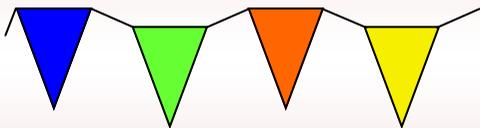


The Village Link

Great Thurlow – Little Thurlow – Great Wratting

September
2013

Thurlow Fayre
2013
September 1st



Car Boot at 10 am
Fayre at 12 pm

THE THURLOW HUNT



OPEN DAY & DOG SHOW

Wadgells Farm, Sowley Green, Great Thurlow, CB9 7JR

Sunday 15th September 2013

2.00pm onwards

FREE ENTRY

Terrier, Lurcher, Gun Dog & Family Dog Show

Meet the Hounds

Tractor Tour of the Thurlow Estate

Pony Rides

Fariery and Falconry Demonstrations

Fly Casting

Bouncy Castle

Teas and Homemade Produce for Sale

**Sign up now for the
Suffolk Historic Churches
Trust Cycle Ride**



**Saturday 14th September
9am-5pm**

**Great Wratting Annual
Village Clean
Saturday 7th September**



Please come and help!

Editorial co-ordinator	Alison Coffey	783478	Advertising Rates (per quarter page) Single advertisement - £10 Six months advertising - £40 Twelve months advertising - £65
Administrative co-ordinator	Kevin Crowson	783654	
Senior Reporters			Back Page Advertising Rates (per month) Full Page Colour - £50 Half Page Colour - £30 Quarter Page Colour - £20
Gt. Thurlow	Margaret Ince	783117	
Lt. Thurlow	Iris Eley	783534	
Junior Reporter	Sacha Davies		
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The Editor

Well the heatwave seems to have passed, The Ashes are won and it is nearly time to start thinking about sharpening pencils for the beginning of the new school year! But before term begins there is still plenty of fun to be had in what looks like a busy month for the villages with Thurlow Fayre, Great Wratting Village Annual Clean followed by the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust cycle ride and the Thurlow Hunt Kennels Open Day. Please do see if you can help with any of these events, contact details to be found on the relevant pages in The Link.

Good luck to all entering the different categories in the Thurlow Fayre Produce and Craft Show. A list of winners will appear in the October issue of The Link.

Alison — Editor

Contact

EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE VILLAGE LINK

To contact The Village Link Team please email

TheVillageLink@TheThurlows.org.uk

View The Village Link Online at **www.TheThurlows.org.uk**

Copy Deadline 15th Of Each Month

Website

Don't forget to check out the Thurlow website
Keep looking as the site is updated regularly
WWW.THETHURLOWS.ORG.UK

Bus Timetables

REVISED bus Services in Suffolk starting September 2013

Downloadable PDF timetables for these services can be found on the following website by clicking on the appropriate month at <http://www.suffolkonboard.com/timetables-and-leaflets/passenger-transport-service-changes> or by contacting us on 0845 606 6171. Please note that these pages are frequently being updated to include new timetables and service change summaries so we would advise that you check this page regularly. Roadside publicity is currently being updated and area bus timetable leaflets will be available throughout September.

Should you require any further timetable information or to discuss the changes please contact us on 0845 606 6171 or email Passenger.Transport@suffolk.gov.uk.

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Neither Great nor Little Thurlow Parish Council meets in August. The dates for the September meetings are as follows:

4th September: Joint Great and Little Thurlow Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 8pm

11th September: Great Thurlow Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 8pm

17th September: Little Thurlow Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall, 7.30pm

Molly Hawkins, Little Thurlow Parish Clerk

Update from Great Wratting Parish Council

The following is a brief summary of the meeting held on 25 July 2013. Minutes are available from the Parish Clerk.

Reports: Suffolk County Councillor, Mary Evans, attended the meeting and gave us an overview of her new role including her work on various committees/panels. The parish councillors provided Mary with details of local concerns regarding traffic speed through the village and the proposed upgrading of the bridge by the ford. District Councillor Robert Clifton Brown also attended the meeting and provided an update on housing development proposals in the Haverhill area. Robert advised the meeting that the new bus timetable for the area is now in place.

Finance: The annual audit pack has been completed and submitted to the external auditors.

Standing orders: The ordinary standing orders were reviewed and approved.

Planning: Proposals to develop the North West Haverhill relief road in stages raised concerns regarding potential increased traffic through the village. The parish council to provide comments to the planning department. It was noted that the proposal to build a house and garage on land next to Waterfields, on School Road, has been declined.

Other matters: Preparations for the annual village clean up on 7th September were discussed. Following last year's success, it is hoped that we get a good turn out again this year. Dog fouling continues to be a concern in the village – the 'Big Scoop 2013' posters are now in place to remind dog owners to clean up after their pets.

*Caroline Togher
Great Wratting Parish Council*

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Cycle Ride

Saturday 14th September 2013, 9am-5pm

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust (<http://www.shct.org.uk>) was founded in 1974 and makes grants to historic churches and chapels of all denominations towards repair and restoration costs. To date, the Trust has been able to award grants with a total of more than £3 million.

Cyclists of all denominations are again invited to seek sponsors who will undertake to pay an agreed sum of money for each place of worship visited by the cyclist on Saturday 14th September. The money raised by each participant is shared equally between the Trust and the place of worship nominated by the cyclist. It is estimated that 730 places of worship in Suffolk will be open on the day.

You can do as many or as few as you feel able to with refreshments generally being offered at each stop. It is a great way to appreciate the beauty of many fine buildings both within our benefice and beyond whilst burning off the excess pounds which may have crept on over the BBQ season!

Jean Newlands

Churches that will be open in our benefice include:

1. St Mary's, Great Wratting: If you are interested in cycling for St Mary's, Great Wratting then please contact the Local Organiser, Jean Newlands (01440 783111).
2. All Saints, Great Thurlow: The people manning the Church for the day in Great Thurlow can be sponsored as well as the cyclists! As with the cycle ride, half of the money raised from the sitters will go to the Trust and half of the money to All Saints. All sponsorship money to Margaret Ince (01440 7831170).
3. St Peter's, Little Thurlow: Anyone willing to help man the Church on the day contact Iris Eley (01440 783534).
4. All Saints, Barnardiston
5. St Peter and St Paul, Kedington
6. St Mary the Virgin, Great Bradley

Please check the individual church notice boards for contacts where not given.

Ed.

Great Wratting Annual Village Clean

Once a year we call on everyone in the village to give a little of their time to help with the village clean up - collecting rubbish from our roadsides, footpaths and verges.

This year's village clean takes place on Saturday 7th September. Everyone is welcome to come and join in with this community event. We will meet at the Red Lion car park at 11am. Rubbish bags, pickers and high-visibility wear will be provided.

We are including a treasure hunt this year to make this event more child-friendly. At the end of the clean up, we will return to the Red Lion for a well-earned drink.

Please come and help - the more the merrier!

Steve Robinson
Great Wratting Parish Council

Thurlow WI Report

Thurlow WI met on the 13th of August when the speaker was Trevor Burlingham. He came to take us on a walk through Thetford Forest, a place which one and a half million people visit every year. The forest, which was opened in 1921 and is Britain's Premier Forest, sees a thousand trees cut down every day. Nothing is wasted as the wood chips help to fire Thetford Power Station. After all this information Trevor showed us all the wildlife that thrives in the woods and spoke of the various events held there. Ann Tipper, who visits the forest regularly, thanked Trevor for his interesting account.

Our WI Advisor Sue Beaven, who was on a visit to us, explained the help with computers she was giving at Sturmer on the 29th of August. Other events planned by the Federation are Tea and Poetry at Lavenham on 16th of Oct, a walk through Great and Little Thurlow, which was a surprise to us, and the Great Food Debate at Whepstead on the 24th of Oct. Two members will visit Southwold and two will visit Chester joining members of the Suffolk West Federation.

Final preparations for the refreshment tent at the Thurlow Fayre were made. This month's draw winner was Ann Tipper. Next month it is members evening anything goes - on September 10th in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Iris Eley



September–October 2013 Church Services

		Date	Day	Time/Event	Time/Event	Time/Event	Time/Event
Monthly Church Service Rota	1st Sept	Sun	9:30 HC Kedington	11:00 HC Great Thurlow			
	8th Sept	Sun	9:30 HC Barnardiston	9:30 SotW Kedington	10:00 SotW Great Wrattling	11:00 HC Great Bradley	
	15th Sept	Sun	10:00 HC Little Wrattling				
	22nd Sept	Sun	8:00 HC Kedington	9:30 HC Little Bradley	11:00 HC Great Wrattling	18:00 ES Kedington	
	29th Sept	Sun	10:00 HC Little Thurlow				
	6th Oct	Sun	9:30 HC Kedington	11:00 HC Little Thurlow			
	13th Oct	Sun	9:30 HC Barnardiston	9:30 SotW Kedington	10:00 SotW Great Wrattling	11:00 HC Great Bradley	

Electric blanket testing campaign 2013

It's coming up to that time of year, the summer is fast escaping us and we'll be moving into the cooler autumn period. With this in mind Suffolk County Council's Fire and Rescue Service along with Trading Standards and AgeUK are bringing you this year's electric blanket testing campaign.

If you own an electric blanket we're offering the chance for you to come and have it tested free of charge. We'll have an expert present to check whether your blanket is in working order and safe for use. If your blanket fails the testing we won't return this to you, however you will be offered a FREE replacement.

Testing will be carried out at **Bury St Edmunds Fire Station** on Tuesday, 24 September. Telephone Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service on **01473 260588** to book your appointment.

Alternatively, you can drop off and then collect your electric blanket at **Haverhill Fire Station:**

Drop off Date – Monday 16th September between 13:00-15:00

Collection Date – Monday 7th October between 13:00-15:00

Please don't forget to bring the blanket's control switch with you, as this will need to be tested too.

For more information see www.suffolk.gov.uk/electric-blanket-testing-campaign-2013

Thurlow Fayre NEEDS YOUR HELP

Thurlow Fayre only takes place once a year and is only successful because of the voluntary help it receives from people living in and around the Thurlows. Can you help this year? We are just asking for an hour or two of your time to help man one of the stalls, help on the gate or maybe serve behind the bar. Contact Allan Loveday on 707416 to pledge your time and support.



Recipe of the Month

Scones

This is my grandmother's recipe for scones which never fails. Scones do go stale very quickly so are best eaten the same day, however they will freeze once baked.

Ingredients:

200 g self-raising flour
1/2 level teaspoon salt
50 g butter
25 g caster sugar
125 ml milk plus extra for dusting

Method:

Sift the flour and salt into a large mixing bowl and rub in the butter to resemble fine breadcrumbs. Add the sugar and mix well. Make a well in the centre of the bowl and add the milk all at once. Use a knife to mix to a soft but not sticky dough. Knead on a lightly floured board until smooth then roll out to about 1 cm thick and cut into rounds using a 4 –5 cm fluted cutter. Place on a buttered baking tray and brush the tops with milk. Bake towards the top of a hot oven (230°C) for 7 to 10 minutes until well risen and golden in colour. Cool on a wire rack. Serve with butter or clotted cream and jam. Makes 16 scones.

Variations:

For fruit scones add 50 g currants or sultanas when you add the sugar.
For lemon scones add 1 level teaspoon of finely grated lemon rind when you add the sugar (you can also use orange rind or 50 g chopped glacé cherries).
For cinnamon scones, sift 1 level teaspoon of cinnamon with the flour (you can also use mixed spice).

Ed.

Thurlow Fayre Produce & Craft Show Schedule 2013

Here are the categories for the Thurlow Fayre Produce & Craft Show 2013.

Home Produce

1. Jar of stoned fruit jam
2. Jar of soft fruit jam
3. Jar of lemon curd (new)
4. Jar of chutney
5. Jar of marmalade (new)
6. 3 fresh eggs
7. Short bread biscuits – Men Only (new)
8. Cherry cake – Ladies Only (new)
9. Cake – Any recipe (new)
10. Cottage Loaf (new)

Vegetables and Fruit

11. 4 Tomatoes
12. 2 Courgettes
13. 3 Peppers or Chillies (any variety or colour)
14. 3 Onions
15. 4 Potatoes
16. 4 Runner Beans
17. 3 Beetroot
18. Largest Garlic Bulb
19. Straightest Cucumber
20. Heaviest Marrow
21. The Longest Carrot
22. 3 Dessert Apples
23. 4 Plums
24. A basket of fruit & vegetables (min of 6 varieties)

Flowers

25. A hand tied arrangement of herbs (min of 3 varieties)
26. Vase of mixed Garden Flowers(min of 5 varieties)
27. 4 Roses (different varieties or colour)
28. Vase of mixed Dahlias
29. Biggest Sunflower Head

Home Brew

30. White bottle of wine
31. Red bottle of wine
32. Bottle of beer (bitter or lager)
33. Bottle of cider

All produce to be home-made or home-grown.

Handicraft/Art

34. Lavender filled bag or cushion decorated to your own design & size
35. Water colour painting—any subject but painted in the last 6 months
36. Decorated bookmark (any design)

Children's Section (see age categories) Children can enter all categories in the Produce Show!

37. Ginger Bread Man
38. Handwriting—Your own short story or rhyme, no more than 200 words. Please remember this is a handwriting competition.

Age categories;

- Age 7 or under.
- Aged 8 to 10 years.
- Aged 11 to 16 years.

For more information please contact Kevin Crowson (783654), Produce Show Co-ordinator.

Entries need to be brought to the Produce Show tent between 9:30am-11:00am on the morning of the Fayre.

Cost per entry, 50 pence.

Judging will take place between 11:00am-12:30pm, during which time the Produce tent will be closed to the public.

Viewing of the entries and awards between 12:30pm-4:00pm. Each winning entry will receive a 1st, 2nd or 3rd prize certificate.

At 4:00pm entries may be collected; any remaining will be sold for Fayre funds.

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Farm

As you might have seen over the past 10 months, the crops we planted have had a very difficult weather pattern in which to establish and then grow, the effects of which are now clear to be seen in our harvest yields, now that the combines are rolling.

Water logged plants, predation and a very cold Spring decimated a large percentage of our Winter Oil Seed Rape crop. That which survived was very late to mature, which means that, for the first time in many seasons, we are half-way through harvesting our wheat crop before we are half-way through our Oil Seed Rape crop. Those areas of Winter Oil Seed Rape that failed completely were mostly replanted with the much lighter yielding Spring Oil Seed Rape – which will not be harvested until early September. This will push the following crop establishment back and reduce the ability to control weeds – including Black grass – both of which will affect next years' yield.

Barley has now all been harvested, with yields slightly below average. Winter Wheat, so far, likewise. Therefore overall, harvest yields are below average - which was anticipated, but not welcome news. Having had two poor harvests in years 2011 and 2012, for which we think the principle reason is that the weather patterns in the past three years have made cropping difficult on this heavy clay soil, and with a third poor harvest in a row, we could do with some helpful weather over the next twelve months to establish and harvest a better crop.

Elsewhere in the world, weather conditions have been more favourable over the past twelve months, meaning world crop yields are good, which in turn depresses the world market price for grain and Oil Seed Rape. So for us, poor harvest yield and poor world market price is not good. There is not much that we can do about this and our team are working fantastically well to bring in the harvest as quickly and efficiently as possible and prepare the ground for the next crop. After trialling it last year, we are again using lorries to bring the Wheat back to the grain store, as it reduces, by half, the number of grain vehicle movements on the local roads. Combines, chasers, tractors and drills are all working simultaneously – with no substantial breakdowns fingers crossed for the next two months!

Shoot

The first few batches of pheasant poults have arrived safely and have been transferred into various release pens over the Estate. Ted and Dan are now on constant watch to ensure that the birds are fed and watered whilst also trying to ensure that no predators try and take advantage of a free meal!

One method of predator control that Ted has found successful is placing radios near the pen. The sound of human voices seems to deter the majority of predators. Ted has found that Radio 2 works the best, he started off playing Radio 3 but all the pheasants just fell asleep!

Hunt

Autumn Hunting is almost upon us again! The Huntsman and First Whip are extending the duration of the daily hounds exercise, averaging about 2.5 hours each day. This is to ensure that, come the start of the season, the hounds are in top physical condition. The Hounds are parading at the Quy Game Fair over the August Bank Holiday.

The Hunt Kennels are being prepared for the annual open day on Sunday 15th September which will give people an opportunity to see the Hounds up close. The day also includes a Terrier/Lurcher and family dog show with refreshments, a barbeque and a tractor/trailer trip around the surrounding fields. This is a fun day for all the family, and their dogs, with many different classes being judged. Please contact Kevin Needham for further information on 07802 236191.

Property

We have now completed the first of the major property refurbishments for this year and the remaining two projects, which you may have seen underway by the crossroads in Great Thurlow, will hopefully be completed in late September or early October. We are still making good progress with this year's external redecorations program which should be completed by the end of September, before the onset of winter.

We have several properties on the market to rent at the moment, all of which are in Great Thurlow, for information on any of them please contact the Estate Office on 01440 783661.

Woods

All of the timber that was felled as part of the thinnings program for this year has been forwarded out of the woods and is now making its way back to the Beef Units to be processed into firewood. Work on the coppicing compartments on the Estate will start shortly, this is where the main bulk of the timber for processing comes from.

We have now recommenced log deliveries so please call the Estate Office on 01440 783661 or email firewood@thurlowestate.co.uk to order your load of seasoned hard or soft wood. Even now the colder evenings are starting to draw in and our order book is now full a month ahead, so please do remember to book early.

Other

The Thurlow Hunt Ride is taking place on Saturday 28th September and The Thurlow Hunt has asked for participants and helpers. Any enquiries or entrants please contact the Thurlow Estate Office on 01440 783 661.



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MEMORIES OF RALPH SARGENT

Son of local builder Ebenezer James and Eliza Sargent, brother to Bob, Bert, Len, Fred, Dick and June. As recorded by his daughter in law Jane Sargent continued...

Christmas

As far back as I can remember there was a Hornby Train set and, as my brother Fred was the oldest, it was his present. There was also a little farm wagon and a Meccano set. I dabbled quite a bit with the Meccano set. When you made the models you had a little container that made steam. I think it contained methylated spirits and you would light that with a wick and that was enough to create steam. If you made too big a model it wouldn't work. I didn't ever have anything new, things were just handed on each Christmas. Every Christmas we used to have a Gammidges catalogue and we liked looking at the pictures.

At that time I used to do lots of errands, cleaning knives etc. I didn't get a lot of money, but with the money I got I used to be in a club. It was the club my mother introduced to me called the Goose Club, organised at the pub, The Red Lion, Little Thurlow Green and the landlady's name was Mills. She used to collect the coppers that we had over the year and you had a card that she would make any entry on. With the money I had I bought a bottle of whisky for my father and a bottle of ginger wine for my mother.

My grandparents were always there on Christmas Day and my grandmother used to prepare most of the food that was eaten. Practically every family during the year had a pig to fatten up for Christmas. I also had a hand in the pigs when they fattened them up. Harry Tillbrook – landlord of the Rose and Crown - was also a butcher by trade and he killed the pig. The pig would be on its back on a stretcher and I had to hold on to the back legs. I said I would never do it again and I didn't. I think I was about 11 or 12, at least strong enough to hold the back legs! It was done in the Autumn so everything could be prepared. The pig would be hung up and completely cut up ready for curing. To cure hams grandmother had a huge circular bath. Eventually they would be hung in the bake house and then be taken to Brookside where there were hung on hooks all around the main room just under the ceiling. I can remember almost every one of those hooks had a ham on it that my grandmother had cured - she was a dab hand at curing ham and I don't think anybody tasted better. My grandmother dealt with everything including all the puddings and pickles. She was a wonderful cook and had gained all her knowledge through being Head Cook at a big house outside Thurlow.

Father used to go out and do the shopping. He would buy Stilton cheese, not just a piece but the whole Stilton. We had a long table and father's friends came on Christmas Day – George Mills, a farmer and his wife and son Alec. I remember when my sister June was a baby and she had her photograph taken with tins of Nestles milk.

The preparation for Christmas dinner was supervised by grandma. The table was extended the full length of the room and mother's address to us was 'There you are get on with it, I don't won't anymore to do with it until the next day'.

We had all sorts of games, mostly card games as they were games everyone could join in with. There was also a gramophone and father would buy us records. Mary was also there – her parents came over to visits relations.

We used to have Christmas stockings. We hung them on the bedstead and pretended we didn't see mother coming up. I would find an orange and a few nuts, mostly hazelnuts. The presents were downstairs under the Christmas tree. Gloves were very popular, although I don't remember any of us wearing them and socks were given by aunts, uncles and friends.

To be continued...

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Nature Note

Summer got off to such a late start that it looked as though butterflies would have another terrible year. But nature is very resilient and there is now an effusion of them on the wing from late broods. We've been on the coast at Shingle St and the lavender bushes here (it's another 'Lavender Cottage'!) have been teeming with whites, tortoiseshells, peacocks and gatekeepers. This last is one of the 'browns', also known as the hedge brown. It has a bright orange patch on the upper wing and on the edge of that there is a black eye-spot with two white dots in each one (the 'pupils'). Gatekeepers are often found in the company of another of the browns, the meadow brown, but that is a much duskier butterfly overall and the eye-spot has only a single white pupil. The scientific names of these butterflies are very interesting in themselves and in fact not at all 'scientific'. Many of them are a mixture of linguistic misunderstandings and romantic derivations from figures in Greek mythology. For example, the gatekeeper is *Pyronia tithonus*: Tithonus was the Trojan youth beloved of Aurora (Dawn), who persuaded the gods to grant him eternal life but unfortunately forgot to ask for eternal youth as well ... ; and the generic name *Pyronia* looks like a mistake for *Pyropus* ('fiery-eyed') which might have been the next word in the Greek dictionary consulted. Similarly, the meadow brown has the scientific name *Maniola jurtina*, where *Maniola* seems to mean 'the little soul of the departed', perhaps a reference to the dusky murk of the nether regions; while *jurtina* looks like another mistake, maybe a typographical error for 'Juturna', the nymph of a fountain near Rome. No matter, the butterflies themselves are a glorious confusion of colours and movement so this all seems perfectly appropriate.

On a nearby heath I also enjoyed seeing one of Suffolk's rarer butterflies – the silver-studded blue, an exquisite little gem which in its male form has violet-blue upper wings with black borders and white fringes. The studding is on the underwing, which has marginal black spots with silver-blue centres. Again the scientific name *Plebejus argus* is a mythological reference to Argos of the hundred eyes. The first part of that name is sadly less appropriate now: *plebejus* means 'common' or 'vulgar' but this tiny butterfly is now threatened by habitat loss, as are so many other butterflies. Since 1900 Suffolk has effectively lost all of the following: swallowtail, purple emperor, large tortoiseshell, wood white, brown hairstreak, chalk hill and small blues, and a whole host of our beautiful fritillaries. Others, like the silver-studded blue and the grizzled skipper, are on the danger list.

These declines reflects a sad prophecy made in 1920 by the Suffolk lepidopterist, Claude Morely: 'I have no doubt that butterflies are dying out in this county. I do not mean that there will ever be no butterflies here, but that the ones you see will be merely the common kinds – the whites and browns and blues, the plebs of the highways and hedges.' Not plebeian enough, alas!

Jeremy Mynott
Lavender Cottage
15 August 2013

THE RECTOR WRITES – thank God for freedom!

Were I to mention the name of Blackadder, your first thoughts would probably be of Edmund Blackadder, the character played by Rowan Atkinson in the TV shows he wrote along with Ben Elton and Richard Curtis. Unless of course you're exceptionally well versed in Scottish history, in which case you might just know that he of whom I write is in fact John Blackadder. He was minister at Tragueer in Dumfries in the late seventeenth century, and one of around forty people imprisoned on the Bass Rock just off the Scottish coast. Known as 'Covenanters', these were Presbyterian men who opposed the preference of Charles II for a Roman Catholic style religion. It was a time of tyranny and of persecution, and many were either deported or executed. Bass Rock, an island with a long and interesting history, was by this time a state prison, and it was thither that those who survived were sent for periods varying between a few months and over six years. Prison life was barbaric, and the prisoners were made to pay the Governor for what they ate and drank. Those who were unable to pay were given only dried salted fish. Only the guards had fresh water: the prisoners were made to drink water from rock pools. Those who did not perish in the vile, stinking cells and castle dungeons died later as freed men from lung infections, fevers or rheumatic ailments.

Bass Rock is a massive crag rising out of the sea to a height of 350 feet, and about a mile in circumference. Three sides of it are of sheer cliff. The first recorded resident of the Bass Rock is Baldred, a monk from Holy Island who was sent to bring Christianity to the Lothians. He used the Rock as a retreat for prayer and meditation. King James I used the island for the imprisonment of his political enemies in the early fifteenth century. In the sixteenth century Mary Queen of Scots had a garrison of a hundred men on the Rock, some of whom were French troops. So it already had quite a history before it was bought on behalf of Charles II for a state prison. Most of the Covenanters were released when James VII was relieved of his crown and William of Orange proclaimed king. Following the battle of Killiecrankie the only Jacobite stronghold was on the Bass Rock. A handful of Jacobites held out on the Rock until they were starved into submission in 1690. A year later, in the absence of the Governor the Jacobites managed to lock their guards out while they were unloading coal at the jetty. The four men then held out for four years.

Those seventeenth century prisoners were men of culture and learning, and men of loyalty whose only offence was that of preaching the gospel and worshipping according to their own consciences. How very fortunate we are that we have the freedom to believe what we like and to worship (or not) as we feel appropriate. How fortunate too that we have political freedom of belief.

THE RECTOR WRITES *ctd...*

Nowadays the vast majority of visitors to Bass Rock are the naturalists. Some are fortunate enough to land and spend a few hours on the Rock. They go in order to observe the seabirds. Gannets have been a part of the Rock's history for hundreds of years. They were first mentioned in a document sent to the Vatican Council in Rome, which detailed a dispute between the owners of the Bass Rock and the Cistercian nuns at North Berwick. The nuns were apparently concerned that the tithe they received from each barrel of fat produced from the slaughtered birds at the autumn cull was under threat. Although sheep have been grazed on the Rock, the gannets have provided its principal products. Gannet flesh was described as excellent if skinned and cooked like a beef steak, whilst gannet eggs often graced the breakfast table of Queen Victoria at Balmoral. Thankfully conservation is now the order of the day!

A few years ago Sally and I were on our way up towards the cottage we had rented for a week in Killiecrankie, and were pleased to be able to go out on a boat to the very edge of the Rock. If you do get the opportunity of a trip out to the Bass Rock on a boat, do remember to take something to wear on your head, even if it's only a newspaper. The island is now home to over 140,000 gannets, and a percentage of them is on the wing and circling the air at any given time of the day. As the boats go in close to the rock, it's quite likely that, whatever you're wearing, the birds will like it so much they'll put a deposit on it!

Derek Hollis.

Obituary—Brian Rooks

Thurlow has lost one of its long time residents, Brian Rooks. Brian who died in June had lived in Thurlow for more than 60 years. Born in Hundon, Brian came to Thurlow, married Eileen Eley and lived first at the Square moving to Little Bradley in 1953 and then returned to live in Mungo Lodge.

Brian started off his working life as a pig boy, then general farm work then ploughing with two horses before working for the Estate and eventually driving the Combine.

He was an expert Gardener. He was also a committee member of the Thurlow Steam Rally and never missed a meeting. He was well known and a regular visitor to the Cock. He gave one of the most interesting recordings when interviewed for the Thurlow 2000 book.

Iris Eley

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So we move into our third month as a FREE HOUSE. Exciting and different times for our entity so we are still very much on a learning curve. The support we have received has been fantastic for which we are very grateful; we will try and continue to improve all round as the weeks go by.

We are very firm supporters of the campaign for real ale which is so important to the future of the rural pub. We currently offer four cask ales; the popular IPA and a Guest Ale each week from GREENE KING, SOUTHWOLD from ADNAMS and WHERRY from WOODFORDS. If any reader would like to suggest a different ale please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate the request.

The popular SUPPER CLUB concept will return in Wednesday 18th September at the request of several customers; dining in a private area for up to 14 people and a chance to make new friends.

We are holding an ITALIAN NIGHT on Tuesday 10th September; this will be hosted by LAURA GOODMAN of BBC fame.

Our FAMILY DAY on Sunday 1st September is not intended to be in opposition to the main THURLOW FAYRE event but to complement it, a chance for families before or after visiting the FAYRE to come and have fun in our beautiful surroundings. We will be making a donation to the communities of the Thurlows.

Our website (www.thecockthurlow.co.uk) will be updated by early September.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

EVERY TUESDAY: SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCHEON FROM 1PM. TWO COURSES £7 PER PERSON

THURSDAY 29TH AUGUST: QUIZ NIGHT FROM 8PM. CASH PRIZES, LIGHT BITES FOR CONTESTANTS. A DONATION WILL BE MADE TO THE CHARITY "HEADWAY"

SATURDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER: FAMILY DAY. BBQ, FUN, GAMES, COMPETITIONS, BOUNCY CASTLE, FANCY DRESS COMPETITION FOR ALL AGES

FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER: GENTLEMAN'S LUNCH FROM 1PM: 3 COURSES PLUS CHEESE AND WINE, £40 PER HEAD. BOOKING ESSENTIAL

FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER: LIVE MUSIC FROM 8:30PM: "THE CRABS"

TUESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER: ITALIAN NIGHT FROM 8PM HOSTED BY LAURA GOODMAN. 3 COURSES, £20 PER HEAD. BOOKING ESSENTIAL

WEDNESDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER: SUPPER CLUB FROM 8PM WITH DINNER BEING SERVED AT 8:30PM. PRIVATE DINING ROOM, MAXIMUM 14 PERSONS, 3 COURSES, £19.95 PER HEAD

THURSDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER: QUIZ NIGHT FROM 8PM. SUPPER WILL BE SERVED. CASH PRIZES. A DONATION WILL BE MADE TO THE CHARITY LYMPHOMA ASSOCIATION

We are open from 11 am every day and serve lunch, dinner, bar food and snacks so please come and try us out

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**FOR ALL ENQUIRIES & RESERVATIONS PLEASE CONTACT:
PAUL GREGORY -TELEPHONE 01440 783334**

What's On!

Dates For Your Diary!

Month	Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Information
Sept	1st	Sun	12:00	Thurlow Fayre	Thurlow Sports ground	www.thurlowfayre.org.uk
Sept	4th	Wed	20:00	Joint Great and Little Thurlow PC Meeting	Thurlow Village Hall	
Sept	7th	Sat	11:00	Great Wrattling Annual Village Clean	Meet at Red Lion car park	Parish Clerk gtwrattlingpc@yahoo.co.uk
Sept	10th	Tue	19:30	WI Meeting	Thurlow Village Hall	
Sept	11th	Wed	20:00	Great Thurlow PC Meeting	Thurlow Village Hall	
Sept	12th to 15th	Thur to Sun	TBC	Suffolk Heritage Open Days	Various	www.greensuffolk.org/hod2013
Sept	14th	Sat	9:00 to 17:00	SHCT Cycle Ride	Various	
Sept	15th	Sun	14:00	Thurlow Hunt Kennels Open Day	The Kennels Wadgells Farm Sowley Green	Kevin Needham 07802 236191
Sept	17th	Tue	19:30	Little Thurlow PC Meeting	Thurlow Village Hall	
Sept	18th	Wed	14:00 to 14:30	Mobile library	Coronation Cottages	01473 584563
Sept	26th	Thur	19:30	Great Wrattling PC Meeting	Wheel Cottage The Street	Parish Clerk gtwrattlingpc@yahoo.co.uk
Sept	28th	Sat	9:00	Thurlow Hunt Ride	Weston Woods Farm, Weston Colville	Thurlow Estate Office 01440 783 661

Get an Inside View of Suffolk's Energy Smart Buildings!

12th – 15th September



A growing number of Suffolk building owners have been taking the rising cost of energy bills into their own hands, by installing energy efficient and renewable energy measures. In September residents are being encouraged to visit twenty eight of these inspiring buildings as part of the national Heritage Open Days event, to meet their owners and find out what they can do themselves to make their own homes or businesses greener and more energy efficient.

Heritage Open Days runs between 12th and 15th September and is an opportunity to see for free, real examples of homes, businesses and community buildings that aim to be more environmentally sustainable and cheaper to heat/light.

Buildings as diverse as a 1960's bungalow, a 16th Century guildhall, a modern semi-detached home and a 21st century school will be open to the public to visit. Tours will be offered by the owners, to understand better what's involved in transforming a building, so that it has low running costs and reduced environmental impact.

Will Hitchcock of Nayland and owner of a retrofitted Victorian cottage comments: "Opening up my home as part of Heritage Open Days is a great opportunity for me to show what really is possible. If you are thinking of renovating or building, I would recommend first visiting some of these buildings for inspiration."

The event is being coordinated by the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership as part of the Creating the Greenest County initiative and is supported by Suffolk's Councils.

Details of all the buildings open can be viewed at www.greensuffolk.org/hod2013 or by visiting any Suffolk library or tourist information centre.

Please Note:

Pre-booking is required for visits to many of the buildings. To pre-book go to www.greensuffolk.org/hod2013 or call 01473 64555. Access restrictions may exist to some buildings. Please check for details via the Green Suffolk website, prior to your planned visit.

The Suffolk Green Building Network is a collaboration between Creating the Greenest County Partnership and University Campus Suffolk. The Suffolk Climate Change Partnership consists of Suffolk's local authorities and the Environment Agency, working together locally with a number of other organisations including Groundwork East of England, Sustainability East and University Campus Suffolk.

*Jonas Grist, Environment Strategy Officer, Suffolk County Council
jonas.grist@suffolk.gov.uk*



The Meadow School PTA

Craft & Gift Fair

Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th October 2013

10.30am to 4pm

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High Street, Balsham, CB21 4DJ

Entrance: Adults £1; Children/Concessions 50p; Under 5s Free
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pta@meadow.cambs.sch.uk

Don't forget to send us details of your event to be included in

TheVillageLink@TheThurlows.org.uk

INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS. This is a brief guide, intended especially for newcomers to the villages, with information about the facilities and services available locally and some useful telephone numbers and addresses.

Services and Societies in Thurlow	Telephone
Thurlow Village Stores and Post Office – Naomi Sharrod	01440 783214
Thurlow News – Naomi Sharrod	01440 783923
Thurlow Garage – Ray Sharrod	01440 783248
The Cock Inn – Paul Gregory	01440 783224
Plumbing Services – TKHeat – Kevin Crowson	07966 208794 01440 783654
Parish Clerk – Little Thurlow – Molly Hawkins	01440 783259
Parish Clerk – Great Thurlow – Diana Allin	01440 783560
Thurlow CEVC School – Head Teacher	01440 783281
Thurlow Pre-School – Helen Frost (thurlowpreschool@hotmail.co.uk.)	01440 783688
Thurlow Mother and Toddlers – Claire Yallop and Helen Morley	01440 783975
Thurlow Fayre – Janice Klimcke and Diana Allin	01440 783626 01440 783560
Thurlow Gardening Club – Dawn Abbey	01440 783646
Thurlow Sports Club Secretary – Allan Loveday	01440 707416
Thurlow Village Hall Committee – Janice Klimcke	01440 783626
Thurlow Village Hall Bookings – Diana Allin	01440 783560
Thurlow Womens Institute – President Ann Tipper	01440 783090
Thurlow Tennis Club—Andy Quick	01440 783070

Services and Societies in Great Wratting	Telephone
Neighbourhood Watch – Jacquie Edmonds	01440 783322
Red Lion, Great Wratting – George and Linda Sykes	01440 786237
The Great Wratting Book Group – Jean Newlands	01440 783111
The mobile library service stops at Coronation Cottages from 2.00 to 2.20 pm every 4 weeks, on Wednesday afternoons	01440 702638

Emergency	Telephone
Police Response – any officer, non emergency	101
Police Response – Emergency	999
Suffolk Fire Service	01284 558888
UK Network (Electricity) 24 hour Emergency helpline	0800 7838838
Anglian Water 24 hour Emergency Helpline (water/sewage)	08457 145145
British Telecom 24 hour fault reporting	0800 800151
Floodline 24 hour with recorded update	0845 9881188
In case of disaster or village is cut off, go to Thurlow Village Hall. Key Holder is Diana Allin – 89a Hill House, Great Thurlow	01440 783560

Copy deadline, as always is the 15th of the month.
View The Village Link online at www.TheThurlows.org.uk

Community Contacts	Telephone
Churches – Stourhead Benefice – Rev. Derek Hollis	01440 763066
Haverhill Social Services	01440 764949
Haverhill Citizens Advice Bureau	01440 704012
St Edmundsbury Borough Council Planning	01284 763233
District Councillor – Robert Clifton-Brown	01440 783562
St Edmundsbury Borough Council	01284 763233
St Edmundsbury Borough Council (Haverhill office)	01440 702271
County Councillor – Jane Midwood	01440 821428
Suffolk County Council General Enquiries	08456 066067
Age Concern – Mary Hilton	01440 783649
Thurlow Estate – Tim Barling, Agent	01440 783661
Thurlow Estate – Tom Duffin, Assistant to Agent	
Libraries – Haverhill	01440 702638
Libraries – Bury St Edmunds	01284 352545
A mobile library visits the villages on alternate Mondays stopping at Sowley Green 11.30-11.40am, 109 Bury Road, Great Thurlow 11.45-12.10pm and Little Thurlow Green, 1 Coronation Villas 12.45-1.00pm.	
Suffolk Radio – BBC FM 103.9 or 104.6	01473 250000
Refuse Collection	01284 757320
Every Friday early morning – Black bin on week one, blue and brown bin week two alternating	
Environmental Health and Pest Control	01284 757084

Health and Wellbeing	Telephone
Doctors – The Christmas Matings and Clements Practice	08444 773543
Doctors – Selby Practice	01440 702010
Doctors – Stourhead Medical Practice	01440 761177
Chemist – Boots, Haverhill	01440 702058
Chemist – Sainsburys Pharmacy	01440 708043
Chemist – The Co—operative Pharmacy	01440 702079
Hospital – West Suffolk (Bury St Edmunds)	01284 713000
Hospital – West Suffolk Accident and Emergency	01284 713333
Hospital – Addenbrookes (Cambridge)	01223 245151
Vets – Swayne and Partners (Haverhill)	01440 702007
Vets – Lida Vets (Newmarket)	01638 560000
Vets – Hawkedon Veterinary Surgery	01284 789428

Church Wardens	Telephone
St Mary's Church, Great Wratting—Simon Corbett	01440 783698
St Mary's Church, Great Wratting—Ben Stanton	01440 783103
St Peter's Church, Little Thurlow—Robin Vestey	T.B.A.
St Peter's Church, Little Thurlow—Iris Eley	01440 783534
All Saint's Church, Great Thurlow—George Vestey	01440 783240
All Saint's Church, Great Thulow—Tim Knappett	01440 783654

Great Wratting Parish Council Contacts	Telephone
Chair – Gavin Acheson	01440 783515
Councillor – Anthony Lundrigan	01440 783817
Councillor – Vacancy	
Councillor – Petra Stephenson	01440 783384
Councillor – Jacquie Edmonds	01440 783322
Councillor – Steven Robinson	01440 783131
Vice Chair – Caroline Togher	01440 783876
Parish Clerk – Emma White—gtwrattingpc@yahoo.co.uk	07792455030
If you would like information about joining Great Wratting Parish Council, please contact the Parish Clerk. www.parish-council.com/greatwrattingparishcouncil	

Little Thurlow Parish Council Contacts	Telephone
Keith Bunting—Chairman	01440 783528
Chris Field—Vice Chairman	01440 783697
Mary Hilton	01440 783649
Heather Hunt	01440 783573
Jill Steel	01440 783310
Chris Lowe	01440 783891
John Tipper	01440 783090
Molly Hawkins—Parish Clerk	01440 783259

Great Thurlow Parish Council Contacts	Telephone
Peter Thomas—Chairman	01440 783700
Stan Cook—Vice Chairman	T.B.A.
George Vestey	01440 783240
Conrad Hawkins	01440 783259
Naomi Sharrod	01440 783923
Rod Pass	T.B.A.
Diana Allin—Parish Clerk	01440 783560

Parish Council Notice Board

Thurlow Estate

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Thurlow Tennis Club

Anyone for tennis?

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Junior Membership only £10/year

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only £45/year.

For further information contact Andy

Quick at

andyquick01@gmail.com/783070 or

Richard Shipp 07852187734