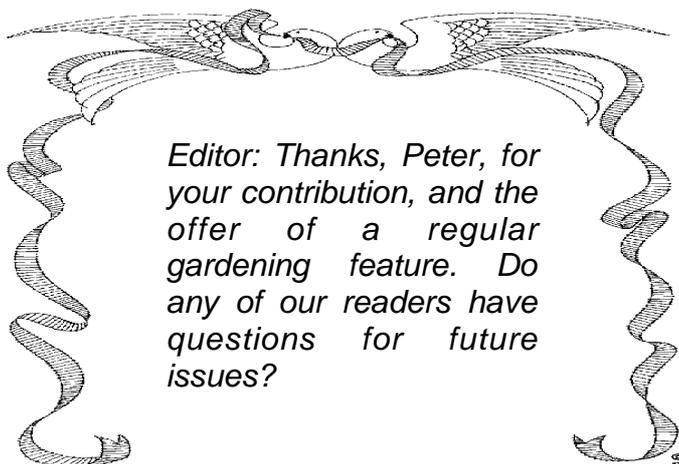
Bowls of hyacinths should be brought into the light when their shoots are one inch high; water sparingly as most bowls have no drainage. Keep in good light to prevent them being drawn.



December is a good time to peruse the seed catalogues and perhaps order for next year - look out for new varieties.

Looking for Christmas presents? Any of "The Expert Series", written by Dr. D.G. Hessayon are excellent books and are not expensive.

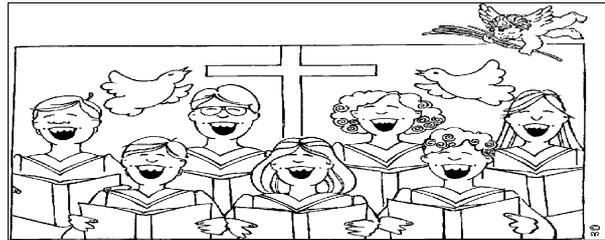
*Peter Woods.*



*Editor: Thanks, Peter, for your contribution, and the offer of a regular gardening feature. Do any of our readers have questions for future issues?*

## Christmas Surprise For a Shoemaker.

The Chapel was full to overflowing on December 10th for a play put on by Tony, Elaine, the Sunday Club members and others of the Chapel Congregation.



Their production was as varied and talented as we have come to expect from "Tony's Army". E. Bowyer would surely have been moved to see his play presented so professionally though I gather it was not so "right on the night" the night before!

The message of the evening was that whosoever we help, we are helping Jesus but in their performance the players also put forth the message of love that emanates from all at our Chapel.

Roger gave us the glad tidings that Ros and Richard have a new son, named Isaac David, who joins Bethany, their daughter.

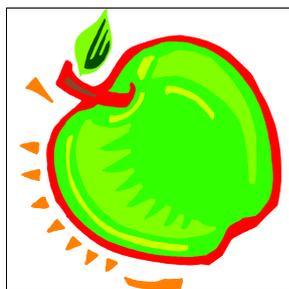
**6.30pm on Thursday, 21st December,** is a date for your diaries as there is to be a concert at The Chapel with timbrel display,

**WATCH OUT FOR THIEVES!  
ARE YOUR POSSESSIONS  
LABELLED?  
POSTCODE YOUR TOOLS!**

# TATTLER QUIZ

Our third quiz went off with all guns blazing, much to our relief. Over a hundred people joined in, two of whom were strangers from Felixstowe who had seen one of our adverts when out driving. "Could we come again to the next one? We know it's really for the village but it's been marvellous". We hope they do and bring their friends.

We wish to say a big thank you to all who helped to make it into such a success. Malcolm the quiz master who controlled proceedings with gusto, Pauline, whose quick calculating speeded up the evening, Janet, who organised the raffle brilliantly and washed the carrots (!) Jackie, the sandwich queen, ably assisted by Sophie and Kit, Dick, the lone Tea maker in the kitchen who also did all



with the help of George, brought up the stage from where it is stored. David

also surprised us with the gift of a big box of delicious red apples for all the competitors to enjoy. He usually sells these by his gate at "Wayside" on the main road. I shall be stocking up for Christmas.

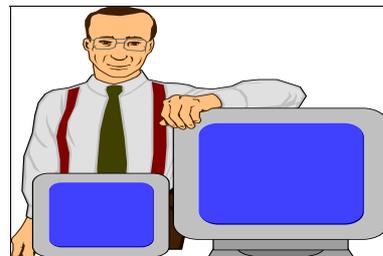
And now the most important of our report, the reigning champions; Doug and Joan, Bob and Pat, Adrian and Carol did it again. That's three times now. Not that we didn't expect it. We suggest that as many competitors as possible devote at least one hour a week cramming as much quiz information as possible into their grey matter in the hope, somewhere out there, there is another six who will present a strong challenge next year.

Now the "Good sports certificates" were awarded to the W.I. team and the couple from Felixstowe. We know that one of these good sports has already stuck her certificate on the fridge. We wonder where the others will stick theirs. There is no answer to that!

*Reporting Reporter.*

## ANGLIA T.V.

The "Countrywide" fans will be pleased to know that a new series begins the second week in January. If you have any



ideas for this programme or wish to make any comments during the production please write or phone Anglia immediately. If you have any difficulties with this please let me know as I can help.

There is a new wildlife programme starting soon, 7.30 pm on Thursdays. The producer always ensures that her programmes are of the highest quality. I would put

### **STAMPS! STAMPS! STAMPS!**

Please don't throw away your Christmas card envelopes. We are collecting again and would like to treble last year's response. If you are too busy to tear off the stamp just drop the envelopes

# Rude Bits From Shakespeare, To Music.

Friends very kindly drove me to Cambridge last Monday evening to see/hear the Opera "Falstaff".

As a schoolboy and young man I wouldn't have been at all interested, to put it mildly, in a lot of stuffed shirts singing Shakespeare. But one changes, doesn't one? From unfeeling brute to cultivated patron of the arts.

Who wrote the opera "Falstaff"? Do you know? I didn't till I looked it up. Giuseppe Verdi, the late 19th Century Italian composer of many world famous pieces, e.g. The Slave's Chorus.

"Falstaff", I humbly suggest, has no particularly memorable tunes, yet this production by The City Of Birmingham Touring Opera Company was stunning. It now ranks number two in my personal Hit Parade, Bizet's "Carmen" being number one.

I think it was the rich quality of the voices which I found so riveting. For me, the human singing voice is all important, the story doesn't matter much. They were singing in English but I took little notice of what they said except the bawdy

Shakespearian bits which suddenly and surprisingly popped out now and again. Most opera stories are so daft anyway!

In many operas, the singers seem quite content just to stand there and sing. All the Birmingham Opera people acted every second all over the stage.

That was, in itself, quite difficult because the stage was set at a sharp angle - they must have brought it with them. This enabled people and props to appear and

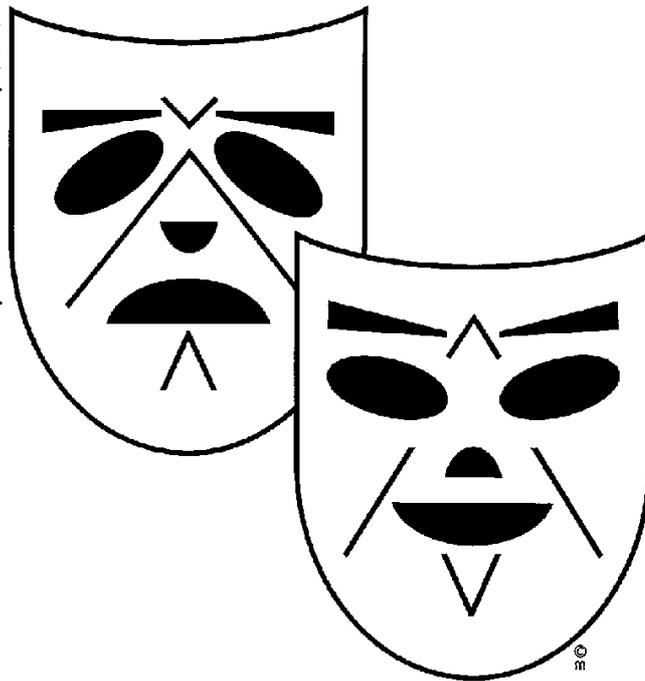
disappear out of hidden trap doors to tremendous dramatic effect.

The 17th Century costume in all its flamboyance of colour was magnificent. I love hats and everybody wore extravagant ones.

What a show! The audience roared for minutes at the end until the cast could not manage any more curtain calls up the steeply raked stage.

R.T.

*Editor: You may be interested to know that the City of Birmingham Touring Opera are coming to Aldeburgh, (The Maltings) on December 16th to perform Falstaff.*



## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT.

Held on December 5th this was a meeting with a surprisingly small audience considering the important subjects under discussion.

Discussion on the problems with the bus stop also led to talk on parking problems as well as speeding in the village. P. C. Warne suggested a meeting could be held, inviting all villagers but especially residents local to the bus stop and bus users. This would allow all interested parties to understand all the complications and possible solutions so that agreement could be reached. It was agreed that Steve Warne would organise the meeting in the New Year.

A new Fynn Lane sign post has been erected and is satisfactory.

Precept discussions led to a precept request lower than the last two years. It is hoped that your council tax will thus fall though only a very small part of it goes to your Parish Council.

There was talk of possible changes to the

pond outside the village hall. It was left for the village hall committee to decide though the Parish council were happy to see the pond continue as long as it was maintained.

The Council has received notice of a planning proposal for building at The Pit on The Clopton Road. The Council were wholly against the proposal and have written to the District Council on this matter.

A new Electoral Rôle has been received. Please contact me if you think it needs to be adjusted.

The next meeting is on **March 5th, 1996**. The date of the bus stop meeting will be advertised on the notice boards and in the next Tattler if it comes in time!

*Parish Clerk 785588.*

## Christmas

**S**  
**at Readings**  
**Nursery**

**Christmas**  
**Trees -**  
*potted, non-needle dropping & miniatures.*

**Flower**  
**Arrangements**  
*hand tied in vases, posy baskets*

**Holly Wreaths**  
*table decorations*



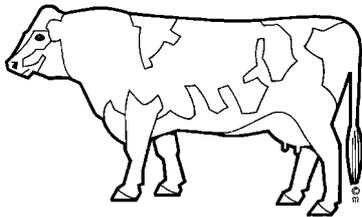
## BURGLARY

**Have you heard about the burglary in Tuddenham this week?** It should remind us all to be cautious. Label your possessions so they can be more easily recovered by the police and help Neighbourhood Watch by keeping your neighbours informed if you go away over Christmas. Ring 785555.

## A Lot Of Hot Air

On Christmas afternoon, our family always goes for a walk around the local footpaths, usually along the river and back via Fynn Lane.

I remember over twenty years ago when the fields were still cattle meadows, we came across a "blown cow", one which had eaten too much green grass which had fermented and blown it up with gas. It lay helpless with legs in the air, so we alerted the farmer and he called the vet.



He wasn't very pleased to have to turn out on Christmas Day but he had to attend the creature which must have been in some pain. Although a country boy, I had never seen such a sight before so I stayed to watch. He produced a thin, trumpet like tool with a sharp end, took careful aim and stabbed it right through the animal's flank into one of its stomachs (I believe they have two).

There was a loud rasping sound and the cow quickly deflated. I thought it might zoom round the meadow like one of those balloons that kids release at parties, but no, it just got to its feet, rolled its eyes and strolled off to join its friends.

We all wished each other a Merry Christmas and wandered off to our respective teas.

*Don't eat too much at Christmas or this might happen to you!*

R.T.

## Suffolk Under-16

Georgina Pipe was in the Suffolk Under-16 Hockey Squad recently when they finished in joint fifth place at the recent East Anglian Women's Hockey Association tournament. Well played!



## TATTLER INTERVIEW

When your Tattler heard that the Singles Champion in The Tuddenham Bowls Club was available for interview we scooped an exclusive!

*How long have you been a member?*

Since the club was founded some four years ago.

*Why did you join?*

Malcolm twisted my...no, not really, I enjoy all sport.

*Tell us about your win.*

Two Sundays ago I won the Singles Championship and I will hold the cup for a year with a trophy to keep.

*Did you win every game?*

No, Eileen Offord beat me in the first round. She was better than me on the day. And my advice to her? Well, keep at it, Eileen!

*What is your ambition?*

To win the doubles too. No-one ever won both. I am playing with Henry Barfield. I would also like to do well at The Suffolk Singles - Simon Rees was fourth in that this year - well done, Simon!

*Oh, and who are you?*

**Jim Hillman**, You stupid woman!



*So The Tattler had a chat with Eileen....*

"I think I encouraged him by defeating him. It spurred him on. Poor Jim, he'll never live it down!" was all we could get from her in between pantomime

## **CROSSROADS AND FLYOVERS**

Start at the beginning of each “road”, on the right side, and find a way to the end collecting the word parts as you go.

### **Answers to last quiz:**

1. Herb Robert
  2. Sweet Violet
  3. Clover
  4. Dog Rose
  5. Buttercup
  6. Daisy
  7. Dandelion
  8. Holly
  9. Ivy
  10. Forget-me-not.
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