

the norton messenger

November 2023



EDITORIAL

Thank you to all the regular contributors who have reduced the length of their articles so I can include some other submissions this month. It is good to see some different ideas as well as some of our old favourites and some beautiful pictures like the one above (thank you to Angela)

Please keep sending your contributions for the Messenger to the address below by the 15th of the previous month.

Best wishes, Diana

CONTENTS

Regular Village events	2
Village Hall update	2
Norton School	3
Junior Road Safety Officers	4
St Andrew's Church news	5
Upcoming Concerts	5
Salvation Army	6
Down our Street	7-9
Parish Council minutes	10-12
Elmswell History Group	13
Local Business Adverts	14-16



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REGULAR VILLAGE EVENTS

NORTON VILLAGE HALL CLASSES

IP31 3LE

MONDAY	9.00am - 10.00am	<i>Ren Yoga</i>
	6.00pm - 8.30pm	<i>Jo's Fit4All</i>
TUESDAY	9.30am - 10.30am	<i>Serenity Yoga</i>
WEDNESDAY	6.30pm - 7.30pm	<i>Zumba</i>
FRIDAY	9.15am - 10.15am	<i>Zumba</i>
	10.45am - 11.45am	<i>Yvonne's Body Work Class</i>

For further details please contact: nortonvhbookings@gmail.com







CARPET BOWLS

In the Baptist Church Hall every Tuesday at 14.00hrs

Come and try it out, free first session - all for enjoyment not competition.

If interested please call Ronnie Emmins on 01359 232096



VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

The work to extend and upgrade the Village Hall has begun. At present nothing looks very different, but this is because the builders are starting with the ground works and the concrete slabs that are needed for the new parts of the building. Once this stage is complete, scaffolding will be erected around the main hall so that the cement panels of the old roof can be removed.

In the meantime, I thought it would be interesting to provide detail about the sources of all the money needed for the job. The final bill is expected to be £733,000 plus £23,000 for solar panels and a battery storage system. A loan secured by the Parish Council from the Public Works Loan Board will cover £500,000 of the cost. This, of course, will have to be repaid over 50 years at a fixed interest rate; rather like a long mortgage. The repayments will be made by the Parish Council, which will raise the money from the village Council Tax. The Village Hall Management Committee have accumulated £40,000 and the Parish Council has set aside £40,000 to put towards the cost of the project.

The remaining money has been raised by making grant applications to charities and local government departments. This work has been done by Phil Jefferson on behalf of the Village Hall Management Committee. So far, the sums pledged or awarded and their source are:

Mid Suffolk Community Infrastructure Fund	£100,000
Suffolk Greenest County	£ 10,000
Babergh Mid Suffolk Grants Office	£ 23,058
Bernard Sunley Foundation	£ 15,000
Alfred Williams Foundation	£ 3,000
Garfield Weston Foundation	£ 25,000
Belstead Ganzoni Charitable Trust	£ 5,000

Much of the building work will be subject to VAT, but this can be reclaimed on those works paid for by the Parish Council. However, there was still a shortfall in the budget but this has been filled by a very generous donation from Ms T. Greil-Castro, who lives at Little Haugh and who thought it 'an honour and a duty to support the scheme'. This is like the action of Mrs Fyfe-Jamieson, who also lived at Little Haugh, and who bridged a large gap in the funds to build the Hall in 1973.

All being well, the extended and improved hall should be handed back to the village in early June next year. The Management Committee has started to plan for the reopening and would be delighted to receive constructive ideas about what you would like to see in the hall when this time comes. Send in your ideas by using the village hall web page or Facebook page.



Norton CEVC Primary School
School Close Norton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3LZ
Headteacher Mrs Lisa Sparkes
office@norton.suffolk.sch.uk 01359 230520 www.norton.suffolk.sch.uk



I write this article with only one week to go before half term, a half term which has been busy as children settled into their new classes

In Star Class (Reception), the children have settled beautifully and are busy learning letter sounds and numbers. Whenever I go into the classroom I am always greeted with big smiles and an enthusiasm to tell me what they are learning. We have plans to develop the outside area in Early Years during the next half term so hopefully we will be able to share some photos in the next edition.

Galaxy Class (Year 1) went to St Andrews Church to role play what happens during a Christening. Reverend Katherine led the service, with the children taking on the roles as parents, God Parents and the Congregation. The children then walked back from the church looking at the different houses as part of their houses and homes topic.

In Planet Class (Year 2), the children have been learning about world habitats like the desert, rainforest, ocean and arctic. The children enjoyed putting animals into the correct habitats, and creating their own animal fact file.

The children in Comet Class (Year 3) have been studying the Stone Age, and as part of this topic went to Gallowsfield Woods to develop early man skills. They had great fun building shelters and making pre-historic weapons as well as making flatbreads around the fire. As part of their science work, the children have been classifying rocks and using terms like permeable.

Rocket Class (Year 4) are really enjoying their topic on Ancient Greeks. The children demonstrated fantastic acting in English when retelling the story of Theseus and the Minotaur and the detail to their Greek pots in Art was particularly good.

In Science Meteor Class (Year 5) have used different spherical objects to represent the sun and Earth and demonstrated how they move. The children also had a go at being these celestial bodies to rotate and orbit as the Earth does! They have also started to learn to play the clarinet, and each week you can certainly hear their improvement.

In Supernova Class (Year 6) the children have just returned from their residential to Bawdsey Manor. Despite the weather, the children had an amazing time learning new skills and experiencing activities which encouraged them to work together and to be challenged out of their comfort zone.

We have been able to celebrate Harvest at Norton Baptist Church. In our Key Stages, the children walked to the Church where they sang Harvest songs, read poems and shared information about the Rural Coffee Van, a local charity supporting loneliness in the community. As a school we raised £148 for this charity.

The children have also had the opportunity to be involved in a hip hop dance session delivered by Premier Sports. It was great to see the children being able to follow dance moves and routines. The children at Norton certainly have enthusiasm and creativity!

As we start the second half of this term, our focus will continue to be on delivering our rich, broad and balanced curriculum but also the exciting preparations for Christmas!

Best wishes, Mrs Sparkes





JRSO

Junior Road Safety Officers



We are Hollie and Monty and we are Junior Road Safety Officers at Norton Primary School.

We want to help to make the roads as safe as possible for everyone using them.

We know there are lots of traffic issues in Norton and we would like to do what we can to help.

We carry out assemblies, competitions and events to help raise awareness of road traffic issues.



If there is an issue you feel strongly about, please email galaxies@norton.suffolk.sch.uk and we will focus on this as our term's topic.

Your safety, our happiness.



ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH (Part of the Benefice of Pakenham, Norton & Tostock, with Great Ashfield, Hunston & Stowlangtoft)

November 2023 Church Services

Our beautiful and ancient church is open every day for visitors and private prayer.

5 th	4 th Sunday before Advent	8am Holy Communion (BCP) 10am Family@Church REMEMBERING	Norton Pakenham
12 th	Remembrance Sunday	8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 10.00am Act of Remembrance at War Memorial 10.45am Remembrance services at Norton , and Great Ashfield and Act of Remembrance at Stowlangtoft 3pm Remembrance Service	Pakenham Norton Pakenham
19 th	2 nd Sunday before Advent	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 11am Family Communion 11am Morning Worship 6pm Evening prayer and praise	Pakenham Great Ashfield Norton Tostock
26 th	Christ the King	9.30am TOAST 9.30am Family Communion 11am Holy Communion 11am Morning Worship	Great Ashfield Norton Hunston Tostock

SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER 10am – 12 noon ALL-AGE CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY MORNING in St Andrew's Church.

With Norton School Choir, Have-a-go handbell ringing, Christmas Crafts and refreshments. All Welcome - come and have fun whatever your age!

SUNDAY 3RD DECEMBER	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Norton
	10am	Family@Church CHRISTINGLE	Pakenham



Rector: Revd Katherine Valentine Tel 01359 235095 Email: kavalentine677@gmail.com

Website: www.achurchnearyou.com Benefice Church magazine www.vcnews.org.uk



Norton Salvation Army

Woolpit Road, Norton, IP31 3LU

What's on at the Army in November?

Sunday 5th	Breakfast Church (Enjoy coffee/tea/pastries in a relaxed Worship setting) (Led by Maj. Doug & Glenys Askew)	10.45am
Sunday 12th	Remembrance Day Service (We are joining with friends at St Andrews Church)	11.00am
Sunday 19th	Evening Praise (Led by Elizabeth Taylor)	6.00pm
Sunday 26th	Morning Worship (Led by Maj. Doug & Glenys Askew)	11.00am
Mondays (School Term Time)	Toddlesong (Children 0-4yrs £1 per family/session)	9.00am – 11.30am
Wednesday 1st	Friends Cafe (We are a dementia friendly group, free for all to attend for a chat & refreshments)	2.00pm – 4.00pm
Saturday 4th	<u>SALE</u> Christmas Gifts: Jigsaw Puzzles: Books: Refreshments	10.00am – 1.00pm
Every Thursday	Cameo Lunches (3 course meal for £6.00)	11.45am – 1.30pm
Thursday 2nd/16th/30th	Choir Rehearsal	8.00pm – 9.30pm
Thursday 9th	Band Rehearsal (If you are interested in coming to either rehearsal please email one of the below)	8.00pm – 9.30pm
Friday 24th	Adult Craft Club	7.00pm – 8.30pm

Unwanted clothes & shoes:

Why not help to protect the environment by donating your discarded clothes & shoes in the clothes/shoe bank in our car park. Available 24hrs.

If you would like to make contact with Norton Salvation Army please e-mail:

Valerie.ling@salvationarmy.org.uk OR Peter.newson@salvationarmy.org.uk

We will be pleased to help you where possible with any questions/queries

A Christian Church and Registered Charity No: 214779, and in Scotland SC09359

The Salvation Army Territorial Headquarters, 101, Newington Causeway, London, SE1 6BN

DOWN OUR STREET

Over the next two months, I hope to document some of the story of the 'Downing Family' who lived in Norton from about 1844 till the 2010s. During that time, members of the family became employers of large numbers of men in the village, before slowly moving away.

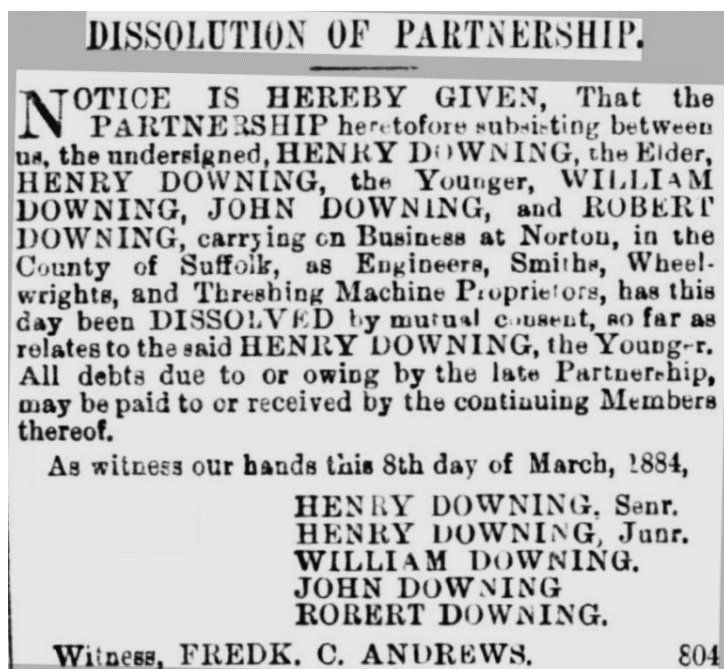
I will start with Henry Downing (1816-1901), fourth of ten children born to John Downing, a thatcher from Fakenham Magna and his wife Sarah, nee Stannard. Henry was a blacksmith.

On 20th October 1843 Henry married a Pakenham girl, Sophia Eugenie Mingay (1820-1896) and they set up home in a large, thatched house with yards and a blacksmith's shop, next-door to 'The Dog', in Ixworth Road. The photo below from about 1895, which has not been shown in The Messenger before, shows the house with Henry and Sophia at the front. The old forge, the workshop (and 'The Dog') were to the right of this view.



The house soon became the family home for five sons, Henry known as Harry, James, William, John and Robert and 3 daughters, Eliza, Laura and Sarah. From here, the family members branched into engineering, smithying, highway maintenance, building and farming. (As a point of interest, the small cart minus its wheels by the left-hand window, has 'E. M. EASTER, GROCER, NORTON', painted on the side. Mr Easter was their next-door neighbour and was the postmaster and keeper of one of the village shops, next to the playing field. The cart looks very similar to the one which appears on the iconic photo of the Norton Post Office Stores.

Henry was successful in his business and by the time of the 1871 census, he was working with four of his sons and employing thirteen men and two boys.



The four sons took over running the business at the Ixworth Road premises as Henry Snr. took more of a back seat. The 31st March 1901 census states he is a retired blacksmith and sadly he passed away four days later. He is buried under the large beech tree in St Andrew's churchyard with his wife, who pre-deceased him.

Generation 2.

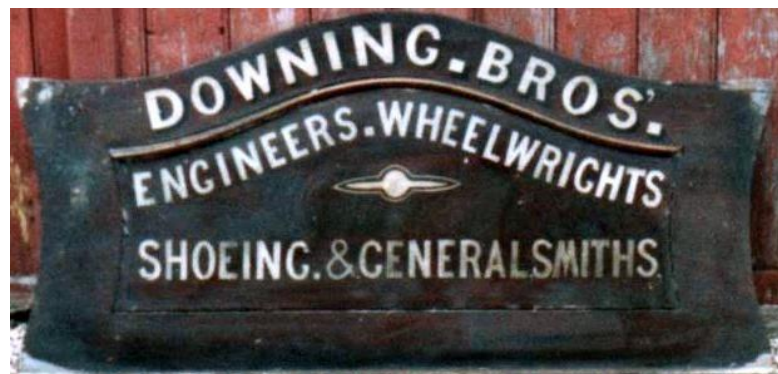
Eldest son Henry Jnr., 'Harry', trained as a gun maker in Bury St Edmunds in about 1860 but by 1881 had moved back to Norton, where he worked as an agricultural engineer with his father and brothers, building portable steam engines and working on traction engines. He married Catherine Bentick of Badwell Ash on 29th March 1883 and having dissolved his partnership with his father and brothers in March 1884 (see above), he set up in business as an engineer in Northgate Street, Bury St Edmunds. They had nine children before Harry died in 1899. Most of the boys emigrated to America.

James is shown as a teacher at Norton School in 1861 at the age of 14. He subsequently became a teacher and also married a teacher. In 1871 James and his wife Emma were living in the School House in Elmswell and they were both recorded as teachers. They moved to Campsea Ash where his wife continued to teach and James worked as a carpenter.

William lived with his father and sister Sarah, in the thatched house, where he continued to work with his brothers John and Robert as 'Downing Bros'. He was a skilled machinist. He died in 1904.

John was an engine builder, mechanic and smith who married Mary Chapman and lived in Heath Road. They had two sons and a daughter. John and brother Robert owned several traction engines, ploughing engines, threshing machines and straw elevators which were contracted, along with the team of men, to local farmers.

Robert married Elizabeth Alice Burt in June 1893. They lived at Mill Farm, The Street.



Downing's ploughing engine with Charles Bradbrook in front of the rear wheel. Courtesy of K Elvin



John Downing's engine with son Jack Downing at the controls.

Downing's engine towing tree trunks and turning in to the drive of 'The Old Forge'.



The deep sawyer's pit for cutting the logs into boards was behind the house, at the far end of the garden. Tragedy struck the family business when the thatch of the Downing's house caught alight at about 17:00 on Tuesday 3rd December 1907. A message was sent to Woolpit and their (horse drawn) fire brigade was sent to deal with it, but by the time they arrived the roof timbers and upstairs ceiling had collapsed and nothing could be saved from this part of the building. The police, under Supt. Peck arrived to render assistance, as a large crowd had gathered. It was feared that the flames would spread to adjacent properties so a nearby workshop was pulled down. By 21:00 almost all of the building had succumbed, as it was timber framed with lath and plaster walls. Thankfully, the old blacksmith's buildings with the forge and other outhouses survived. A house, known as 'The Old Forge' was built to replace it and became the home of John's two sons. I hope to be able to write the next part of the Downing's story next month. I must thank Kevin Elvin for allowing me to copy some very interesting family photos showing some views of Norton life and buildings that I have never seen. Thanks also to Hilary Hammond who has allowed me to copy some slides showing the interior of Harry Ruddock's shoe shop, Mr Bonfield's grocery shop and some acts in the Norton Revue at the Village Hall in 1983. Thanks also to Dr Keith and Mrs Joan Jaggard for arranging to collect them.

Old photos and related documents of the village, events and people are incredibly valuable, so a huge thanks to everyone who has shared and helped save these for our village archive over the past few years.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 4th September 2023

PRESENT:

In the Chair:

Mrs. S. Hill
Mr. J Bolus, Prof. K. Jaggard, Mr. G. Walton, Mr. N. Winstanley.
Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk)
County Councillor A. Mellen
District Councillor D. Bradbury
Two member of the public

LGA 1972 s12 para 40

APOLOGIES: Mr. B. Aket, Mr. R. Lenko, Mr. J. Morgan, Mrs. T. Long,

The Council consented to accept the apology and reasons, which will be recorded in the attendance register.

District Councillor A. Davies.

The following minutes have been abbreviated for the Messenger – please see the website for the full version

1.	Welcome and protocol reminder for Councillors to address the meeting through the Chair and not as individuals talking.	
2.	Declarations of pecuniary and local non-pecuniary interests - none	
3.	PUBLIC FORUM—to receive reports for information - Members of the public—to receive questions and matters of concern from those in attendance Email received concerning the bridge at Stowlangtoft and whether improvements to the bridge could result in the restrictions on the A1088 being lifted. Councillor Mellen stated the bridge reconstruction takes place in Summer 2024. When complete the weight restriction on the bridge will be lifted but there will still be an environment restriction on the length of the A1088 of 7.5t unless for deliveries or permit holders of which there are currently 103. No lorries should be using the bridge in its current state. There is no update on alternative routes while the bridge is closed for repair. Any lifting of the weight restriction on the A1088 would require extensive consultation. Councillor Mellen suggested setting up a lorry watch scheme to monitor lorries on a regular basis and reporting lorries that should not be using the road. The Parish Council will continue to monitor the situation and inform residents of any update, probably through Facebook. Mr. Richardson commented on the accident occurring along Ashfield Road on Sunday evening. It was commented that the 30mph stops and starts again before the bend. Councillor Mellen stated chevrons might not help as the designation of the road would also need to change. He agreed to speak with the Community Engineer to look at the corner and give his suggestion. - Members of the public – to receive comments submitted via email Email concerning lorries and cars parking on A1088 for garage/shop. Councillor Mellen agreed to speak with the Community Engineer about this problem.	Councillor Mellen Councillor Mellen
4.	REPORTS FOR INFORMATION –to receive written reports for information only - Report from County Councillor Andy Mellen – noted - Report from District Councillors Austin Davies and David Bradbury – noted Regarding the recent planning application at Suffolk House, Councillor Mellen commented that the Council had a good land supply but calling developments “self-build” was a loophole in the planning process, and created no CIL payment to communities. Councillor Mellen agreed to check the requirement for a crossing and whether any amendment by the developer would pass these requirements	Councillor Mellen Councillor Mellen
5.	MINUTES	
	5.1 To note and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7 th August 2023. Prof. Jaggard proposed and Mr. Walton seconded, with all in agreement.	
6.	MATTERS ARISING	
	6.1 UK Power Network update – The Clerk stated that the paperwork is currently with Birketts.	Clerk
	6.2 Wildflowers Scheme. Mrs. Hill commented that the rope had been removed and the area will be cut shortly by Mr. Walton.	Mrs. Hill
	6.3 Management of Facebook social media. Ms. Paris had agreed to manage FB on behalf of the Council.	10

	6.4 Bus service update. A meeting is awaited between interested parties to take this forward.	Mrs. Hill
	6.5 To review Messenger. Suggestions for additional items received from Miss Winstanley to include articles from villagers. Professor Jaggard stated he would be doing an item each month concerning the progress with the Village Hall refurb.	
	6.6 D-Day 80 - 6th June 2024 – Revd. Valentine will raise the question of a church service to remember this occasion at the next Church meeting.	
7.	PLANNING	
	7.1 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/23/03176 AND APPLICATION FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT - DC/23/03177 Manor Barn, Ashfield Road, Norton Erection of detached cart lodge; boundary fencing including changes to landscaping and parking arrangements; Erection of extension to house plant/domestic storage; Conversion of garage and installation of air source heat pump, wood burning stove with flue; and internal works to include replacement/alteration of fenestration and changes to internal layout. The Council had no objection to this application,	
	7.2 APPLICATION FOR OUTLINE PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/23/03760 Land West Of Suffolk House, Ixworth Road, Norton Application for Outline Planning Permission (Access points to be considered, Landscaping, Layout, Appearance and Scale Reserved) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) - Erection of 8No custom build/self-build dwellings The Council strongly objected to this application	
	7.3 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - Former The Old Forge, Ixworth Road, Norton, DC/23/04098 Proposal: Application under S73a for the Removal or Variation of a Condition following grant of DC/19/05754 dated 11/03/2020 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Erection of 3no. dwellings and 1no. cartlodge (following demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings). Conversion and extension of single storey outbuilding to form 1no.dwelling and alterations to vehicular access/driveway. To vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) to enable internal and external changes to The Forge only as per revised plans. The Council had no objection to this application for variation of conditions,	
	7.4 PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED 1- 5 King George Close, Norton. Erection of 5no. garden sheds. DC/23/03134	
	7.5 PLANNING PERMISSION GRANTED Land At Stanton Street, Norton, DC/23/02935 Application under S73a for Removal or Variation of a Condition following approval of DC/18/01239 dated 26/06/2018 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Erection of 4no. dwellings with garages - To Vary Condition Number 2 (Approved Plans & Documents) to provide alternative house designs for Plots 3 & 4 as per plans received.	
	7.6 AMENDMENTS APPROVED Land on The West Side Of, Ixworth Road, Norton - DC/23/03359 Application for a non-material amendment following grant of planning permission DC/20/00734 for the correction to references of documents and drawings on the decision notice.	
	7.7 MSDC Planning - reply to Appeal on land at Suffolk House and definition of Self build and custom build. Email from Planning confirmed definition of self-build and custom build .	
	7.8 MSDC planning public access website - Online Measuring Tool - noted	
8.	FINANCE	
	8.1 To approve the accounts awaiting payment: Gadd Bros, trees £1140.00 Lloyds cheque 000001 Vertas hedge cutting £450.00 Lloyds cheque 000002 HMRC £104.00 Lloyds cheque 000003 Norton Baptist Church, Hall Hire, £90.00 Lloyds cheque no 000004 D. Millyard, Prospect Road play area, £90.00 Lloyds cheque no 000005 Local Government (Misc. Provision) Act 1976 s19 St. Andrews Church, donation towards churchyard upkeep, £500. Lloyds cheque no 000006 Payments via online: Clerk's salary £416.00 Messenger, September, £345.00 MSDC Election Charges £154.93	Public Health Act 1875 s164 LGA1972 s112 LGA1972 s133 LGA1972 s142 RPA 1983 s36(5)

	8.2	
	8.3 To receive, review and adopt updated draft banking internet policy. Following amendments, the Council RESOLVED to adopt the policy	
	8.4 The Clerk confirmed receipt of VAT claim for 22-23 of £5444.41	
	8.5 The Clerk confirmed Locality Budget of £1500 received from Councillor Mellen for the SID to be located at Norton Little Green.	
	8.6 To receive budget statement. The Clerk had circulated a budget statement .	
	8.7 To consider Coronation Commemoration plaque. Mr. Walton shared images of the plaque at Isleham and stated Woolpit also had a plaque. The Clerk agreed to contact the Woolpit Clerk for more information.	Clerk
	8.8 To receive request from St. Andrews Church for grant towards upkeep of churchyard. The Clerk confirmed the Council had a budget of £460. Mrs. Hill suggested an increase to £500. The Council RESOLVED to approve £500.	
	8.9 Dog Bin. The Clerk updated with a cost for a larger bin at the Church. The Council RESOLVED to purchase a larger bin for the Church car park.	Clerk
9	SPEEDWATCH	
	9.1 Update on Speedwatch. A new site had been agreed at Rookery Drive. A few speedwatch sessions have been held there, and a number of cars logged speeding.	
	9.2 Strategy to reduce speeding long term. The first approach will be to secure the ANPR gun.	
	9.3 Update on small solar SID located in Heath Road - ongoing	
10	VILLAGE HALL	
	14.1 Update on joint Village Hall/Parish Council project subcommittee meeting - minutes noted. Mr. Walton stated the contract had been signed by Mrs. Hill on behalf of the Council and a pre-commencement meeting will be arranged. He stated the CCTV will need to be dismantled before work commences. There may possibly be additional cameras required. The wifi will be dismantled while work is going ahead.	
11	PLAY AREAS	
	11.1 Play area adjacent to Village Hall. Mr. Lenko informed that the Orbit would be installed around 12-14 September.	
	11.2 Play area in Prospect Road – nothing to report.	
	11.3 The Clerk confirmed the request for Annual Play Area Inspection for 2023 under the MSDC scheme.	
12	CORRESPONDENCE	
	12.1 MSDC Free Trees, Hedgerows and Wildflowers Scheme. Mr. Walton agreed to ask landowners, and also wondered if footpaths may be an area to consider.	Mr. Walton
	12.2 No Cold Calling Zone (NCCZ) email from Lesley Canham - Noted	
	12.3 Latest e-bulletin and August newsletter - A14 Haughley to Tothill recon scheme -noted. The Clerk will enquire if the scheme is considered to be on target.	Clerk
	12.4 CEO Constables County - Noted	
	12.5 A14 Mid-way Public Information Events for Town & Parish councils - Noted	
13	Questions and Comments from Members - none	
14	To confirm the date of future meeting: 2 nd October 2023, 7.30pm	
15	There being no further matters the meeting closed at 21.17	



At our **first talk of the new 2023-24 season** in September we heard architectural historian, Timothy Easton, on *"Magic Circles & Protective Symbols in E.Anglia's Historic Buildings"*. He gave us fascinating insights into this aspect of building which goes back to the 12th century when many people believed in lots of superstitions and had real fears about omens, witches, and bad luck. We were conducted all round East Anglia, as well as Europe and even Australia where these protective symbols have occurred in every type of building, but particularly in churches. So, from now on, we will all be looking out for these magic circles and symbols when we visit historic buildings.

Our October talk by the Port of Lowestoft's Ivan Bunn (and two colleagues) on *"The Prunier Trophy, 1936-66"* gave us many details and poignant old photographs of the many crews and drifters who caught huge quantities of herring from the mid-1930s to 60s. Ivan's own uncle was one of these brave men who went out in all weathers to fish for this often lucrative catch, encouraged by the prize of the impressive Prunier Trophy which was designed by Charles Robinson Sykes (the same designer of the *Spirit of Ecstasy* statuette on Rolls Royce cars). In the early days of this scheme, the winners were treated to a slap-up meal in Madame Prunier's smart London fish restaurant. However, in spite of good intentions, this scheme did not actually achieve what it had set out to do, i.e. to encourage more people to eat herrings, because the result was over-fishing and a depleted stock of fish. Thankfully, this rectified itself after about five years of a fishing ban, but it never regained the dizzy heights of former years.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

10th November 1606 – Nearly 500 loaves of bread were given to the poor of Ipswich to celebrate the failure of Guy Fawkes' Gunpowder Plot. (Nathaniell Brown, *Annals of Ipswich*)

31st October 1863 – A substantial hoard of coins (150 silver pennies) was discovered in an earthenware pot, buried a full 10ft beneath the doorstep of a house on the corner of the Buttermarket and White Hart (later St Lawrence) Lane in Ipswich town centre. Dating from the time of King Aethelred 'the Unready' (c.968-1016), some of these coins were minted in London and others in Ipswich, and found their way into museum collections or were snapped up by private buyers. (*Bury & Norwich Post*, 1863; *William Condor, Condor Family Ipswich*)



Meeting at 7.30pm in Elmswell's Wesley Hall (IP30 9EE), **our next talk on 9th November** will be by Gerry Barnes of the University of East Anglia on *"The History of ORCHARDS in Eastern England"*, based on his co-authored book. Although the history of orchards and fruit varieties is of great popular interest, there have been few academic treatments of the subject until a three-year project, "Orchards East". Drawing on far-reaching archival research, this talk will cover the fascinating history and ecology of orchards in the east of England since the late Middle Ages. Do join us then to find out much more from this very knowledgeable speaker.

For further information about our History Group, please visit our website www.elmswell-history.org.uk – or contact our Secretary, on 01359-242601

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Norton Salvation Army Hall on Mondays

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Jo's Fit4all Class (optional weigh in from 6.45pm)
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