
The Tuddenham Tattler

Issue No 43

November 1996

Village Sale November 23rd



WANTED DESPERATELY

Anything that we can sell
From a double bed to a ringing bell
We already have a super canoe
We'll take what'ere comes from you.....
Plants are useful, so are toys
Anything that brings in the boys.

Books, china, anything at all
Please bring it to The Village Hall
Or Pear Tree Cottage before the day
We will take your goodies any way.
The money raised will pay for a year
Of Tuddenham Tattler news and cheer.

Please phone 785314

**THANKS
FOR COMING
TOO**



Walking to Witnesham

Did you know that you can combine a very pleasant walk with shopping, reading interesting ads, having a pleasant chat and posting letters. Yes, its true - I have been doing it for years, that is I have been taking the bridle path from the centre of the village and walking to Witnesham Post Office. I started years ago, when my sons were small. It was a great treat when we used to stop en route and picnic where we could see the large scarecrow in one of the top fields. This path was the original village way used by villagers to visit their relatives in Witnesham. I often imagine Sunday afternoons with the ladies dressed in their long, best dresses, husbands possibly uncomfortably suited, accompanied by the children in their Sunday best, taking a gift or a bunch of flowers over to Grandma in Witnesham. How different from now when most of us, in wellingtons or trainers, according to the season, stride out, accompanied by our dogs.

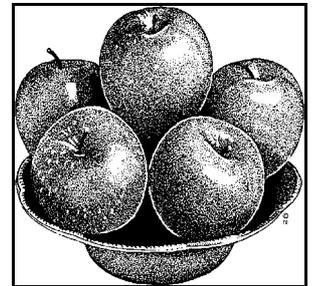


The footpath ends at the end of Struggler's Lane. The Post Office is almost directly opposite. The official name is The Fynn Valley Stores. It is an absolute gem of a place. This is all the result of the efforts of the Post Mistress, Anne Judd. She is a very pleasant

personality, always ready with a smile, to help and listen. Her appearance is always very cheerful. Recently she has been wearing a very attractive embroidered waistcoat which has been admired by many of her customers. She also has a penchant for lovely earrings. Remember, she lost one last Summer which was eventually found by Joanna Carrick, who lives in The Street.



Some years ago Anne had the unpleasant experience of being faced by a leather clad motorcyclist who pointed a white plastic bag at her which appeared to disguise a weapon of some sort. She screamed as did her mother and the intruder fled. She related this story to me in her usual gentle way.



This year at the Post Office there is an exhibition of decorative glassware produced by Anne's daughter, Erica, who is also a very accomplished illustrator. Included are fruit bowls, oil bottles, small containers and other ornaments, all very attractively decorated. Already many things have been sold and have a waiting list. Erica will decorate anything you wish for a special occasion. I suggest, to those of

CHINESE CHRISTIANITY

Whilst in China in September this year I had the opportunity to visit one of the House Churches in Guangzhou, which meets on the second and third floors of a house. Some internal walls have been removed to improve visibility with the Partor preaching on the third floor and a loudspeaker system for the second hour.

"Is it O.K. to visit?" was the thought that went through my mind as people either go to the State controlled Churches or to Home Churches with the real risk of punishment. Anyhow, we went, and there were probably four hundred people there. It gets so full that the Partor holds four services during the week. Wow! Wouldn't we all like a congregation of over 1500 people?!

The weather was typically hot and humid with fans circulating the hot air and causing fluorescent hanging lights to sway in the air currents. The service often lasts two hours with prayers, hymn singing and a long message.

The memories will linger on of a large congregation, mainly of young people, intently listening, and a communion service where we could participate in Spirit if not in Mandarin, as we all recalled God's love and that of His Son, Jesus Christ.

It was challenging to see such commitment and I would love to return if the opportunity ever arises.

Roger Diaper

Editor: Roger is the "Bouncer" at the Chapel in Tuddenham. He comes from Ipswich but has become one of the Chapel "family" and always greets visitors with a welcome smile. Services start at 11.00 on Sunday with a Christmas Service on 8th December at 6.15pm when Tuddenham children be participating.

**OUR BEST WISHES
TO JEAN WOODS
AFTER HER RECENT
STAY IN HOSPITAL.**

The next parish council meeting is at :

**7.30pm on Tuesday,
December 3rd.
in the village hall.**

Please contact the Clerk on 785588 if you want to add anything to the agenda. You are welcome to attend - this meeting will set the spending for the next financial year.

Your councillors are:

Malcolm Rees (Chr)

Bill Pipe (V. Chr)

Joan Bloomfield

Nancy Pitcher

Janet Welham

Margaret Taylor

Frank Wells

Kevin Kerry

The Clerk is Erica Lopez.

Inter Parish Sports 1997

The time has come again when we must begin to organise the next inter-parish sport's tournament. A later date was requested to improve the chances of better weather so this year the tournament will be on **Sunday, 8th June, at Leiston Leisure Centre, 9.30-5.00pm.** We have been asked to register our interest in entering by Friday, 13th December. Anyone interested, please contact Margaret Taylor on

Neighbourhood Watch

There has been a spate of burglaries recently in both our village and in some of the surrounding ones; the police say that many of them happen when thieves brazenly walk in through the front or back door, which has not been locked, and just help themselves. So do make sure that you do not make it easier for a burglar to steal your property by locking the doors even when you are at home.

Our Neighbourhood Watch scheme in Tuddenham has been going for four years now, and the police tell us that it serves a useful purpose. Just by keeping a high profile - in The Tattler and elsewhere - our very existence as an active scheme acts as a deterrent and we have a super team of coordinators throughout the village who are there to counsel and to help with the police if any crime is detected. Let one of them know too, as well as the police, if you see anything suspicious.

Here are their telephone numbers:

Sally Gardiner	785753
Elizabeth Gunn	785339
Margaret & Brian Hillman	785612
Malcolm Rees	785712
Julie Stockdale	785224
Sophie Sykes	219165
Molly Worswick	785292

and in the centre of the village:

Jim Kerridge	785825
Jack Lay	785226
Fiona & David Woods	785268
John Wyles	785605

Please forgive me for repeating the police telephone numbers after the article in the last Tattler but if you see anything suspicious please phone the police on **383460** or if there is no answer on **613500** **Obviously emergencies should always be reported on 999.**

My telephone number is 785555 and I am very happy to chat about the scheme if anyone new to the village would like to know more.

Janet Wells.

The Queen's Head

Have you tried the food at The Queen's Head at Erwarton? The menu is varied and home cooked - what a choice! Across the road you can see the river across to Harwich with all the ships and smaller craft passing. After a huge and satisfying meal walk it off on the beach at Harkstead so that you can go home feeling virtuous!

Phone 787550 to book a table.

Families' Cycling Club



The recently formed Families' Cycling Club organises a short,

easy circular route for all members of the family, including anyone with a disability, on the last Sunday of each month.

The club use quiet country lanes and cycle tracks to make their way to a chosen halfway point, usually a picnic site or other place of interest. Road safety is a priority - all rides have a support vehicle and first aid for both bikes and riders is carried by the ride leader. All bicycles must be roadworthy and correctly fitted helmets are strongly recommended.

To find out more phone

THE SPELL

Saturday, December 14th is underlined with a heavy red mark in my diary. Why? What am I doing? Where am I going? Not far. Just down the road to The Fountain to listen to a fairly new band called "The Spell", made up of four men and two girls, one of whom is a very good singer. Two of the players already play in their own band, "Bo Diddley", but have met up with the others recently and found that they are just right together.

I love their kind of music, the songs are full of meaning, sometimes sad and sometimes rousing. I have already booked a table so we will have good view. To be able to see instruments played is a plus for me. See you there.

GRASS

The Parish Council are looking for someone to cut grass around the village. They have asked for estimates from the District Council but that was ££££££s.

Are you interested in earning a few £s whilst improving your village? Please phone 785588 if you might be able to help. A strimmer is available for this work.



Avon is Calling

Does anyone fancy being the Avon representative for Tuddenham? Earn extra money, make new friends, hours to suit, no initial cash outlay! For details of this "business opportunity" please phone Bev on 01284 768412

welcome

Mike and Linda Trotman have moved into The Granaries with their King Charles Spaniel, Amber. They hail from Sproughton. You may have seen Mike cycling to Ipswich in the morning - (he is a b.t. man!)

If not, come to the panto in February and you will see him there.....

WHAT'S ON

- Nov. 23rd 2.00pm** Village Sale in Village Hall. Your support will be valued!
- Nov. 24th, 11-3.30** Family cycle ride ☎713794. 5½mls walk at Sicklesmere. Meet at The Eagle
- Dec. 8th, 10.30** Mince pie meander from Lodge Forest Centre, 01842 810271.
- Dec. 8th 6.15pm** Christmas Service at Chapel Everyone welcome!
- Dec. 18th** Carol singing round village Phone 785804 for details.
- Dec. 19th** Carol Service at The Chapel.

Our First Year in Tuddenham

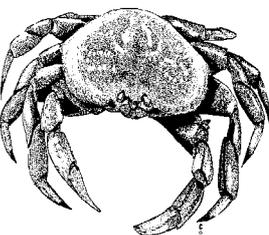
It has been just a year since we arrived in Tuddenham. I can hardly believe how quickly the year has flown.

We have never before lived in the centre of a village. We have always lived very remotely down long country lanes or a farm track. I now realise that I haven't really experienced true village life before.

From the very first day we have felt very welcomed, from the offers of coffee to plants for the garden, also information on the local amenities and history.

One of the first invitations was to join the T.A.D.P.O.L.E.s. I felt I needed time to settle in before committing myself to the pantomime but thought that next year I would. Well the time has come round again. Having so enjoyed the performance in February and seeing how much fun and hard work was obviously had by all I am looking forward to joining the camaraderie of it this year.

I thought when leaving Cornwall that I would miss the beauty of the Cornish countryside and the rugged coastline. Well I suppose we have missed the the surfing in rough seas, the boys have missed the rock pools, but we

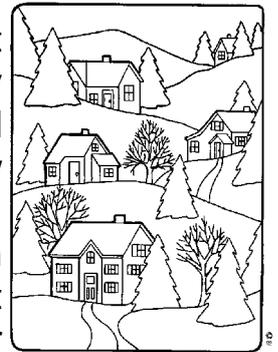


have found crabs abounding along the Suffolk coast.

In December a golden retriever puppy popped his head out of a beautifully wrapped Christmas parcel for me. Adorned in a bright red ribbon "Holly" wagged her way into our lives and hearts.

It has been a pleasure exploring the many footpaths in and around Tuddenham with Holly at my heels. I feel I have really experienced the seasons. Walking early on a weekday morning (lie in at weekends) for half an hour has been a joy. What a wonderful time of day. At the beginning of the year I was walking at dawn, the pale watery sun rising through early morning mist, the occasional pheasant squawking away disturbed, making us both jump. In the evenings the sunsets, the bare trees silhouetted like black lace against the blazing skies.

The snow, great excitement, especially for the boys, having lived for eight years in Cornwall they had only experienced light flurries of snow which laid only briefly. We all had fun tobogganing for the first time. There was a super feeling of community spirit at the playground with young people of all ages having fun throwing snowballs and making snowmen. What a boon the playground is - the boys have had fun there all year.



Spring was a long while coming this year - everything was late not pleasing those whose gardens were to be open

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

later in the year. The wild flowers were in abundance and it was a joy to watch them grow each day. The marshy area beside the Anglian Water pumping station is rich in wild flowers; particularly good were the Marsh Marigolds and Marsh Orchids.

The Summer brought long dry days, perfect for one of my favourite sights; poppies amidst ripening corn. One of my special memories is watching Holly playing with a fox, late one evening.

A highlight was when Henry Lunney came to bless our home; it has made our little cottage feel very special.

We have enjoyed attending various village events, and making new friends. One event which stands out in my memory is Margaret and Ralph's coffee morning. It was a beautiful day and an idyllic setting - a truly English County affair - with fun for all!

I was sorry to be away for the Open Garden Day & Flower Festival and the Safari Supper - next year I'll be here as I hate to miss out!

Well it is Autumn again and the wonderful colours brighten any murky morning. This morning was magical; it was crisp and frosty, and the sky was as blue as blue and the frosty crystals sparkled in the

The Gift Day last weekend
raised £1121.93
for St. Martin's Church.

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

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

home visits: ☎ 01473 785122



The Fountain Inn

Sat. 7 Dec. Car Boot Sale, at 11.00am Pitches only £2.50, snacks from me in the Car Park - we need more buyers and sellers.

Sat. 7 Dec. Welcome return of the duo "Rehash" - excellent music from a mother and son team; upbeat music from 70's to 90's.

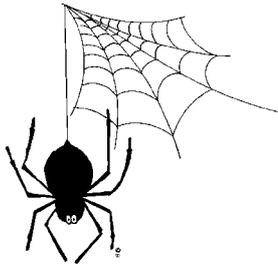
Sat. 14 Dec. Irish and English folk & fiddle with a promotion on Guinness and Kilkenny Irish Beer to make this a good evening's entertainment.

Sat. 21 Dec. The popular duo "Live and Picking" playing 50 and 60's soft rock and pop (nostalgia rather than latest music)

Wed. 25 Dec. We are doing Christmas Lunch but are already fully booked.

Sat. 28 Dec. No music this evening so we can have a rest and arrange our New Year's Eve party.

Tues. 31 Dec. New Year's Eve party with "Sidewinders" playing 50&60's nostalgic pop and rock-a-billy classics. The guitarist, Jason, is outstanding so book early. There will be tickets available free to Tuddenham



The day started fine; the removal men were on time and we were at last looking forward to the move into

the coming evening I agreed to be ready for 7.30. I tried to reassure myself by thinking "It's only for fun and its a good way of meeting some new people.

Encounters of a theatrical kind.

our new home. Little did I know of the fate that was to greet me

or of the strange events to unfold in the coming week.

On arrival in what I had perceived as being the quiet, peaceful village of Tuddenham St. Martin, I had a chance meeting with two of the residents. "Do you know when the new people will be moving in?" to which I replied, "I *am* the new occupier." "Sorry" came the reply, "Well it was just that you were wearing blue and carrying things into the house so I thought you were one of the removal men." Confusion over and I was warmly welcomed and introduced to Maggie Taylor and my new neighbour, Erica (Ed).

My dreams of tranquil village life were suddenly shattered. "There's a sale on in the village hall on 23rd Nov. I'm sure you'll find loads of things to bring along once you start to unpack. You must come along to the panto auditions on Wednesday evening, it's strictly for fun and a great way to get to know others in the village. I'll be round at 7.30 and we can walk up together. I'll also drop a copy of the last Tattler in your letter box."

The next few days were fairly uneventful, split between going to work and coming home to unpack yet more boxes. However, Wednesday soon arrived and Erica reminded me of the evening's auditions. Feeling apprehensive and rather nervous about

Now I do enjoy walking and it was one of my reasons for moving to the village. But, not

knowing where I was going I started to wonder if, perhaps, the auditions were in Westerfield. Luckily Poplar Farm appeared as a welcoming light somewhere to my right. "That's the witch in front of us" said Erica. Was it an audition for a pantomime or some Satanic ritual I was about to attend? Relief was close at hand as, on entering, I was greeted by a room full of happy, smiling faces and comments of, "You managed to entice another new member along". Definitely no broomsticks or black cats and no naked dancing round the roaring, open fire.

The rest of the evening was spent with a very friendly, comical and enthusiastic group of people. Script readings, coffee and castings over (this appears to be some professional term within the acting fraternity) I am now the proud owner of not just a new house but my very own script for "Babes in the Wood".

Now, as we all know, pantomimes are make believe, but the script has yet to magic itself away. Do I really have a part with *lines*?

Perhaps I



CONGRATULATIONS

WINNER OF SUFFOLK SINGLES

Jim Hillman beat >200 people

Jim played on 17th Nov at Holywells School
He won a cup and a deal of prestige!
Simon Rees was in the last eight.

BRILLIANT BOWLING!

Grower's Diary

We have the answers to some readers' questions this issue. Thanks to Jean Woods for the replies.

1. One of my Geraniums shows signs that caterpillars or snails have been eating the leaves. I have searched intensely but can find nothing. Can you help?

The best time to look for "Creepy Crawlies" on border plants is after dark with a torch - pick off slugs, snails etc. and dispose as you see fit!

2. I have a friend who has "given up" on house plants because "they all die on me" and now resorts to artificial ones. Can you recommend a "survivor"?

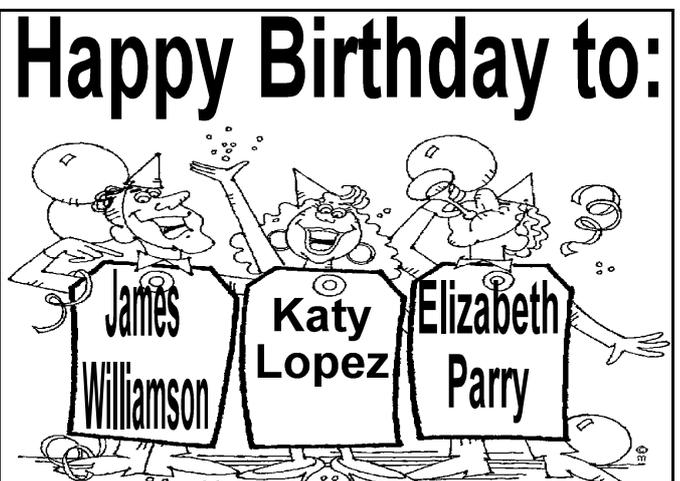
*Indoor plants can be difficult to keep. I suggest *Fatsia japonica* (Castor oil plant) and *Pilea Sempervivum* (House leek). They are evergreen, and like bright light, moderately dry air, temp. 40-50°F.*

3. What is the secret of keeping African Violets?

They love high humidity and do well on a window sill in a bathroom. It is a good idea to use rain water when watering as African Violets do not like lime and the water in our village is very hard..

4. Can you recommend a small plant for my bathroom window?

*Try *Asparagus densiflorus* or a small*



Tony and Elaine intend to run an Alpha Course in their home on Thursday evenings from 9th January through to May next year. The course would break for the Easter holidays.

What is an Alpha Course?

An Alpha Course is a simple, effective and enjoyable way of presenting the Christian faith in a clear and non-threatening manner outside “normal” church activities. It is designed primarily for non-churchgoers and those seeking to learn more about the Christian faith. It was established at Holy Trinity, Brompton, London (Church of England) ten years ago and now there are more than 3,000 Alpha Courses in this country and 700 throughout the rest of the World. At Holy Trinity Courses are held throughout the year and they have over 500 people attending each week.

Format of the evening

- 7.30pm Arrive for a light meal (£2.00 donation per person per evening is requested to cover meal and Alpha manual)
- 8.15pm Video dealing with a different subject or issue each week
- 9.00pm Break for coffee or tea
- 9.10pm Discussion of issues raised by the video talk
- 9.30pm Finish

Subjects include: Who is Jesus? Why did He die? How can I be sure of my faith? Who is the Holy Trinity?

Nicky Gumbel, a barrister by profession, before becoming a Church of England Minister, presents the video each week in a superb way. Professional, humorous, full of life and tremendously interesting.
