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# The Tuddenham Tattler

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Issue No 72

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## TUDDENHAM DUO TAKE ON MARATHON CHALLENGE

Local residents, John Kerry and Mike Trotman, are both busy training for the 2000 Flora Marathon. The race takes place on Sunday 16th April.

John is running for the British Heart Foundation and hopes to raise £1500, whilst Mike, as part of the official Leukaemia Research Fund/TV Times team, is hoping to raise £4000.

John and Mike agree that this will not only be a major personal achievement but also a great way of helping people who are not so fortunate to be able to even consider running the Flora London Marathon.

If anyone is willing to lend their support by sponsoring either John or Mike and helping the British Heart Foundation or Leukaemia Research, I am sure they would love to hear from you.

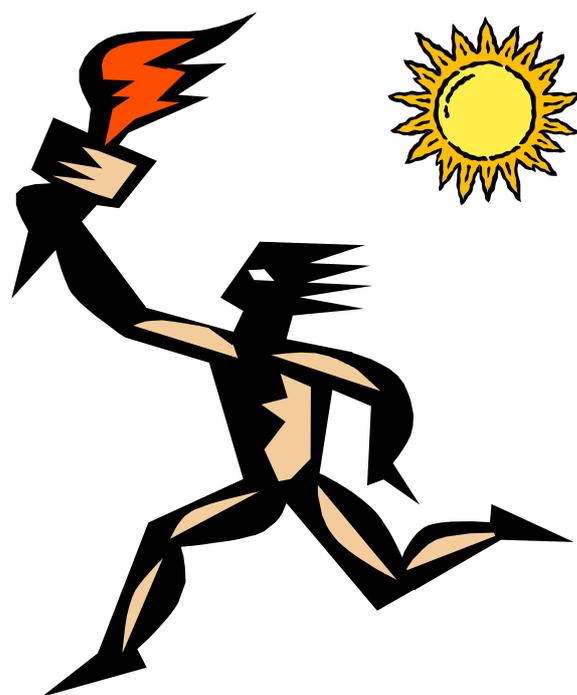
For more information please contact

**John on 785338 or  
Mike on 785196.**

*Mike wrote the article above between his running sessions. Have you seen him out and about? He is the one with sweat pouring down his face and hardly any hair – is this a ruse to increase his slip streaming??! The Tattler wish John and Mike well and look forward to hearing how they fared.*

**Next Tattler is out  
in April.**

*Please put any copy, adverts etc. through my door - Pear Tree Cottage - or ring 785314 to get into print.*



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**Thanks for news and the copy,  
Sorry for mistakes on the way.  
Enjoy Spring in Tuddenham  
And a happy April Fools' Day.**

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## SOME THOUGHTS AT REHEARSAL

## Living With Dotty

What a strange form of drama is the English Pantomime. I am told it occurs nowhere else in the world so that Katy Lopez's French friend, who attended the later rehearsals as well as two performances, must have been truly baffled. I suppose that one advantage of using a man for the part of dame, is that she may be permitted a degree of vulgarity which would be unseemly from a woman.

I am conscious of another benefit in being male – no one is likely to ask me to take on the job of wardrobe mistress. How on earth did Fiona do it? Not only did she make my Dotty outfit but she also provided me with a total of eleven different items to wear, some of which I would be unwilling to mention in the pages of this respectable journal. When you think of the number she had to kit out the task must have been monumental.

I wonder about pantomime princesses. They seem to spend most of their time in the company of the likes of Dame Dotty, Baldrick and Jolly. What sort of a start in life is that for them? You might think they would grow up into ill-mannered tearaways. But not a bit of it. They all manage to develop into graceful, kind and demure princesses.

Rehearsals are, of course, great fun and everyone joins in with the songs. Indeed, one of the pictures I shall retain in my mind is that of the men readily joining in the singing of "Me and my Teddy Bear" which only goes to show what a sentimental lot we are.



*Arthur Jackson.*

The pantomime is good. It is the first one I go to. My Father would not dress as a woman. I think it is funny that Squirt the Squire got squirted when people say his name. I like Gumboil because he sings a funny song in a funny voice. The ghost is very good on the fireplace but my best bit is the songs. Next time I will try go on the stage. The children are very good. I hope you like my wobble board that I paint with Katy and the cake.

*Thank you to Justine, Katy's French exchange student.*

Living with Dotty for two months has been an interesting experience, made easier for me by joining in the chorus. I have not enjoyed myself so much for years. Rehearsals were great fun – dashing on and off stage – sometimes a witch, then a courtier, then standing in for others. At one rehearsal there were two Squirt the Squires on stage!

Then it is make up time – seeing my husband made up as a woman was scary – Barbara is almost too good at make up!

A week before the first performance I wondered if we would be ready but I think we were – and I certainly hope to join in the panto next year.

*Ed: The sight of Dymphna leaning against the wall, dressed as a witch, laughing as her cross dressing husband as he pouted his way through "Who wants a fairy?" was a vision of Tuddenham magic for me. As ever, Monica brings a wayward group together for a special performance on the night. Though we all see it, we never find out how she does it! Who could resist coming*

## What's On

**25th March:** *Buggy Races from 10-3.00pm with Cassius designer from "Robot Wars" on TV. Make up your own team and join in the fun!*

**Until 1st April:** *"Out of this world" at Ipswich Museum. See a space lab, real meteorites and look at moon samples.*

**12th April:** *UFOs in Suffolk – unidentified flowering objects in Ipswich Museum. Phone 433550.*

**4th April :** *Easter Season Concert at Old School, Hadleigh. Also on 16th April. Beethoven, Copeland, Joplin and Scriabin for £7.50 with £5 for a supper. Phone 822596 or email on Thomas McIntosh@minstrelmusic.demon.co.uk*

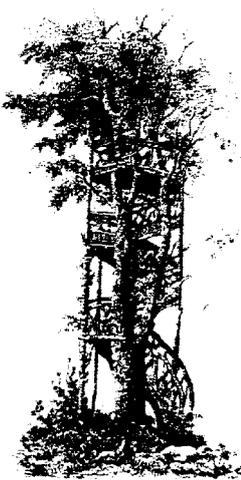
**18th April:** *Hats and Jewellery from around the world in Ipswich Museum. Runs till 10th June.*

**22nd April:** *Buskers' Night on Easter Saturday. Phone 01359 240724 for details.*

**20-21st May:**

*Weird and Wonderful Wood. At Thornham Campsite near Eye, this will cost £3.50. They already have many fascinating participants but would be interested to hear of anything*

*different that might compliment the event. Phone for details of if you want a stall. 01359240724. Tell*



## Subway

Did you know we have a "group" in Tuddenham? It consists of James Williamson, James Kerry and three friends. The idea of it was tossed about in year three at Northgate but nothing much was done about it till the boys were older and had competed in the sixth form talent show. When I asked James what kind of music they played he said ,

"Well, older, softer, rock style *Johnny be Good* stuff, (whatever that is), *Foxy Lady*, *Jimmy Hendrix* type of thing."

However, James stressed that they have their own interpretation of all the music they play. They have already done a gig at the Steamboat Tavern and have other events in the pipeline. One was mentioned at the pantomime though with Carrabosse killed that might not happen!

Mother, Leigh, plays the piano, and Dad, Colin, "dabbles" in classic guitar, so it is not surprising James is music orientated. For further details, or to book, phone James on

## Fang But Not Forgotten

785600.

To all the villagers of Tuddenham who used to detest that horny, spraying, scraggy white cat, we would just like to say that he has passed on to the "Happy Hunting Ground." If any white cat should appear, and get up to mischief, (David Lugo – the chicken feed – we will keep this as our secret, if you can) it does not belong to us! Fang is gone but not forgotten – at least the dogs that are walking past Granary Cottage won't get hissed and spat at any



## W.I. NEWS

Our Millennium Survey and Exhibition is now completed and as I wrote last October, will be on display at BT Martlesham on 18th March. Unfortunately viewing is by ticket only, and very limited numbers, but we will certainly be bringing Tuddenham's display back and hopefully we will be able to show the W.I.'s efforts to all who are interested.

One such date will be  
**Saturday 8th April**  
 when we are holding a  
**Soup and Sweet lunch**  
 at  
**Tuddenham Village Hall.**  
**12.00 for 12.30.**

Guest speaker will be an officer from R. A.F. Search and Rescue, Wattisham. Tickets will cost £4 and can be obtained from Jackie Lugo on phone 252315 or any W.I. Member. We do hope to see lots of you there on 8th April.

## Westerfield Scout Group

Our first fund raising event of the new Millennium is a mini market to be held on Saturday morning, 25th March, 10-12, noon, in the Parish Hall at Westerfield. There will be cakes, plants, garden produce, tombola, etc. also refreshments.

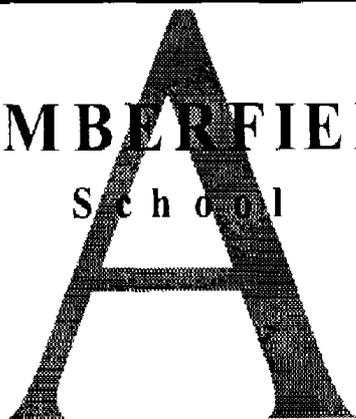
The Summer Fete is being held in The Paddock behind the Parish Hall on Saturday, 10th June, from 2.00pm onwards. Come along and have a fun filled afternoon.

During the Autumn we are hoping to have a jumble sale and a Christmas bazaar.

Our Annual General Meeting is in May. Do come along and hear all about what the Scout Group has done during the year. If anyone feels they have time to spare and would like to become a committee you would be most welcome. Telephone our Chairman, Mr. Alan Scruby, on 221153. Details of date and venue in later issue.

*Rae Bysouth, 1st Westerfield Scout Executive Committee Secretary.*

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## WELCOME

Welcome to John and Corinna Goodall who have just moved into 20, Keightley Way, where Violet Offord used to live. They have moved here from Ireland where John was doing military service. He is interested in racing cars and rallies but Corinna says she has no time to have any other interests other than looking after the two boys, Kyle aged three, Jordan aged one and Jade who is only a few weeks old. They are delighted to be here in Tuddenham particularly as their house backs directly on the children's playground, which the boys have already enjoyed. They hope to get to know people and "join in" whenever they can. Corinna is going to the Toddlers' group as soon as she is able.

A very belated welcome to Julie and Pete Mumford, again in Keightley Way. Julie turned out to be an old pupil of mine so we enjoyed a little reminiscing. She, too, is a potential new member for the Toddler group with Joshua aged 2½ and Thomas aged 10 weeks. Julie used to work in the retail fashion business. Pete is a research Officer in Training Enterprises. In his spare time he enjoys football but he supports Everton.

And more welcome to Lucy and Daniel who moved into 10, The Street last November. They were glad to be in the country again. Daniel was brought up in Stutton.

Lucy works for Eastern Energy and Daniel is in Insurance. He was originally in the motor trade so if anyone needs advice on cars he's your man. He very much enjoys reading in his spare time. Like several others in the village he is an avid Ipswich Town football fan. They both hope to join in village activities now that they have settled in.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL THOSE WHO I SHOULD HAVE REMEMBERED! I WISH SOMEONE WOULD OFFER TO GET US A NEW LIST!!**

## Town Lectures

This series of lunchtime lectures in the first year of the Millennium under the Ipswich Arts Association was mentioned in the last issue of Tattler. I attended the talk about waterways of Ipswich with Diana of The Street and thus, we recommend the next one!

**13th Apr.** Origins and development of Ipswich *by Keith Wade at Ips. Library Lecture Hall.*

**11th May** Parks of Ipswich, *by Steve Hunt at Ips. Library Lecture Hall.*

**8th Jun.** Wheels of Ipswich *by Brian Dyes at Ips. Regent Theatre, first floor lounge.*

There are more events in September, October, November and December which we will mention in future issues.

These lectures run from 1.00-1.50 with drinks available beforehand. You are welcome to take lunch in to the lectures.

If you want to join a Tattler rep at the talks give us a ring on **785314** for a lift in to Ipswich.

## Recommended

When we put an advert in the Tattler we usually find that those readers who try the services are well pleased as with the chimney sweep, for example. Here is another one which Pear Tree People thoroughly recommend and will be using again in the near future.

This is a one man, owner business providing a skilled service. He will give advice and sometimes say, "Sorry. It cannot be done." He can adjust school uniforms which sometimes parents buy to last, then return them to the original state as the child grows.

 Shortening, lengthening and taking in for adults is a large part of his business. He has worked on a dinner suit for Ralph and trousers for me.

Never again will I reject a garment which isn't "quite right" because I know that a visit to 10, Tacket Street will remedy the problem. If you are unsure where to go ring me.

Ed: Imagine asking HER the



Dear Editor,

I was walking the bridleway from Tuddenham to Witnesham and was horrified at the amount of dog fouling. I would like dog owners to be reminded that by law they should

### **CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR DOGS .**

Two days after I saw this dog foul there were two very young children being taken for a walk along the bridleway. Next day I met the same people who said they were disgusted at the amount of dog fouling and had never seen the bridleway thus. In fact before taking the children indoors their shoes had to be scrubbed and one of the adults had got muck on the bottom of her trousers. I dread to think how horrible it would be if very young children were playing and running on the bridleway or, indeed, on the grass beside the bridleway, and fell over, face down, in this muck.

I would like to point out that the official bridleway width is 8 feet so dogs should not be running on the grass at all as they are committing an act of trespass. I do know the dogs and owners in question, and if this does not stop, it means that further action will have to be taken. I do think that young children have a right to enjoy this country walk without constantly being told to "mind the poo."

Since the New Year I have only seen one person using this bridleway clean up after her dog, a lady from Keightley Way. Many thanks to her, perhaps others will now do the same.

Please remember this land is in private ownership and is not a park. You should remember the following points

- ⇒ Clean up after your dog
- ⇒ If you do not your property could be returned...
- ⇒ Keep your dog under control as the bridleway is only 8 feet wide
- ⇒ If you cannot control your dog, keep it on a lead
- ⇒ You don't like fouling in your garden which is why you let them do it on our land. We don't like it either!



*Derek and Janet Welham.*

# Delightful Dress Rehearsal

Because we were totally unable to attend the performances on any night at all this year I asked for special dispensation from the producer to attend the Tuesday Dress Rehearsal. Well, it didn't appear to be a dress rehearsal at all. It was a great performance. Every member of the cast had their heart and soul in it from beginning to end. I felt that no official show could beat that.

Among the invited audience was a little girl whose clear voice pierced the air with "I know where they are. They are behind the curtains." She was very taken by the Jester's bells and stood up, perhaps in the hope of touching them, every time he appeared. (!) I later suggested to her mother that she could hire her out as a professional member of the audience.

No doubt Mr. Music Man will have his own personal memories of that night as when Squirt was bringing on the swords, as one got caught in a sensitive area of his doublet.

The costumes, stage settings, music, props, lighting and make up were all excellent as always. Someone who has seen every pantomime, all 14, frequently says how amazing that such a small village could produce such a wide variety of talent every year.

I am not singling out any particular member of the cast as they were great. A panto happens through good teamwork and Monica's harnessing of her team, yet again, resulted in a TADPOLE success.

*Resting Reporter.*



## MISTLEY

The River Stour meets 18th century architecture in a model port, town and salt water spa at Mistley. At least that is what Richard Rigby planned with Robert Adam. You can still see the Swan Fountain, Pavilion, Hopping Bridge, Mistley Towers and Georgian houses, as well reading about the proud ship building history of this port. (Did you know that Nelson's flag ship came from here?) If you fancy exploring this delightful spot you can go via Manningtree on the train from Ipswich. Enjoy the walk along the riverside and perhaps have tea and cake or lunch at the Gallery Tea Shop near the Swan Fountain. Maureen and Geoff will welcome you with home made fare in their quaint riverside room above the Mistley Quay craft workshops. Try the soup with pasta bake and stem ginger sponge to follow! Phone 01206 393884 to book a table.



Then investigate craft workshops which offer woodwork, table and ovenware, tiles, paintings and musical instruments. Apparently Matthew Hopkins, the Witch Finder General in 1645 started his grisly career in Mistley with 20 shillings reward for ridding the area of witches. He hanged 28 women in his first batch at Mistley before going on to hang a total of 194 in three years.

Yes, Mistley offers plenty to do and see with great food if you fancy a day out. And I have not mentioned the shops.....

## GUESS WHO!

May I say, first of all, what a joy it is to be writing something for your august publication, which, I understand, is respected world wide, and I only regret it has taken me so long to come up with an article.

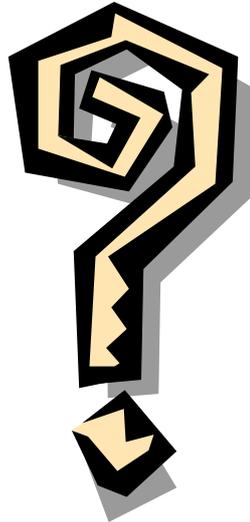
Well, what can I tell you about myself? I was born in London in 1957 which makes me fairly old, but nit quite at the bus pass eligibility stage. I have two brothers, one of whom works in computers and lives in Germany, the other being in the building trade and resident in Hastings. My Dad was an engineer, now retired, and my Mum was a social worker, so despite attempting to get interested in tubular scaffolding, my father's speciality, I suppose, eventually, I veered more towards my Mother's line of work. We lived in London till I was four then moved out to Kent where I had an idyllic rural upbringing, spoiled only by a couple of sadistic teachers and regular punch ups with my brothers.

As a child I never really had any hard and fast ambitions.... My Mum is one of these people who has always thought it is far better to be contented than to be constantly competing with others for something and putting your self under stress.

I went to school in Tunbridge which I enjoyed even though there were many "disgusteds" wandering about. I got some O levels and was planning to go to college when my Mum and Dad decided to move down to Hastings in Sussex. I didn't really want to go and suppose that gave me the excuse I needed to behave like your typical, repulsive teenager. I bunked off school, sneaked in and out of pubs, and generally gave my parents a hard time. This culminated in me leaving home at 17 and getting a job rather than following the

more conventional route planned for me.

I worked in the Civil Service as a house mother for Dr. Barnados, as a residential worker, a cleaner, and full time in a pub for a year before I decided to study psychology and train as a psychiatric nurse. This I did for four years at the Maudsley Hospital in South London and Brunel University in Uxbridge. When I qualified I got a job in a 24 hour psychiatric emergency clinic in Camberwell, South London, dealing with any crises that came our way.



All this time though, I had been nursing a secret ambition to be a comic. Just before my 30th birthday I finally plucked up courage (with the help of 7 pints of lager) and did a 5 minute performance at a charity show a friend had organised. It was

appalling. I was booed off stage and shouldn't really ever have done it again, but, because I was so drunk, I was much less humiliated than I should have been so decided to have another go at a later date. I booked in a couple of guest spots at London Comedy Clubs and then things began to improve enough for me to carry on with it. Eventually I began to get proper bookings and then was offered bits and pieces of TV, and so the old

comedy career seemed to have got going.

I now find myself in the very strange position of people being interested in what I think so I will risk boring you with few dull facts about myself.

- ⇒ My favourite food is roast potatoes not cakes. I know I'm responsible for the cake thing but I am haunted by cakes everywhere I turn.
- ⇒ On telly I like Eatenders and Question Time, my favourite book is Wuthering Heights and my favourite film is Godfather two. I like all types of music except Country & Western and Jazz.
- ⇒ Things I don't like are cruelty, bullying, Tories, hypocrites, snobs and Meltis Newberry Fruits.
- ⇒ I particularly admire people who stick to their political guns and don't change to please others or further their careers.
- ⇒ If I won the lottery I would divide the money between my family and charity but there's no chance of me winning because I don't do it!

People are always pestering me to talk about my private life, particularly my Husband, but that is my business. I know some people love having the intimate details of their relationships plastered all over Hello! But I am not one of them.

I've also been asked to say what advice I would give. I don't like to give advice really but I would just like to say to young people, "Aim as high as you can and if there is something you really want to do, at least have a go. You won't know if it's possible unless you do." You see I have slipped into sounding patronising already. Sorry!

Anyway that is enough old tosh from me. Good luck to you all and cheerio for now.

## GUESS WHO

*Remember David Lugo suggested we start this series a few issues ago? One of the questions asked was "Who would you like to be if you were not you?" The previous article was written by the person Janet Welham of Manor Farm named.*

*The Tattler appreciates her taking the time to write the article and thus, is glad to welcome her as our first celebrity "Guess Who." If you still need help in the answer, look on the back page!*

**Can anyone lend a high chair to me for the weekend of 16th April? Very careful use is promised as well as prompt return to the helpful owner.**



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