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# The Tuddenham Tattler

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Issue No 65

June 1999

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## BARN OF A DANCE

Come along and join in the fun, tap your toes and take a twirl with music from "Downham Reach."

There will be a buffet supper to keep up your energy levels and a bar for drinks throughout the night.

Even if your dancing shoes are hung up and collecting dust these days come along and enjoy the company and enjoy watching everyone else getting their feet in knots.

All proceeds from the evening are going to "Romanian Child Action" and will be used to buy outdoor play equipment for the orphanages. Toys they are buying, such as the large climb-on train, give great fun and help to develop imaginative play and co-operation. This will make a big difference in the children's life and help them to develop their full potential.

Barbara Butler and her team are off to Romania later this Summer so do come and let's stoke up the train and send it on it's way.

Tickets at £5, including supper, are on sale from The Fountain,

Monica Pipe on 785272,  
Pat Tanner on 785007.

**SEE YOU THERE!  
THE T.A.D.P.O.L.E.s.**



### BARN DANCE

Poplar Farm

Saturday, 19th June

7.30pm.

### BARN DANCE



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## WELCOMES GALORE

First to Joyce Lovick who recently moved from Ipswich to Fynn Lane achieving her hope of returning to the country. She is treasurer for the Rheumatoid Arthritis Group at Ipswich Hospital who meet every Thursday evening. The 2,000 members can enjoy the facilities there. She is keen on gardening, reading and, particularly, watching wild birds.

Chris Willis of Church Hill Cottages has come to Tuddenham from Aldershot in Hampshire in order to join the Fire Service. He is keen on football, fishing and cycling. In September he is taking part in a sponsored cycle ride across Australia in aid of U.N.I.C.E.F. and the Fire Service Benevolent Fund. He has already cycled in India so now we know where to go for cycling advice!

Ann Spence has moved into The Street. She is a very busy Primary School teacher.

Danni and Jayne have moved next door to Thicknesse Cottage with their three cats and two rabbits. They are sports enthusiasts with Danni for Hockey and Jayne in the Ipswich Town Ladies Football Club. They enjoy art when they manage to find some spare time.

Jacquetta Sergeant is a graphic designer who first found the village when test driving a Toyota. She moved here from Blaxhall and loves horseriding, travelling and art exhibitions. She is keen to join in village activities.....

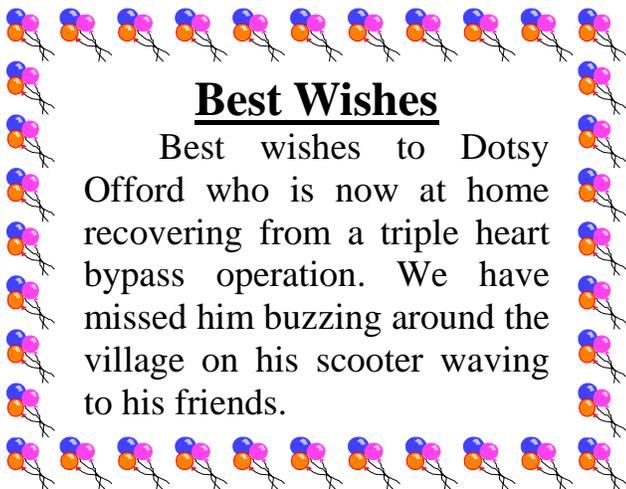
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785314 WITH COPY.**



### Best Wishes

Best wishes to Dotsy Offord who is now at home recovering from a triple heart bypass operation. We have missed him buzzing around the village on his scooter waving to his friends.

## THANK YOU

A big THANKS to Rene and Jim Burnham who found a pair of spectacles on Westerfield Lane and brought them to me to ask that the find be reported in this issue. No need to, however, as they are mine! I dropped them on one of my "Roving Rounds!!"

## TUDDENHAM CHURCH FETE

Many thanks to all those who worked so hard and those who came to support the fete. The grand total was

**£1260.44**

to be divided between the four local charities:

Children's Hospice

St. Elizabeth's Hospice

Suffolk Historic

Churches' Trust

Families in Need.

*Gill Cruikshank.*

## GRIME'S GRAVES

Have you been? Take a picnic and enjoy a day out. Sunny days would be best. Then climb down the ladder into the past. This is a Prehistoric flint mine, over 4000 years old. The display above ground tells the story. Below is our Raving Reporter at the site just



before she got a year older!

Free entry for a 11 members of English Heritage.

Special Correspondent writes....

Malcolm Bullpit addressed a meeting of local residents at Bromeswell Village Hall on 7th June. He reviewed plans to develop a new estate of 1500 houses at Rendlesham with special reference to roads and traffic.

Using data supplied by Suffolk County Council and the developers themselves, he predicted that daily traffic through Melton would increase from 10,800 to 24,000 vehicles and in Eyke from 3,500 to 14,000 vehicles per day. He commented that the roads barely sustain the present volume of traffic and are quite inadequate for the predicted increase. What is more, he warned that a substantial portion of the traffic would be heavy goods vehicles which might weigh 30-40 tons or more and the construction of existing roads is not strong enough to take them.

Our correspondent remarks that excess traffic would certainly overflow through all the minor roads and villages between Woodbridge and Ipswich AS WE ALREADY KNOW TO OUR COST.

Despite frequent enquiries Mr. Bullpit has been unable to obtain detailed information from Suffolk Coastal District Council. Records of the Council meetings contained only the briefest of mentions. Such measures as had been proposed, for example a roundabout at Melton crossing, were totally inadequate. Suffolk Coastal had also departed from normal planning criteria in siting the new development at Rendlesham, far from any major road. Several organisations, such as Suffolk County Council and the Rail Safety Commission, have already expressed their concern about the lack of information and the slipshod planning.

Malcolm Bullpit was born in Kent and was employed for 35 years by Kent County Council as a traffic and highways engineer. He is now a partner in the international firm of Traffic Consultants, TMS.

Andrew Gunn.

Tel:785339.

Well, Tuddenham St. Martin may not be famous, but it is certainly well known for its sales! A queue had formed three quarters of an hour before “opening time” and once selling began the hall was packed. And no wonder! The quantity and variety of goods was amazing. On the bric-a-brac stall alone you could have equipped a whole kitchen, including even a wok and ironing board - plus garden furniture and wine glasses.

As always there were amusing moments. The lady who, having negotiated the purchase of a fireguard, remembered she had come on the bus - the negotiation was cancelled! Then, at the very end of the afternoon, there was the little girl, to whom I offered jewellery for 1p. She took a 2p piece from her purse and said, solemnly, “You can keep the change!”

The generosity of the village exceeded expectations and The Tattler Team will want to thank all who made the sale possible as well as give some relief to the refugees from

## A VILLAGE NEWCOMER LEARNS THE ROPES.... or THE VILLAGE SALE.

Nobody warned me when I moved to Tuddenham from Ipswich in 1998 that this village had an experienced \*M. D.R.O. who persuades other villagers to help in village events and who shows the determination and tenacity of a ferret in every task she undertakes.

In April this lady asked me to be an extra pair of hands, helping on the stalls on 8th May. I thought this sounded simple. I thought it sounded uncomplicated. I agreed. I was new and green.

*Ed: Haven't we all been there??*

Sat. 8th May- 11.00am, finds me walking from my cottage in The Street up to the Village Hall with a lawn mower in my arms. It gets heavier and more awkward with each step. Frantic preparations are underway in the hall, where it looks as if someone has donated the whole contents of their home, office and garden - duvets, a desk, plants, is that really a pair of skis??

The M.D.R.O. is very much in charge... I realise that I am watching a seasoned campaigner, a maestro at work! So I keep a low profile and make a speedy exit.

1.45pm. I return to the hall. The M.D.R.O. has difficulty as she offers my services to the first two stall holders - they sense a novice! Eventually I am



**WANTED**

**Person to help** with housework 3 hours per week. Days/times to be agreed. References required, Westerfield Lane, Tuddenham. 785819.

**Good home wanted** for about 20 pond fish, some gold, some black and some spotted with pretty colours. Arthur Jackson,

put in charge of jumble and clothes. A Londoner by birth, I am experienced in queues; I've queued in world renowned queues such as Last Night of the Proms, but I never realised that it is quite intimidating being on "the inside." Every donated handbag has been taken by a stallholder, I notice - they wear them like necklaces to hold the change. I wish I'd thought of that! Last minute preparations make the bric a brac look highly organised - we feel jealous. I realise that having any sort of system on jumble is going to prove difficult. The "customers" are growing restless.

Did I really mean to agree to do this?

As the doors open we realise that we have not agreed on any prices. A moment of confusion as we decide upon 20p per item. Too much? Too little? Who can tell?

What size is that jacket?

Who would like to buy these lovely skis?

Is this a 16?

No, not that one, the one next to it!

What is this?

Can you find the belt for this?

How much for these three?

Have you got anything size 18?

Despite the huge tide of people swirling and swaying before us my colleague is conscientiously trying to unite a pyjama top with its bottom. Such human optimism gets my full admiration! Bric a brac announce huge reductions! Someone brings me a cup of tea - where is safe to place it until I can drink? I am enjoying the pleasure of seeing people delighted with their bargains.

All children's and baby clothes 10p!

We don't want to hear any size 12!

Can you put this in my pile?

Is this an 18?

This is worth it it is Marks & Spencers!

I'll give you 5p for this.

I'm trying to drink my tea and give change simultaneously. The M. D.R.O. is trying to sell two glass fruit bowls by approaching people individually!

A man I don't know is still trying to sell the skis.

"I think this is the pyjama bottoms. Now where is the jacket?"

4.30pm. It is all over. Peace returns. The M.D.R.O. is now trying to sell the two glass bowls to me.

I learn that everything left unsold is to go to The Red Cross. It must be packed into boxes. Harder than the selling, I now face the real challenge of the day - how to pack 87 unruly hangers (assorted sizes) into a "too small" box.

5.00pm. I am home - head spinning but aware I had a lot of fun.

For prevention of future libel charges I am unable to identify the M.D.R.O.....

*Diane Allsopp.*

\*M.D.R.O. = Managing Director and Relentless Organiser. *Sounds like a*

**Happy birthday to Anna and David Robinette and the Parry lads, Thomas and William!**

## The Church Fete

All week people have been saying “Hope the weather is good for Saturday!” I even overheard a bus conversation on the subject. The organisers of the annual Church Fete must have been keeping their fingers crossed but as someone said on the morning of the fete, “Well, we always enjoy it. Everyone will go prepared with brollies and macs just in case.” And so it was. A lovely but chilly, sunny opening followed by short, sharp showers set the pattern for the afternoon.

We met Dotsy on The Hill twelve days after his operation, making his way to Poplar Farm. Some people were already coming back armed with “early bird” goodies - cakes, plants, and bargain bric a brac. We did the rounds and spent much time on Fiona’s plant guessing competition. I hung around the crockery stall admiring the green octagonal jar which I knew I shouldn’t even consider, remembering the words “We’ve got enough stuff at home” but ,of course, I weakened.

I wandered over to the Goofy Goalie competition manned by the Jennings Family where Ralph was in conversation with Paul and decided I would like a go. The boys looked as though I’d made the most ridiculous suggestion they had even heard. But imagine the change when I kicked the ball straight through on the first attempt. I behaved in the manner which I despise when people jump up and down in the air waving their arms, making a fist and shouting **YES!**



Of course I just had to have more goes but it was obviously a fluke. However I put the tin I won inside the octagonal jar and headed off.

A young man who has recently left the village to live in Ipswich said “Hello” and told us he was interested in a cottage that was for sale hoping to return to the village. “It is really great here. People are so friendly and look how everyone is making the most of this afternoon.” And it is true. This is not the official report on the fete but just our reactions to yet another typical English Experience. I felt the scene of hot tea being trayed to damp, chilly stall holders, children rolling on the grass, voices urging customers to last

chance bargains, Shirley Bassey’s voice vibrating through the air in the lovely setting of Poplar Farm’s garden - it could have been featured in many English films and has been repeated in many villages.

We are glad we went and appreciate all the hard work that resulted in such a success. The charities to whom the money is to go will welcome their efforts.

Long live the Church Fete!

*R.R. and R.*

**Birthday Greetings to Lorna Williamson,  
Claire Compton and Kirsty Ellinor.**

## WHO IS THIS?

Born Ipswich,  
Went to school at Copleston,  
first Job as a book keeper at a motor spares company.  
Already knew her future husband through a mutual friend.  
A casual encounter in Cox Lane Car Park as she was taking her dog for a walk,  
when he offered her a lift home, had led to the marriage path.  
Invited to Tuddenham to meet parents after a year's "courtship."

Hero: Simon Weston.

Favourite Food: good old Yorkshire pud with roast beef.

Favourite Film: The King and I.

Favourite Companion for a day: (apart from her husband) Sir Cliff Richard.

Favourite Holiday: A tour of the West Coast of Scotland.

Favourite Music: Country and Western, 60s and 70s music.

Most vivid Memory: The look on her mother's face when she left home for the last time.

Dislikes: Do gooders who always seem to support the offender against the victims.

Admires: Those people who overcome what appears to be an insuperable physical handicap.

Ambition: To learn more about country wildlife.

Who would you like to be if you had to change? Jo Brand.

She takes a keen interest in the whole village and is a mine of information.....

Answer on back page....



Ed Nicholls is the proud owner of the Gemini Ghost Tours which is now in its second year.

They run every 1st Thursday in the month. Group bookings available for Colchester or Ipswich for groups of 6 or more for any night. Try a spooky sensation for just £3.50. T e l :

## A Millennium Window for Tuddenham

Tuddenham is on the brink of commissioning an important work of contemporary art for the Millennium. Even those who know the Church will probably not be aware that there is an archway between the ringing chamber and the nave. It is not obvious because the "hole" was filled up with painted cardboard about thirty years ago.

The late Rev. Keightley (after whom Keightley Way is named) was vicar of the parish for 45 years up to 19?? He had one daughter, Rosemary, who died in 1995. She made a bequest to the Church which was to be spent, not invested. Her will suggested that there could be a new window so part of this money had been set aside for that purpose.

Each generation, over the 900 odd years of Church history, has used the best contemporary art and craftsmanship. This is evident in the splendid Norman doorway on the South side, fine carvings of Medieval, Victorian and Edwardian timberwork and glass work of similar periods. It is most unusual for a major work of art to be commissioned by a small Parish Church. The larger town Churches and Cathedrals are usually the showpiece for these works.

It is a great delight for the Parochial Church Council to be able to fund a work for Tuddenham. Two well known artists were selected from a short list drawn up by the Diocesan Art Adviser (an art critic and specialist in his field) and both artists were given a sum of money to design and price the project. Their work was presented to the Church on 15th May and since then several other villagers have inspected the designs. The two schemes both embody the themes of the set brief: the ascended Christ, service in the world and very cleverly include references to St. Martin, the patron saint of the Church and the village. However, the way these are presented is completely different. Both artists have used the glass in a different way with challenging and startlingly attractive designs. Whichever one is finally agreed, we are assured of an important statement of contemporary art so appropriate for the celebration of 2000 years since the birth of Christ.

## KOSOVO

Our thanks to all who helped in raising just under £800 at the Village Sale. It was nearly £300 more than we have ever raised before - even the M.D.R.O. was impressed!

So..... we are delighted to announce that we have donated £250 to Kosovo via The Tear Fund and have reserved some of the rest for the Tattler Millennium Project. Of this more on the next page.....

## CONDOLENCES

Our best wishes to Joan and Caroline Stark on the passing away of Tom. He was well known in military circles having joined the Scot's Guards at the outbreak of war where he saw action at El Alamein, Salerno and Monte Casino. After four years in the Scottish Police Force he joined in the Martlesham Heath Squash Club Venture. Much of his spare time was spent in working for S.S.A.F.A. and the British

## BADGERS

As soon as I heard about this W. I. talk I rang up a W.I. friend to ask if she would take me as her guest.

Mrs. Grimwade, the excellent speaker, had looked around for a new interest when her children no longer needed her full attention and joined the "Wildlife Trust". She soon became fascinated with what she learned about badgers as we all were by the end of the evening.

Did you know there are many different kinds of badgers? Did you know that one of the ways of recognising a badger's hole is by the shape of the entrance which is like its head. There is so much to learn about these nocturnal creatures.

I have never seen one but my elder son came across one scrapping through his refuse bin early one evening and often sees them in the car headlights.

At the moment, in Devon, there is a proposal to cull them based on a theory that badgers pass on T.B. to cattle. Mrs. Grimwade told us that there are many theories but as yet none has been proved.

Wind in the Willows was a great favourite of mine. All the creatures endeared themselves to me, especially loveable old Badger.

I hope Mrs. G will visit again, sharing with us, her mine of wildlife information.

*Raving "Guest" Reporter.*

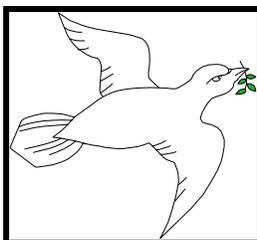
## Tattler Millennium Project

I am sorry not to have published the wonderful photos of the proposed Church windows in the same issue as the announcement on page 8 from the Parochial Church Council but they will hopefully be available for the next issue. The Tuddenham Tattler is delighted, to be able to tell a little of the Tattler plans for commemorating the Millennium in Tuddenham.

The Tattler team have thought long and hard about what they should do for the Millennium and done much research. There is more to be done before we can come up with concrete plans but at the moment we can say that it is our hope to present Tuddenham with a statue which we trust will embrace the feelings of hope, peace and love which we all hold for the future. It was wonderful to find that the Church were also planning a piece of art for the village. With so much cruelty and pain in the world it seems right that the village should look outwards in its giving to charity, as well as inwards, in its attention to the beauty of our village.

Over the last two weeks, and for the next two weeks, there is a sculpture exhibition in Bergh Apton, a small village near Norwich. It is held in the gardens of the village and has inspired the village to buy several pieces. How wonderful that Tuddenham should also have this artistic blossoming in times of worldly troubles.

So The Tattler will keep you informed as their plans solidify. You may like to contact Jo Kelm, in Fynn Lane to hear more of what her Millennium Meeting has brought forth.



Thank you to all contributors in this issue and most especially to Di who typed the last three pages as well as volunteering to be our new Parish Clerk. We wish her well in the new job.

***Next Tattler is out in July.***  
*Please put any copy, adverts etc. through my door - Pear Tree Cottage - or ring 785314 to get into print.*

