

FREE

REEPHAM LIFE

YOUR Community Newspaper

www.reephamlife.co.uk

No. 2 April 2013

Change of use for The Crown rejected

CUSTOMERS of The Crown have won the first round in their fight to save the public house in Ollands Road, Reepham, from closure.

A planning application for a change of use of the property from commercial to residential was refused by Broadland District Council planning committee at a meeting on 27 February.

The applicants, Mr and Mrs Garron and Helen Monk of Land of Green Ginger, Dereham Road, Reepham, had proposed to convert the pub into a five-bedroom residential dwelling.

The Crown has been up for sale on the basis for the past two years of existing use. The owner, Punch Taverns, is trying to sell around 400 pubs across the country this year in an effort to reduce debts of more than £2 billion.

The planning meeting was reminded that, under a key planning policy, proposals for change of use or re-development of a public house in a rural area will not be permitted unless "it can be demonstrated that the public house has been marketed for a reasonable period and no reasonable offers have been received" and "that the business is not economically viable".

Broadland head of planning Phil Courtier said allowing a change of use of The Crown would result in the loss of a community facility and a local business, and would reduce customer choice for both eating and drinking facilities within



A planning application for a change of use of The Crown public house has been refused by Broadland District Council

Reepham.

He added: "Although there are two other public house/drinking establishments within the town, this particular premises provides the base for social functions, activities and facilities that are not currently provided elsewhere."

It was also noted that a change of use would result in the loss of several jobs, which would have a direct impact on the local economy. Further, the loss of a food, drink and leisure facility for the community and for tourists visiting the town and using the nearby Marriott's Way would have an indirect negative impact on the wider economy of Reepham.

Broadland District Councillor and vice chairman of Reepham Town Council Chris Wheeler was delighted with the outcome of the planning application. "I believe the pub's survival is an essential part

of Reepham life and for the community in general," he said.

At its meeting on 13 March, the Town Council stressed that it could not become involved in the purchase or management of a commercial business, such as The Crown. (This can only occur under very specific conditions, which the Council currently does not fulfil, such as having two-thirds of its councillors elected.)

Cllr Edwin Rose warned that the Council must be careful in offering any help to The Crown in view of the other drinking establishments within Reepham – the King's Arms and the Old Brewery House Hotel.

Meanwhile, Cllr David Patience noted that moves are under way to redraft planning policy at a national level in an effort

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comment

Thank you, people of Reepham

ON Friday 1 March, I set out for a bicycle ride with my friend Shaun. While riding through your lovely town, heading down Ollands Road towards the Spar, we went to brake and turn left. But we hit a slippery surface and both fell off our bikes in the middle of the road.

Firstly, I'd like to apologise to the three ladies that, unluckily for them, were at the corner as we crashed; I'm sorry if we scared you, suddenly smashing into your view. Thanks for your kind offers of help, but I honestly thought I'd be OK.

Thanks also to the local scout leader who stopped to see if I was alright and waited with me until the ambulance arrived. To Andy the local fireman who checked me out and kindly stored my bike at the Fire Station.

To the lady who works in the Spar (I'm afraid I don't know your name), who very kindly went home to fetch me a blanket and coat: bless you, as I was a little cold. To the couple that bought me a chocolate

bar, and to the local nurse and everybody else who I haven't mentioned.

I was totally overwhelmed by the generosity, kindness and willingness of people to stop and help a complete stranger that night. I'm sure that if I'd fallen in any other town, I would not have been so well looked after.

Luckily, Shaun escaped with just a few bruises and a little loss of pride. However, I ended up worse off and broke my hip. The hospital did a great job and I had to have an operation, having three screws put in my hip. I'm home now and on the mend.

I'd just like to say "thank you" from the bottom of my heart for what the people of Reepham did for me that evening.

Maybe one day I'll move to Reepham as your town seems to have a community spirit that seems to have been lost in so many other places. Thanks again, Reepham; I'll be sure to visit again soon.

Paul Chick, Thorpe Marriott

'Market town or commuters' car park?'

REEPHAM Town Council has agreed to increase the size of the town's weekly market, which could rise from the current 10 traders to at least 12.

The Council has received requests from two potential stallholders selling jewellery and craft items, which would mean increasing the trading space to the north of the Market Place on the Old Brewery House side. However, this will result in the loss of several car parking spaces during Wednesday morning.

While there have been a few complaints about not enough parking in the town, particularly from certain individuals who insist on leaving their cars in the Market Place all day, Cllr Edwin Rose pointed out that there is plenty of parking space in the side roads, but that many people simply do not want to walk.

"Do we want to be a market town or a commuters' car park?" he asked. "Be-



sides, the market is only held one morning a week."

Town Council chairman Les Paterson felt the market has enough stalls for the time being. "Yes, we need the extra trade, but a lot of these customers drive into Reepham and they need somewhere to park," he said.

Councillors were reminded that the market formerly took up the whole of the market square. Norfolk County Councillor James Joyce added: "It's called 'Market

Reepham Life is published by Reepham Community Press

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ADVERTISING Judy Holland

DISTRIBUTION Tim Fryer

WEBSITE Jeremy Brockman

Printed by: Colour Print, Norwich

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Reepham Life, a free monthly newspaper, is sponsored by Reepham Town Council and the launch financially supported by Broadland District Council's Small Grants Fund



Place' – and that's what it should be. Moreover, the shops in Reepham aren't open six days a week, a.m. and p.m."

The Town Council voted in favour of allowing two more market traders on a temporary basis "to see how it goes".

Several suggestions were made to move the Reepham Rover community minibus if there is a need to free up more space. It was also noted that Broadland District Council is currently reviewing the Station Road car park, where long-term vehicle storage may be an issue.

■ **The next meeting of Reepham Town Council is at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 10 April in the Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham**



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views

Opportunity to grow

IF Reepham is to forge ahead as a viable community, it is surely necessary for it to grow.

The B1145 (Dereham Road) site would seem to be a good option: it is on a main road, there are footpaths to both schools, it is near the doctors' surgery and it is within easy walking distance of the town centre, with its shops, pubs, church, etc.

More housing would justify increasing the size of the surgery, bringing more shops and improved road links, and the infrastructure needed to keep the town up to the mark.

However, there should be a balance between the demographics and services.

I also applaud the development of the former station yard. A shop there would serve a large area including New Road, The Moor, Crown Meadow and the new development on Overton Way.

Reepham's own residential care home would not come amiss. This could free up many properties, both social and private, where there is only one inhabitant who stays in the house alone, rather than going somewhere that is out of reach of friends.

This is an opportunity for Reepham and should be grasped.

Name and address supplied

Consultation not clear

I ATTENDED the consultation on Thursday 7 March regarding the proposed Dereham Road development. What wasn't clear was why they want to develop in and around Reepham rather than other areas, and how any such development would meet the demands of the local community.

More importantly, what was totally missing from the presentation was how the developers saw the impact on the local infrastructure and how those would be resolved, in particular the local schools.

Robin Stevens, Reepham

Yellow Dogs need space

I HAVE been made aware of a programme called Yellow Dog through the dog training classes I attend.

This project is trying to make more people aware of the fact that some dogs need more space when outside



for various reasons, whether it is because of nerves, in training, etc., by the dog wearing a yellow ribbon or bandanna.

I myself have a nervous dog and feel that this is a really good idea. And I am sure there are other people in our community who would benefit from the Yellow Dog programme.

More information from the website: www.yellowdoguk.co.uk

M. Woodhouse, Reepham

A good start!

THANK goodness; you have breathed new life into Reepham. Your periodical is concise, well set out and printed, just nicely controversial, easy to handle and navigate, and with everything we need to make us feel that Reepham is a good place to live.

I particularly liked the insertion into the Free Ads section of those anonymous items, which obviously filled up some spaces very well indeed. (My husband thinks that the mixing bowl set would suit me just fine!) I hope you get lots and lots of bona fide ones for the next issue.

I don't know why, but I also search for the small ads first, so it might be an idea to put them on a different

page each time, so we have to look at all the pages.

I personally also think that a small charge – a few pence a word would not break the bank – after all, it is advertising.

Congratulations to all of your staff and contributors.

Sybil Kent, Richmond Rise, Reepham

Appreciated by ex-pats

WE think *Reepham Life* is terrific and an asset to the town, but you might not know how much it is appreciated by ex-pat "Reephamites".

My children are now either at university or living away, but they still feel a strong affinity to Norfolk.

They happened to come across the online version of *Reepham Life* and have been telling me how much they enjoy it and how they love being able to keep up with what is happening in town. My eldest son was especially pleased with the article on the Reepham Festival.

Up until then I didn't realise that it was available online, but it is a great idea. So, on my children's behalf, thanks!

Sara Birtles, Pettywell

I laughed so much

I REALLY enjoyed reading all the news, and laughed so much when I read the Free Ads "For Sale Encyclopaedia Britannica... wife knows everything!" (I must tell my brother that one – he loves jokes.)

I have nothing but positive feedback about *Reepham Life*. Well done to

 **TWEETS**
 tweet your views to @reephamlife
 Well done @reephamlife on your new publication, Reepham Life. Good read. Not too stuffy. Not too samey. Looking forward to issue no. 2. Jon Goves @JonnyGoves

letters@reephamlife.co.uk

views

everyone who have made this magazine "come to life".

Sandy Mason, Reepham

Bus services essential

WELL done; *Reepham Life* is exactly what we all here in Reepham need.

There is a Monday to Saturday daily bus service to Norwich via Cawston, and also a once a week service to Fakenham, Wroxham and Dereham. There is, however, no longer a bus service to Holt, Aylsham or Wells from Reepham. Information on these services can be found on the side window of the police station.

We are fortunate in having a bus service in Reepham and this is essential for people who do not have their own transport.

With every good wish for the future of *Reepham Life*.

Gloria Davis, Reepham

Fundraising idea

I HAVE an idea for a community fundraising event in Reepham. I noticed last year that several villages in Norfolk had community garage or yard sales to fundraise for local organisations. This is something that would work well in Reepham, perhaps combined with an antiques market or fundraising stalls in the Market Place.

Bryan Gostling, Bircham Road, Reepham

High standard

WE would like to offer some general and constructive criticism of *Reepham Life*, but

we can't because it is so good! You have certainly set yourselves a high standard and we are very hopeful that the newspaper will go from strength to strength. It is a very welcome addition to the good things that already abound in Reepham. Wishing you and *Reepham Life* all the very best.

Brenda and John Palmer, Chapel Close, Reepham

Strength to strength

CONGRATULATIONS on the first edition of *Reepham Life* – it is great and I hope you are rightly pleased with it. The Free Ads gave us a smile! I hope it goes from strength to strength – and we will see how we can provide something different in *Town & Country* to go alongside it.

Rev. Margaret Dean, Rector, Reepham Benefice

Advertising does work

I ADVERTISED two coal bunkers in the Free Ads section of *Reepham Life* and sold them within an hour or two of the newspaper being delivered! Later that week, I'd also found a greenhouse from my Wanted ad. Advertising certainly does work.

G. Fisher, Cawston Road, Reepham

What we need to hear

CONGRATULATIONS on your fantastic publication. I have read it from cover to cover and enjoyed every page. It is full of all that Reepham residents want and need to hear!

Jules Allen, Reepham

The right combination

MANY congratulations – *Reepham Life* looks fab and seems to me to have the right combination of news/views and advertising. Great free ads too! It's such a bonus for Reepham to have a publication like this.

Brenda Gostling, Marketing & Business Information, Reepham

'Well done' feeling

CONGRATULATIONS to all concerned on the first issue of the newspaper. I thoroughly enjoyed it, and from conversations I have had with others, there is a general "well done" feeling around Reepham. The "Free Ads" were especially enjoyed by everyone I spoke to.

Gwenda Dove, Reepham

Interesting read

I FOUND *Reepham Life* a very interesting read with some local news items that no doubt concern us all. Congratulations on getting this local newspaper up and running.

B. Groom, Pightle Way, Reepham

Interesting and informative

I WAS delighted to receive *Reepham Life*. I found it both interesting and informative. I wish you have success with it.

Tamara Goulding, Ollands Road, Reepham

MORE LETTERS ON PAGE 13 →

Flat rate state pension: winners and losers

THE government recently announced that it would be introducing a new flat rate state pension for those retiring after April 2016.

Although the changes will make the state pensions simpler, there will be both winners and losers under the new rules. It's worth remembering, however, that existing pensioners won't be entitled to receive the new flat rate.

The main winners will be those who don't have significant State Second Pension (SSP) entitlements (or are likely not to have them in the future). These will include the self-employed, low earners and those with interrupted National Insurance (NI) contribution records – typically the working mum who has taken time out and/or part-time employment



money matters
JANE ARMSTRONG

while her children are young.

The downside for these winners is that they will need to accumulate 35 qualifying years (which include years spent claiming benefits, including child benefit) to gain entitlement to the full flat rate. Those with less than 35 years will see their pension rate trimmed accordingly, and those with less than 10 qualifying years of NI will not be entitled to a state pension.

The losers will include high earners who will retire after April 2016 and who are currently building up significant SSP

entitlements through their NI contributions. Under the current regime, they would receive a proportionately higher SSP element on retirement, but under the new scheme, they would receive the same as everyone else. They will keep the additional entitlement they've accumulated so far, but no further entitlement will be gained after 2016.

■ **Jane Armstrong is a Chartered Financial Planner at Almary Green Investments Ltd. To discuss any of the above or for help with your financial planning, call Jane on 01603 706740 or email jane.armstrong@almargreen.com**

Almary Green

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YOUR COUNCIL MATTERS

WHY not put your name forward to be a Town Councillor? There is a vacancy.

If you ask me...

Last month, "If you ask me..." asked for your thoughts on tourism in Reepham. Perhaps tourism wasn't much on your minds on cold grey days in March because you didn't send us any replies.

Don't be shy! This month we're asking you about "transport and traffic" in Reepham and no one thinks that is perfect!

In 2003 the Reepham's Future survey asked 12 detailed questions about transport, covering:

1. **Public transport – what's it like?**
2. **Parking – how would you improve it?**
3. **Dangerous traffic spots – are there any?**
4. **Speed control – should there be more?**
5. **Pavements and footpaths – do we need more?**
6. **Cycling ways – where do we need them?**
7. **Street lighting – do you walk on the dark side?**

If you have views on any of these topics, please let us know. Just use one of the contacts at the bottom of this page and give the question number and your opinion. For example, you could answer simply: "4. Speed hump on Cawston Road near Overton Way". We would know what you mean.

A better place to live

Thanks to most of Reepham's dog walkers. After last month's appeal to keep footpaths clear of dog poo there's been a big improvement.

However, a few inconsiderate people still don't bother to clear up; for example, on the footpath between Cawston Road and Wood Dalling Road. If you know of other "blackspots", send us the details.

This month, "A better place to live" is about "roadside rubbish". Some is from passing traffic but most is litter from a small minority in Reepham.

We shouldn't have to go round clearing litter we didn't throw down but, if we want Reepham to be clean and tidy, we'll just have to do our bit.

Why don't we copy a good tradition from Norway? In the week leading up to their National Day everyone finds a few minutes to make sure the verges and pavements where they live are litter-free and tidy.

Saturday 23 April is St Georges Day so, before our national day, why don't we all take a plastic bag and 15 minutes to litter-pick where we live?

Your Town Council

Chairman: Les Paterson	Giles Cutts
Deputy Chairman: Chris Wheeler (Broadland District Councillor)	James Joyce (Norfolk County Councillor)
Sara Birtles	David Patience
Mike Cowdrey	Andrea Wilson
	Anne Woollett

Town Clerk: Jo Boxall **Finance Officer:** Judith Flack

What can't Reepham afford to lose?

Every year, separate from the regular Town Council meetings, there is a Town Meeting, which this year will be in May.

The point of a Town Meeting is to give everyone in Reepham the chance to express their views or ask questions in public about any aspect of the running of the town.

In the past it has worked well to have a main topic as a focus. This year the topic is, "What should be placed on Reepham's Community Asset List?"

What is that and why is it important?

The Localism Act 2011 allows communities to nominate public or private amenities such as community centres, libraries, village shops, markets or pubs as "community assets" if they "further the social well-being or social interests of the local community".

"Social interests" cover cultural, recreational and sporting assets but aren't limited to these. In simple terms, a business or amenity can be a community asset if its loss would badly affect the lives of some of our community.

This is important because, if something like a post office or a pub is threatened with closure or demolition but is on the Community Asset List, the owner cannot get rid of the asset for six months.

This delay gives parish councils and eligible community groups time to organise a bid to save the asset. However, at the end of that period the owner can choose to sell the asset to anyone at any price.

It is therefore important to tell the Town Council what you believe are assets Reepham can't afford to lose.

So please, as soon as you can, give us your list of the 10 businesses or amenities that are most important to you, in order of importance. It doesn't matter how you contact us, but please do it and soon. Your opinions are vital to a good Town Meeting in May.

... and finally

Finally, a plug for Broadland District Council's website. Have a look at www.broadland.gov.uk There is a lot of useful advice and information there, some of which could save you money.

Contacts (we can only do what you want if we know what you want)

Text: 07788 546175

Email: yourcouncilmatters@hotmail.co.uk

Tweet: Your Council Matters @YourCouncilMatters

Facebook: Your Council Matters

Post: "Your Council Matters", Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham, Norfolk NR10 4JW

(Please do not telephone the Town Clerk to contribute to "Your Council Matters")

We now have a blog at www.reephamlife.co.uk

New Spring stock washed down with Tea and cake!



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Wed 1st May - 26 June 6 15pm-8pm

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Digital Photography Portrait Workshop - £35 pp at Reepham College - Saturday 11th May -10am-3pm

This is a practical workshop which covers photography and Photoshop techniques that can be used to edit and enhance your portraits. The workshop is divided into two sessions. In the morning you will have the opportunity to photograph a portrait subject; so make sure you bring your camera and that the batteries are fully charged.

In the afternoon we will transfer to the IT suite where you can download and learn how to retouch and enhance your photographs.

Introduction to Digital Photography Workshop - £35 pp at New Frost Hall, Foulsham - Thursday 16th May - 10am-3pm

This is a practical one day workshop which concentrates on exploring some of the capabilities of your compact or DSLR camera. Your tutor will explain some of the cameras functions and teach you how to improve your composition and framing.



To book a place please contact Reepham Learning Community – 01603 308133 (term time)
Sandie Athow 07796 698127 (other times) Email – rlc@reephamhigh.com
For further details of our other courses, please visit www.reephamlearningcommunity.co.uk

feature

Award-winning brewery makes a refreshing change

REEPHAM'S award-winning Panther Brewery continues to extend its range of products and has developed new technology that keeps beer fresher for longer.

This progressive micro-brewery recently received several Campaign for Real Ale awards: Panther Golden won the CAMRA Norfolk Real Ale in a Bottle 2012 award in the Golden Ale category; Panther Black was a runner-up in the Stout and Porter category; and Panther Red a runner-up in the Best Bitter category in 2011.

Panther Black was also awarded first prize in the porter/stout category at the Norwich City of Ale event in June 2011.

Meanwhile, the company has been chosen for a brewery tour on 19 April as part of CAMRA's Annual General Meeting, which this year takes place in Norwich from 19-21 April.

Named after a large panther-like cat that Reepham inhabitants claim to have seen prowling in the countryside, Panther Brewery has grown significantly since it was established in 2010 by owner and head brewer Martin James, who acquired the equipment and leasehold of the former Reepham Brewery, located on Collers Way industrial estate, off Wood Dalling Road.

This real-ale producer, which continues to expand through sales diversity and recently took on a new apprentice, is a "five-barrel brewery" making a weekly batch of 820 litres (that's around 1,500 pints to traditionalists).

Panther uses special types of malt barley grown in Norfolk as well as local water. Around 70% of output is supplied in casks and the remainder in bottles. Last year, the company increased production by 30% compared with 2011, and output continues to expand through additions to the product range and the steady acquisition of new customers in Norfolk and further afield.

The brewery is now able to cater for small pubs, restaurants, clubs and sports bars with its new Caskfresh system, which allows real ale to be kept fresh for up to three months – and helps publicans by reducing wastage.

This innovative technology is based on a multi-layer, self-venting bag-in-box system, similar to the concept used in a wine box, and the materials are up to 90% recyclable.

Caskfresh is available in 10 litres (18



Martin James (left) and Alex Simpson of Panther Brewery



Panther Brewery's stand at the Norfolk Catering & Hospitality Expo 2013 showing the evolution of ale containers – wooden, stainless steel, plastic and the new Caskfresh, shown in the six-high shelving unit

pints) and 20 litres (36 pints) formats, which makes it easy to carry and store. The system incorporates an adaptor that allows simple and quick connection to existing beer pumps.

"Secondary fermentation also takes

place inside the bag, which enhances the depth and complexity of flavour for added enjoyment of all breeds of Panther ale," said Mr James.

"This is also beneficial to the consumer as they can now always enjoy a fresh-tasting pint by eliminating the time restraints that generally occur with traditional casks."

Last year, the company used the "wort" of the award-winning Black Panther and distilled it five times at the English Spirit Distillery in Cambridgeshire to produce a bourbon-style "whiskey" called Spirit of Panther. All but a few of the 60 bottles, each containing an American oak stave, were sold just before Christmas, Mr James revealed.

Panther also makes use of the Reepham Rover community minibus for brewery trips, visiting pubs and beer festivals that support Panther Brewery.

■ **Panther Brewery. Tel: 07766 558215.**
www.pantherbrewery.co.uk

Reprieve for The Crown as planning application rejected

FROM PAGE 1

to resist the change of use for pubs.

However, unless a community group emerges within the next few months, it is unlikely that a future proposal for a change of use of The Crown would be refused, according to Town Council chairman Les Paterson.

If it can be demonstrated to be a commercially viable business without the support of a major pub chain, the hope is that customers will now somehow find the funds required to buy the pub. "The choice is theirs," he said. "We have won

that opportunity for them."

A spokesperson for property agents Everard Cole confirmed that no one has come forward to buy The Crown on an existing use basis. Several offers have been received, but these have all been for residential use, he said, adding that Punch Taverns is currently reviewing the planning notice and that no decision has been made regarding the future of the business.

It is also not yet known if the applicants for the change of use will appeal against the planning committee's decision.



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Bure Valley Railway Walk

Saturday 20th April 2013

Sunday 21st April 2013

Three and Nine mile
walks

Wroxham - Coltishall -
Aylsham

Aylsham - Coltishall -
Wroxham

Register at www.bvw2013.co.uk
or write to P.O.Box 55 NR12
7WU or phone Andrew Hadley
07810450758

Macmillan Cancer Support, registered charity in England and
Wales (261017), Scotland (SC039907) and the Isle of Man (604)

news

Further consultation for Dereham Road development

MORE than 150 people attended a public consultation event at the Old Brewery House Hotel on 7 March to discuss a proposed residential development on Dereham Road, Reepham.

The proposal could see up to 90 houses being built on land either side of the B1145 on the main western approach to the town.

The event was organised by Icen Development, a Norwich-based development company specialising in commercial and residential property.

Other partners represented included architects Feilden+Mawson; Anglia Survey & Design (ASD), which offers architectural, surveying and civil engineering consultancy; property consultancy Savills UK; and The Landscape Partnership, a team of landscape architects.

More consultation is planned over the next few months, with a full planning application possibly being submitted in late summer.

The 3.91 hectares of land owned by Michael Buxton form part of "Reepham 2", one of Broadland District Council's shortlisted sites under its Local Development Framework.

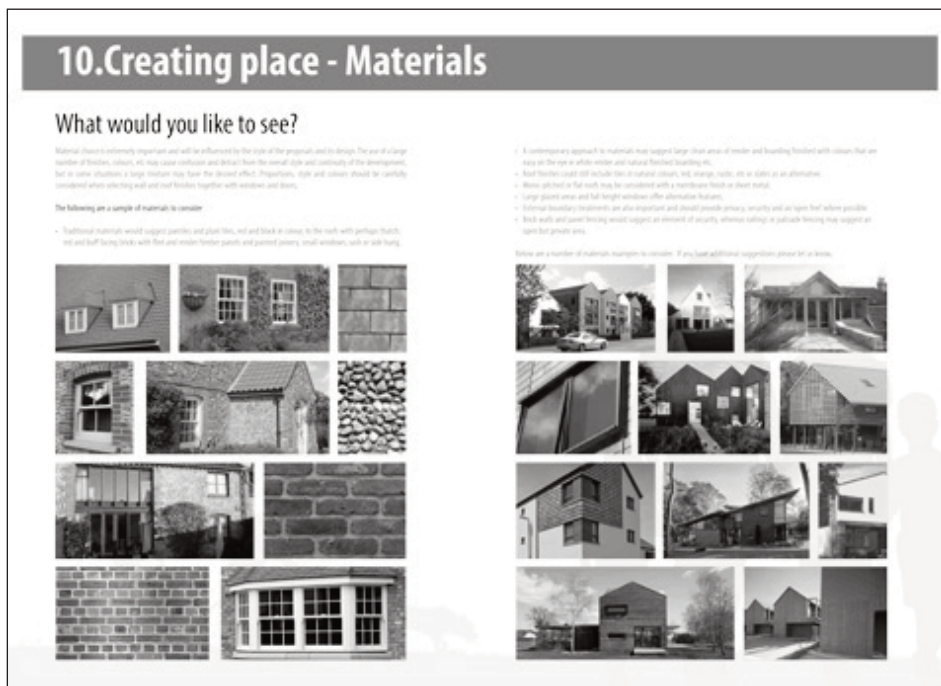
The proposed development is well located for the schools, doctors' surgery, open space and the town centre, and is said to provide the "opportunity for delivering a compact and sustainable form of new development to the town" and one "that integrates with the existing landscape, neighbourhood and community".

It is proposed that Dereham Road will be widened to 6.0 metres across the site frontage with 1.8-metre-wide footpaths on both sides of the road connecting to the existing footways at Smuggler's Lane and Park Lane.

The existing 30 mph speed limit would be moved westwards, as would the right of way to the existing residential property on the south of Dereham Road – The Cart House (formerly Blossom Barn).

Owing to the topography of the site, it is envisaged that foul water will be drained to an adoptable pumping station and pumped off-site to the existing foul drainage network at the junction of Park Lane and Dereham Road.

Icen Development's director Jerry Fuller said the principal aim of the development is to create a high-quality residential site for Reepham. He added: "We



Residents were asked what type of materials they would like to see used or feel would be appropriate for the proposed residential development on Dereham Road

want to be as open as possible and give people the opportunity to be involved in the consultation process and have an input into the design."

The partners are also looking at other potential opportunities that could benefit the community, including expansion of the doctors' surgery as well as provision of a community woodland area and land for a new bowling green and clubhouse.

A main aim of the consultation was to get input and ideas on the potential form, style and shape of residential development considered appropriate for the town in this location.

However, many people attending were disappointed in the lack of new information presented and used the event to raise their concerns about such estate-type development on greenfield sites on the edge of the town.

On resident commented: "What wasn't clear at all was why they want to develop in and around Reepham, and how the local infrastructure would support this development, particularly in terms of the schools." (See Letters, page 5.)

Mr Fuller said the consultation went "as we expected and we were pleased with how well attended it was. We recorded about 125 people who signed in, so numbers were probably slightly higher than that.

"This was a consultation to gain initial thoughts on the site, and we now have

a lot of design work, etc., to be getting on with."

Following evaluation of any feedback, Icen Development plan to hold a public exhibition of the design proposals for the site, possibly in May, where the community will have another opportunity to comment. Presentation of the final designs is provisionally scheduled for July, with a full planning application in July/August at the earliest.

Regarding the land off Dereham Road, Icen Development specifically asked:

- What architectural style would you like to see or feel would be appropriate?
- What type of materials would you like to see used or feel would be appropriate?
- What type of open space and play provision should be considered as part of the scheme?
- Are there any other thoughts and ideas you think we should consider as part of our design work?

Meanwhile, campaign group Realistic Reepham said it presented to Icen Development around 85 completed forms from residents objecting to the proposed development.

The group highlighted specific concerns regarding road transport, employment, schools and doctors, utilities, shopping and services, and the environment and landscape.

Reepham Economic Strategy moves forward

THE Economic Strategy for Reepham is continuing to progress. Over the course of January and February, Ingham Pinnock Associates undertook a significant programme of baseline research.

The research drew upon statistical information on the local economy, recently published data from the 2011 Census, the results of numerous consultation meetings and a visual survey of the town.

The baseline research was presented to the Town Team over the course of two meetings and highlighted a number of interesting points.

For example, we now know the population has grown by 250 people since 2001 (from 2,450 to 2,700); we also understand just how important the High School & College is in terms of providing local employment, as well as the high concentration of very small businesses and the fondness of residents for their local independent retailers.

Having completed the baseline research Kate Pinnock and Ross Ingham have synthesised all the information they have collected and identified six major issues that adversely affect the economy of the town.

These issues were recently reviewed with the Town Team and will be the subject of further work and refinement, but at present, are as follows:

- 1 Retail sector** – the retail sector in Reepham is relatively fragile (mirroring national trends), as highlighted by the impact of the recent temporary closure of HSBC
- 2 Employment space** – there is a limited supply of the right kind of floorspace for new, growing or in-moving businesses
- 3 Visitor offer** – the visitor offer is not particularly clear and could be improved to capture more spend from tourists in Norfolk
- 4 Town centre** – while the town centre is unique and very attractive, there are a number of issues that mean it is not fulfilling its potential role in the economy of the town
- 5 New development** – any new development must be of the highest possible quality to ensure the special character of the town is not diluted
- 6 Business base** – there is a lack of medium-sized businesses based in the town, which limits local employment opportunities and local economic growth

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5. New development – any new development must be of the highest possible quality to ensure the special character of the town is not diluted.

6. Business base – there is a lack of medium-sized businesses based in the town, which limits local employment opportunities and local economic growth.

A refined version of these issues will form the building blocks of the economic strategy. They will provide vital information on areas for the Town Team to focus their efforts in terms of designing projects and initiatives that will deliver greater economic resilience and growth.

Work is ongoing and we look forward to providing details of projects and ideas as they start to emerge from the strategy soon.

■ Ingham Pinnock Associates, Cambridge. Tel: Kate Pinnock 07974 363991 or Ross Ingham 07827 240059. Email: office@inghampinnock.com Web: www.inghampinnock.com

Divorce: how am I going to afford it?

AFTER “how long will it take?” and “who will get the house?”, the third most frequently asked question that divorce clients ask me is “how I am I going to afford it?”

Legal aid for family law for 99% of the population ended on 31 March. The cost of a divorce is £1,500-5,000 in a typical case of a “working family”.

If the case is more complex with a lot of issues involved and where the parties have no level of trust and cannot co-operate, the costs can be very much more: in excess of £10,000.

Some people can budget; it will take perhaps 8-18 months to get through it, so it might work out at a few hundred pounds a month.

Others borrow from family or friends,

legal view

MARK FOLEY



or their bank. Others can agree with their solicitor that the solicitor will get paid at the end of the case.

Yet others will agree they are going to do part of the work themselves and just use the solicitor for the most difficult and technical legal aspects, which in divorce is dividing up assets and dealing with income.

Whatever your circumstances you will need to have this discussion up front and explore the possibilities.

For my part, I welcome these chats and I am told that people find me approach-

able. It usually takes ten minutes on the phone to find out what can be done to pay the fees.

A first meeting to discuss the divorce process usually takes an hour, and where possible I prefer to see you at your home or office, wherever you keep all your papers.

Divorce is difficult, but it doesn't have to be ruinous or inconvenient!

■ To discuss any of the above or for help with your legal affairs, call Mark Foley – Solicitor on 01362 688946 or 07833 332055, email: law@25am.co.uk or visit www.linkedlaw.co.uk



views



How to increase the retail space

YOUR report on the Reepham Economic Strategy highlights how lucky we are in Reepham to have a range of small, private, individual shops in the Market Place and how to keep them. Local people need to support these shops otherwise we could lose them as is happening in villages all over the country.

Reepham is bucking the trend with Hampton's new shop and tea rooms now open, and the new baker on the market causing a buzz with people queuing for his bread on Wednesday morning. He tells me he would like to have a shop in Reepham if one was available.

It made me realise that there is very little space for new shop units to rent in the town centre and I wonder what ideas the Town Team have for increasing the retail area.

More shops selling a wider range of goods will surely bring in more customers – and that will benefit all the shops, old and new, and also all the people who live in Reepham.

Name and address supplied

■ You raise several interesting and useful points. One of the key observations we have already made is the lack of available “employment space” (retail, office, light industrial, etc.) within the town centre, which restricts the town's ability to grow and for existing businesses to expand.

On the one hand, this is a good thing: unlike many other places, Reepham does not have a high vacancy rate (the national average is about 15% at present), which is great for the town. On the other hand, however, it does mean that those looking to start up, relocate or expand will have difficulty finding suitable accommodation.

The type of accommodation provided is also a key issue for consideration. For example, you are unlikely to find traditional office-based businesses wanting to take space in an out-of-town office unit. They will probably have relocated to Reepham to enjoy a certain quality of life and possibly be looking for accommodation more along the lines of converted barns or historic buildings in the town centre.

One of the current issues facing places like Reepham is that building speculative office/employment space is not financially viable; therefore, it is unlikely that the market will provide space independently.

We believe this is a key issue for Reepham and, as you will see from the article in this edition (page 12), we believe the lack of available employment space within the town is one of the key issues affecting the local economy.

There are a number of solutions the Town Team will be looking at over the coming weeks to mitigate this issue and, hopefully, we will be able to report back to you shortly on this.

Kate Pinnock, Ingham Pinnock Associates

YOUR LETTERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Articles by school students

I HOPE your newspaper does well. I like Reepham, it's got a lot going for it. How about an article/story each issue by one of the school students? – *Mike van der Es, University of East Anglia*

The publication looks great! Congratulations! The Free Ads did make me giggle! – *Becky Medler, Britannia Blinds Norfolk, Lenuade*

It's brilliant, just what Reepham needs. – *Fritba Waters, Reepham*

It is excellent. We really do think it is impressive. – *Rosie Foottit, Whitwell*

It looks great, well done! – *Dawn Town, Hansells*

I am very impressed with the first edition of Reepham Life. Well Done! – *John Tym, Jordans, Whitwell*

Sincere congratulations for making it happen. – *Trevor Ashwin, Cawston Road, Reepham*

It's great for Reepham to have something like this again! – *Laura Stevens, The Original Cottage Company, Reepham*

Congratulations on the launch of the first edition of *Reepham Life*. – *Tim and Paula Fryer, Cawston Road, Reepham*

Well done and best wishes for the future with *Reepham Life*. – *Celia and Eddie Else, Reepham*

I have read through the first edition of *Reepham Life* and really enjoyed it. – *Hayden Key, Wood Dalling*

Very informative. Well done to everyone. – *Kathy Buchanan, The Moor, Reepham*

Most popular news stories on reephamlife.co.uk to 24/03/13

- 1 Proposal for 90 new houses on Dereham Road
- 2 New tea room opens in Reepham
- 3 Reprieve for The Crown as planning application refused
- 4 Public consultation on Dereham Road housing proposal
- 5 Open meeting to discuss Whitwell Common proposals
- 6 Plans for former station yard to be developed
- 7 Refurbishment work to start at Reepham and Aylsham GP surgeries
- 8 Households wanted for Green Deal scheme
- 9 Fishmonger closes
- 10 Market Place decision a blow to Festival programme

news

Reepham Society's future to be decided at AGM

THE future of the Reepham Society will be discussed at a meeting on 9 April. A new committee and officers will need to be elected at the Annual General Meeting otherwise the society could face dissolution.

Former chairman Jolyon Booth has written to all current members, explaining that at an emergency committee meeting in February, six committee members felt they "had no alternative but to stand down".

He added that all these committee members "remain deeply committed to the core aims and well-being of the Reepham Society" and that they had taken this course of action "with great reluctance, principally because a colleague has made it clear there is a feeling within the society that the committee no longer speaks for the interests and concerns of the majority of the members".

The committee is thus no longer quorate and is therefore unable to represent the society to the Charity Commissioners who, under these circumstances, require an Extraordinary General Meeting of the society to be held, so that a new commit-

tee and officers can be elected.

Meanwhile, 31 people returned a questionnaire sent recently to Reepham Society members.

The most popular subject for future talks was "local history", followed by "sustainable development" and "conservation"; ten other subjects were put forward as suggestions. Fourteen members were happy with the reduced number of five talks a year, with nine suggesting there should be 6-12 a year.

The most popular thing that people would like that is currently not done by the society is a guided visit around the town. This could be held at weekends and aimed at local people, visitors and people from like-minded societies, as has happened in the past.

Most members were happy with the continued use of St Michael's as a venue for talks, with others preferring a return to the Town Hall.

Various suggestions were made as to how the society could engage with young people, such as liaising with local schools, inviting a young friend to talks

and finding out from students what topics they would like covered.

An annual or quarterly newsletter to inform members, particularly those who are housebound, about the work of the society was suggested by several people. One member noted that the society used to produce a business directory and that its absence was a loss to the community.

Some people thought the Reepham Society had "lost its way" or "run its course" and suggested a major review of its aims and objectives and how it involved members would improve the society.

Other members spoke of how in the past the society had been more involved with local issues and how to deal with them in a positive way, while some raised concerns about the lack of leadership and direction.

- The Reepham Society AGM will be held at 8.30 pm on 9 April in St Michael's, Reepham. It will be preceded by a talk by Richard Barham on Norfolk Churches at 7.30 pm. While anyone can come to hear the talk, only Society members may attend the AGM.




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leisure

Plants, plants, glorious plants!

Everyone thinks they exclusively live in the “real world”. What more real world can there be than your garden, where bulbs are bursting up, and all through this foul and freezing winter the unseen world under the soil has been working and waiting?

If you do have an idle moment, check out the website of the Reepham & District Gardening Club for all the latest information about this thriving group of keen local gardeners (www.reephamgardenclub.org.uk).

Monthly meetings are held in Reepham Town Hall, starting at 7.45 pm, when our chairman kicks off with a few notices and introduces the speaker. This is where predictability ends, as you never know what will happen next.

I remember a talk last year on the establishment of a wildlife garden pond in the middle of Norwich by an elderly widow in memory of her late husband.

We laughed out loud at her tale of discovery; all the “expert” books she got from the library and then, using her common sense, ignored completely.

Her industry and commitment had to be



admired, but it was her charm, knowledge and humour that won us over, and sent us home to find a corner for our own pond.

Please join us at the next meeting on 16 April when the talk will be on “Bees in Your Garden”. (The experts look quite young, but they actually have more than 280 years of experience between them!)

This is also the AGM (don't be alarmed, the business is got through very quickly), which starts early at 7.30 pm in Reepham Town Hall.

Remember, too, that the Annual Plant Sale starts at 8.30 am on Saturday 11 May in Reepham's Market Place, so do come

and buy glorious plants at reasonable prices.

Of course, we need glorious plants to sell, so please bring your surplus to the Bircham Centre, Reepham, on Friday 10 May from 6 pm to 7 pm or first thing on Saturday morning; all plants will be sold in aid of the club.

When I prune my Black Knight Buddleia I stick bits in for cuttings. When weeding, I often find self-set plants, such as bay, geranium, feverfew and lemon balm, so if I don't need them I pot them up.

My handsome *Euphorbia griffithii* usually expands beyond its allotted area, so I split it up, as I do with *Phlox* and Japanese anemones (did you know they don't really come from Japan?).

So, all these will be there at the plant sale. Unusual plants will be welcome, but remember that even those that you might consider to be common may be new and needed by someone else.

■ **If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Karen Brockman on 10603 870201 before the AGM on 16 April**

An introduction to Reepham Country Market

DO you enjoy making cakes? Do you have a speciality that you would like to share with others? Does your garden produce too much for your own needs?

There is a way to get a little bit of money back for yourself, contributing towards the cost of seed or your weekly grocery bill.

The Country Markets organisation has been running since 1919, when the Agricultural Organisation Society (now the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs – DEFRA) sponsored the setting up of co-operative markets to sell surplus produce.

There are currently more than 350 country markets throughout the country with 12 in Norfolk. Country Markets Ltd and all the Country Market Societies are registered as industrial and provident societies with the Financial Services Authority.

We are a membership-based co-operative social enterprise that enables individual members to sell their home-made, home-grown and hand-crafted



produce direct to the general public under the Country Markets label.

Any one over the age of 16 can become a member and sell their wares through the markets, provided they meet the guidelines laid down by the organisation.

Reepham Country Market has now been established for 26 years, trading on a Wednesday morning from 8 am to 11 am in the Bircham Centre, Market Place, Reepham, selling home-baked cakes and savouries, bread, jams, chutneys, eggs, home-grown fruit and vegetables in season and craft items.

Our small band of producers would love more people to come and join us to increase the selection of produce for our customers.

If you are interested, pop into the market on a Wednesday morning and have a chat with some of our current producers. We look forward to seeing you – customers are welcome as well!

www.country-markets.co.uk

www.reephamlife.co.uk

Bowls club is raring to go (weather permitting)

FIRST, a big thank you to Reepham Home Hardware for their kind donation of £50 to help with the maintenance of the green. If you would like to help please contact me.

The new season starts this month and we are raring to go. The opening day is Saturday 20 April at 2.30 pm and anybody is welcome to come along if they wish to have a chat with the club members and maybe even have a roll-up (weather permitting).

We will also have our first roll-up on Thursday 25 April at 6.30 pm and once again you are all welcome to come along to give it a try (once again, weather permitting).

■ **Barry Barker, Reepham Town Bowls Club, Townsend Court, Reepham, Norfolk NR10 4LD. Tel: 01603 870337. Email: barrydbarker@yahoo.co.uk**

**Deadline for May issue:
17 April 2013**



Here to help...

Sports courses for young people

Through Tots 2 Teens and Sportivate young people are able to access a wide range of sporting activities.

Broadland District Council's Tots 2 Teens run holiday activities for children aged five years upwards. The activities take place during school holidays throughout the Broadland District and are for children who live or go to school in Broadland. To register, enquire or book please call 01603 430525 or visit www.broadland.gov.uk/t2t

Through the Sportivate programme young people aged between 18 and 25 years old are get the opportunity to take part in climbing, Zumba, golf, kayaking, skiing, karate and trampoling this spring and are an ideal way to try a new sport or have a go at something you did in the past without committing large amounts of time and money.

For more information about Sportivate, for course dates and registration forms go to www.broadland.gov.uk/sportivate or call Maria Alborough, Sports Development Officer at Broadland District Council on 01603 430570 or email maria.alborough@broadland.gov.uk



Time to learn

The EcoCube on the Rackheath Industrial Estate hosts a large range of training courses for business or leisure, and includes a Food Technology Kitchen and Eco laboratory that are all available to hire when courses are not taking place.

Below is list of courses that are coming up which gives you idea of the variety of courses that are run at The EcoCube: -

- Image Manipulation using Photoshop Adobe Elements 11 - Monday 15th April (9:30am – 4:00pm)
- Level 2 Award in Emergency First Aid at Work – Tuesday 16th April (9:30am - 4:30pm)
- Getting to Know Your Digital SLR Camera – Wednesday 17th April (9:30am - 4:00pm)
- Basic Computer Skills – Thursday 18th & Thursday 25th April (9:30am - 4:00pm)
- Managing Social Media for you Business – Tuesday 23rd April (9:30am - 4:00pm)
- HABC Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering (Refresher) – Wednesday 24th April (1:30pm - 5:00pm)
- Intermediate Excel – Wednesday 24th April (9:30am – 4:00pm)
- Frugal Food – Thursday 25th April (10am – 2pm)
- Producing a PowerPoint Presentation – Monday 29th April (9:30am - 4:00pm)

As a Broadland Resident, discounts are available on the majority of courses. There is also a special rate available to Senior Citizens. For more information about the courses or to book a place please contact The EcoCube on 01603 295021 and speak to either Louise or Matt, e-mail ecocube@broadland.gov.uk or visit www.broadland.gov.uk/trainingcourses



Business Support and Grants

Broadland District Council offer a host of support and advice to any of our residents that are looking to take that step and start up their own business.

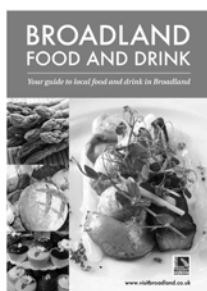
As part of our support package we can offer a free confidential appointment with a local Business Advisor to help you get the ball rolling. At the appointment you can discuss your ideas and also the free business start up training courses that we run to help you understand what is involved and the support available to help as you get started. These appointments take place fortnightly and usually last for about an hour.

We also offer small grants for new and existing businesses depending on eligibility and availability.

If you would like to book an appointment or discuss what we can do to help your business, please contact Jane Bagley, Economic Development Officer on 01603 430449 or email jane.bagley@broadland.gov.uk

Broadland Food and Drink

Broadland has long been associated with a rich agricultural heritage and the rolling countryside is home to many farming communities and businesses who produce good honest food and drink. From artisan wood-fired bread, meat, milk and cheese sourced from local herds, jams and cakes and hand crafted ales, there is a wealth of variety available locally.



We are committed to supporting these businesses and the Broadland Food and Drink Directory shows you where you can buy this delicious, fresh produce, plus restaurants, pubs, cafés and tea rooms that use the best, local and seasonal ingredients.

For your free copy of the directory, please contact the Aylsham Tourist Information Centre on 01263 733903, email aylsham.tic@broadland.gov.uk or download a copy from www.visitbroadland.gov.uk

Community Small Grants Programme

Broadland District Council's Community Small Grants Programme offers up to £500 towards the cost of community-led projects costing up to £5,000. The aim of the programme is to fund projects that bring benefits to community life. This can include projects such as:

- Supporting older people
- Supporting young people
- Supporting 'community champions'
- Supporting the environment
- Supporting community activities

The small grant scheme is available all year round, subject to funds being available and there is an application form to complete and eligibility criteria to fulfill. We aim to assess applications and let groups know within 4 weeks of receipt of a completed application form.

Application Forms and Guidance Notes are available on Broadland District Council's website: www.broadland.gov.uk/council_and_democracy

We recommend that groups considering making an application contact the Economic Development & Tourism Officer on 01603 630260 or e-mail grants@broadland.gov.uk

If you have a great idea for a project that will benefit your community we will be pleased to hear from you.



environment

Exploring our footpaths – Reepham chosen for project

REEPHAM has been chosen as one of four parishes in Norfolk to take part in a project that aims to investigate and raise awareness of our historic footpaths.

The scheme is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and managed by the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England.

There is particular interest in Reepham because of the way in which the unspoilt paths form an integral network of routes between the surrounding countryside and the town.

The project aims to explore the cultural aspects of footpaths by looking at their plant life, oral and written memories, routes and destinations.

The information gathered may be used to develop artwork, creative writing, performance, photography and online documentation for all to access

Guided walks will encourage partici-



pants to consider pathways in new ways and will be led by specialists from the University of East Anglia's Landscape Group.

People of all ages are invited to join in and discover more about the footpaths around Reepham, which form some of the oldest marks upon the landscape by people as they hunted, farmed, traded and travelled.

A footpath used to walk the dog today may have originated in the Bronze Age as an ancient route, and these rights of way continue to provide a tangible link with the past as people can now literally walk in the footsteps of their ancestors.

At this early stage in the project the first task is to pull together a group who can foster and drive the activities and community involvement.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this, please contact Trevor and Imogen Ashwin at info@world-tree.co.uk or telephone 01603 870523.

Helen Lindsay

Walking through the seasons for science

THE University of East Anglia is undertaking research in rural areas of East Anglia and is looking for some Reepham walkers that may be interested in taking part.

Campylobacter is a micro-organism that causes diarrhoea. While it is known to be found in some foods such as uncooked chicken, UEA researchers are looking at other places that these bacteria may be found.

This particular section of the research aims to use volunteer walkers to collect data on the presence of *Campylobacter* in rural areas popular with walkers.

UEA is asking three volunteers to walk a designated 3-4 km route near Reepham one or two times a month, spread over a 16-month period from April 2013 to July 2014.

This is expected to take the volunteers about one hour on each occasion, on a Monday around midday. They will be asked to walk wearing a "bootsock" over the outside of one shoe or boot, which, when removed at the end of the walk, will be parcelled up and posted off to a laboratory for testing.

Volunteers will be compensated for their time. The walk has to take place on a Monday for scientific reasons.

To register your interest and/or to discuss the research further, please contact: Mike van der Es, University of East Anglia 01603



UEA staff testing the walk from Salle

593939. Email: mike.vanderes@uea.ac.uk

We will call you back to save your telephone bill. Please note that we are only

permitted to accept walkers to take part who are over the age of 18 and who will not be taking pets on the walks.

Review of fencing and grazing on Whitwell Common

THE Whitwell Common Trustees welcomed around 30 people to an open meeting in St Michael's on 9 March. We are grateful to all who turned up, especially Ed Stocker from Norfolk County Council and Dave Weaver from Natural England.

Ed brought a noticeboard to display the information sheet he is preparing and another to put up temporary notices, and some bird-nesting signs. Dave brought aerial photos with two options for the fence line. Special thanks, too, to Daphne

Ludgate for bringing some delicious cakes.

Several people said they enjoyed the meeting, which turned into quite a social occasion, and it was pleasing to see representatives from Reepham Town Council and *Reepham Life*.

With the help of the questions asked at the meeting and comments made in the notebook, we will review the situation as we continue to discuss the viability of fencing and grazing part of the Common.

■ **Tony Footitt, Chairman Whitwell Common Trustees. Email: acfootitt@hotmail.com**

sports

RHSC plans to build community leisure facility

by **HAYDEN KEY**

AS part of its long-term development plan, Reepham High School & College has revealed proposals to update its sports and leisure facilities.

Since achieving academy status in October 2012, RHSC has sought to improve its current sports hall and gym, which are now considered outdated and too small for the growing student population.

With an estimated cost for the building work of £2 million, the new facilities being proposed include a "four court" sports hall that will be large enough for cricket nets, a weights room, a climbing wall, changing facilities and a viewing platform for spectators.

The school's proposals follow the closure in December 2012 of the leisure club at the Old Brewery House Hotel in Reepham, which included an indoor swimming pool, gym, squash courts and sauna.

Asked about the possibility of including a swimming pool in the latest plans, RHSC business manager Peter Collins said:



NORTH ELEVATION

Plans for a new community sports hall for Reepham High School & College have been drawn up by Teather + Walls Architects

"We'd love to have one, and there has been a lot of talk about this, but the reality is that it would be too expensive to run." (A proposal to include a squash court has also been suggested previously.)

Mr Collins said the school is planning to apply for a government academy maintenance grant in September. If the funding is awarded, the new sports hall could be built within 18 months of a successful application.

Based on preliminary plans already drawn up by Reepham-based Teather + Walls Architects, the 690-square-metre building would be sited to the southwest of the existing College and partially hidden from the road.

RHSC also intends to open the facilities to the public after school hours, as well as over the weekend and during school holidays.

If the plans are approved and building goes ahead, there is a further proposal to turn the current sports hall into a dramatic arts centre, which could include a drama studio and workshop facilities that might also be available for use by community groups.

While donations from the public or any generous benefactors are always welcome, RHSC will be particularly seeking moral support from the community, especially during the lengthy planning application process.

Everyone invited to tennis club open days

REEPHAM Tennis Club is holding two open days on Saturday 20 April and Sunday 21 April from 2-5 pm. Everyone is invited to see the refurbished tennis courts and new club house, and join in with a number of events throughout the weekend.

Active Norfolk will be running some fun activities on Saturday for all ages to try tennis for the first time. Members and committee members will also be on hand to show people around and answer any questions about joining the club, coaching and any other enquiries.

It is also hoped to announce the long-awaited coaching programme, which will include sessions for juniors (all age groups), adults and cardio-tennis sessions for those interested in a more physical

workout.

There will be the opportunity to sign-up for some free taster sessions that have been generously funded by Norfolk Lawn Tennis Association and will be run by Active Norfolk. People will also be encouraged to enter a fun knock-out competition that will be held on Sunday afternoon.

Members will be providing drinks and refreshments throughout the weekend and new members can sign up.

Reepham Tennis Club opened in October 2012. The refurbishment of the existing courts at Stimpson's Piece has been made possible by award funding from Sport England and Broadland District Council.

The new club secured almost £46,000 of Olympic legacy funding from Sport England's Inspired Facilities Fund.

The club also secured an additional £10,000 Community Grant from BDC towards the costs of refurbishing the existing courts and installing the new facilities, and £1,000 from the Norfolk Lawn Tennis Association.

Membership is open to all sections of the local community, regardless of age or ability. Members' club sessions are held on Mondays from 10 am-12 noon, Tuesday from 6-9 pm, Thursday from 2-4 pm and Sunday from 2-5 pm.

■ **Full details about membership, booking courts, coaching and the latest news and events can be found at www.reephamtennisclub.co.uk or email info@reephamtennisclub.co.uk**

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sports

Hidden gem on the doorstep of Reepham



VIRGIN Active Norfolk Health and Racquets Club is a name that many will be unfamiliar with – despite the club being next door to Asda in Norwich and formerly known as the Norwich Sports Village.

The club has a lot to offer, whether visiting as an individual or as a family. It's perfect if you just want to work out in the gym or have a swim in one of the fantastic pools.

You can also take the children along and get them involved in fitness. They get to socialise with other children of their age, and there is even a crèche for little ones from six weeks of age, so new parents can also get their health regime back into action quickly.

After the recent closure of the Old Brewery House Leisure Centre in Reepham, there is now an even better local option that has much to offer, but at an affordable price.

The facilities at Virgin Active include indoor and outdoor pools, hydrotherapy pool, children's pool, outside hot tub,



steam room and sauna.

A state-of-the-art gym is set over two floors, and the facilities include two studios with a wide range of classes every day, a spin studio and modern changing rooms. At the far end of the club are six indoor tennis courts with a further five outside.

There is also a family lounge in the main building offering a superb menu and a fully licensed bar.

Virgin Active heard about the closure of the Reepham leisure centre and is offering readers of *Reepham Life* a complimentary day with their family to enjoy the club.

To take advantage of this special offer, call 01603 309444 and our membership team will arrange your day. Just quote: "Reepham Life April".

■ **To find out more, visit**
www.virginactive.co.uk/norfolk

In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns...

LOOKING upwards outside, one can see blue skies and sunshine. Unfortunately, in the middle of March there is still snow on the ground and this despite the cricket season beginning in four weeks' time.

But Reepham & Salle Cricket Club is not disheartened. As our 13th year begins we can look back on a period of great success.

We began in 2001 with a few Sunday friendly games. Then we joined the Mid-Norfolk Sunday Cricket League and have risen from Division 4 to Division 1, although this level may be a little too much for us at the moment.

Three years ago we joined the Norfolk Cricket League on Saturday and after three successive promotions we are now in Division 5.

This year we have taken the bold step to run a Saturday 'A' team which will play in Division 8 of the League.

All of this has been achieved by the efforts of the many people, old and young, who have given much of their spare time by managing the club, creating an excellent wicket and outfield, coaching and organising the local young cricketers and raising money to help us improve our facilities.

Our next and most difficult project is to obtain our own pavilion. At present we play on and change in facilities belonging to the Salle Estate. We have been immensely grateful for this, but we feel the time has come for us to create our own facilities.

In the next year or so we are aiming to obtain a lengthy lease from the Estate so that we can apply for grants, and also get planning permission for a new wooden pavilion in keeping with its surroundings. Then the hard work of raising

money begins.

We welcome anyone who can help us, whether they be players of whatever standard, helpers in the running of the club or anyone with some spare cash to donate.

Jim Everton, President

■ **If you would like to join us please contact either myself (01603 873270 or jimeverton@tiscali.co.uk), our secretary Stephanie Harris (01362 668824/07766 426605 or the.harrisfamily@virgin.net), or Paul Harwood (01603 871371 or paul@harwood22.freeserve.co.uk)**

Reepham Kurling Group turns two

REEPHAM Kurling Group has celebrated its second birthday – kurling (or New Age Kurling as it is officially known) has been around for much longer than that.

It is a fun, easy to learn, non-strenuous sport that, contrary to popular belief, is not played on ice! It can be played on any smooth surface (but not carpet), and the kurling stones have small wheels to propel them along.

It is suitable for all ages, both able bodied and disabled alike. For those players who find it difficult to bend, there are

long-handled "pushers" to help.

Our group meets at Reepham Town Hall on Tuesday afternoons from 2 pm to 4 pm and welcomes new members.

The first session is free and after that it costs just £2 a week, which includes refreshments; all equipment is provided. We only play friendly games amongst ourselves and do not enter competitions.

Further information from Gwenda Dove on 01603 870598. If you would rather just come along any Tuesday afternoon, you will be most welcome.

arts

If you think libraries are just about books, think again...

COMPUTERS offer people of all ages great opportunities for learning, research and fun, and are free of charge at libraries across Norfolk. All you need is a library card – which is also free. We also have free subscriptions to sites such as ancestry.com, which.com and COBRA.

At Reepham Library, we have three computers and a scanner available for public use. One of these has Supernova screen magnification and screen reader software. You can book a computer in advance by contacting the library or just drop in to see us.

Staff are always around to help and on Monday afternoons (2.30-3.30 pm), our knowledgeable “Computer Buddy” is on hand to spend a bit more time with you.

So whether you want to surf the internet, chat to friends, study, create a CV or look into your family history, look no further than your friendly local library.

Reepham Library will be submitting regular book reviews to this newspaper from

members of staff and customers. (If you would like to write a review and recommend a book please see library manager Helen Johnson.) Here is the first one from Carolyn Cooper:

The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by Rachel Joyce

WHEN the novel opens Harold Fry is an ordinary retired gentleman living a quiet life in Devon with his wife Maureen. Harold receives a letter out of the blue from a former colleague.

Harold writes back to her but on the way to post his reply he decides to deliver the message in person. He does not have any walking gear with him such as: walking boots, compass, rucksack or mobile phone.

The book follows

his journey from one side of the country to the other. Relationships and the kindness of strangers are examined in this book.

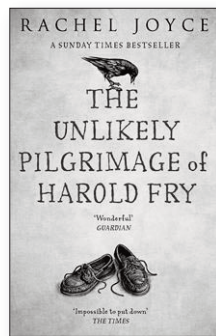
Rachel Joyce has written a story of an ordinary man who keeps on going. This is an uplifting book, well written and I would certainly recommend it.

She has written several plays for BBC Radio 4 and also a TV drama for BBC2. She moved into writing after a 20-year career in theatre and television. *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* is her first novel and she is currently working on a second novel.

April at Reepham Library

THERE'S still a month left of the town read, so if you haven't given *The Woman in the Fifth* a try yet there is still time. Don't forget, if you write us a quick review of the book, we'll give you a free reservation – and you can review on paper or online at:

<http://norfolklibrarybookreviewblog.wordpress.com>



Get ready to reggae, Reepham!

REEPHAM Festival is well known for presenting wide and diverse genres of music.

This year we are presenting Stranger Culture, a superb collective of musicians with a love of reggae music, previously known as Jah Head – the band played to an enthusiastic Sunday afternoon audience last year.

Such was the positive feedback we've invited them back for 2013 to the main field.

The evolution of Stranger Culture began when Norwich Reggae titans Am-bush disbanded and formed Jah Head.

Over the past five years they have played countless gigs around the Norfolk/Suffolk area including Play Fest, Gig in the Park, both Eastern Haze Festivals and One Foot Skank Fest, and supported major reggae bands at Norwich Arts Centre.

Recent changes to the line-up shifted the direction of the band and thus Stranger Culture was born.

The band concentrates on bringing



fresh “reggae vibes with a nod to the past as well as an eye on the future”. We're really looking forward to seeing these guys play on the main field.

Other confirmed acts for the Reepham Festival (Saturday-Sunday 10-11 August 2013) include Dr Feelgood, Buster James, The Vagaband and Tattooed Lies.

Tickets are available from Very Nice Things in Market Place, Reepham, and at Whitwell Station (no booking fee), as well as from www.ueaticketbookings.co.uk (subject to booking fee).

More information on ticket prices, line-up, camping, etc., is available on the Festival website www.reephamfestival.co.uk

A passion for books

TURN the Page artists book fair, which is being held on 3-4 May at The Forum in Norwich, is in its second year and is organised by Reepham artist Jules Allen, whose passion for printmaking and bookbinding was the inspiration behind the event.

The work of 60 artists from the UK and abroad will be available to browse or buy in a stunning display of altered and sculptural books, fine press limited editions and book installations. There is also a programme of events for all age.

■ **For more details, contact Jules Allen at mail@turnthepage.org.uk or visit www.turnthepage.org.uk**

Can you help us monitor Reepham Life distribution?

Reepham Life is monitoring the door-to-door distribution of the newspaper to every property in Reepham Civil Parish.

Please let us know if there are any issues regarding the delivery, such as being left sticking out of letter boxes, left on the doorstep, non-delivery, etc. You can email us on info@reephamlife.co.uk or telephone 01603 308158 and we will do everything we can to try to resolve any

problems.

If you live outside Reepham or in a remote household (or you know someone that does), and would like to receive a free electronic copy of *Reepham Life*, as well as regular email updates, you can subscribe via the website, or for a small charge you can subscribe to receive a printed copy of the newspaper by post. Please contact us for more details.




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reepham past

The Ollands put up for auction



ON Saturday 21 July 1883 the residential estate known as The Ollands was put up for auction at the Norfolk Hotel in Norwich.

William Bircham had the large house that became known as The Ollands built in 1832, in the Elizabethan style, in nearly 19 acres of lawns and parkland.

As well as the main house a further 12 acres of land were to be sold, as well as 16 houses and cottages, nearly all of which can still be seen in Reepham today.

After many changes in ownership the house (then known as Reepham House) was finally demolished in the 1970s.

The large part of the gardens and parkland became the Ollands Park housing development, which was finally completed in the 1980s with houses along Ollands Road and the new Bircham Road named after William Bircham.

The only remaining part of The Ollands is Echo Lodge in Ollands Road.

Chris Peakome

Old photos wanted for new Reepham calendar

REEPHAM Community Press plans to produce a "Reepham Then & Now" calendar for 2014.

Each month will feature an old photograph with information about where and when it was taken, together with a picture of the same scene in 2013.

These calendars will be attractive, interesting and worth keeping, and will also make great presents. Profits from their sale will go back into the community.

Do you have any photos taken in Reepham before 1990 or earlier? The scenes don't need to be today's tourist views.

For example, pictures of the buildings that were there before the Spar or Townsend Corner in earlier days. What about Ollands Road years ago? Or Reepham Station?

If you do have any old photos, can we borrow them? We will give you a receipt

for every photo, treat them with the greatest care and return them to you within two weeks after we have copied them.

If you know when and where they were taken, please write this and any other information on a sticky label on the back of the photo or enclose a note with the picture inside a stiff-backed envelope (marked DO NOT BEND). Please include your name, address and contact telephone number.

We can't pay you for using your photos, but we will give a free calendar to all those whose images are selected, and the owners' names will form part of the information on the calendar.

■ Please send your photos to: Mike Cowdrey, c/o Reepham Life, Reepham Community Press, Homerton House, 74 Cawston Road, Reepham NR10 4LT

www.reephamlife.co.uk

NEW BOOKS

Cameo by Fritha Waters

A SMALL space in time in the city of Edinburgh; 12 people's lives are scattered around the cluster of streets, their individual worlds weaving and intertwining. From the gates of Saughton prison to the leafy avenues of Morningside, each has a part to play in another's story.

Stringing them all together is the abduction of six-year-old Lily Maxwell, who dances in and out of the narratives, touching everyone who sees her. Lily, who loves attention and fairy wings and has a weakness for Raspberry Ripple ice cream, takes a stranger's hand and disappears into the city.

Flaneur-like, we stray from and return to tales of the Lambert family and their unwitting involvement in the lives of others. Michael, a wary ex-con, his brother Derek whose comfortable life is crumbling in front of his eyes and their mother whose seemingly mundane day takes a significant turn. All these happenings mould the day which will shape the rest of Lily Maxwell's life.

"Her language is deceptively simple in a way that makes her themes both accessible and powerful. She brings insight and empathy to her characters." – Stuart Campbell, author of *Boswell's Bus Pass*.

Fritha Waters lives in Reepham, Norfolk. Having attended Dartington College of Arts, she decided she didn't want to be a performance writer, but a good old-fashioned writer who uses (well, she'd like to say pen and ink, but really it's) fingers and a keyboard. She won the Traverse Theatre's Unpublished Writer's Jam Session in 2006, has been shortlisted for the Asham Award and has had a short story published by *Chapman* magazine in Edinburgh.

■ **Cameo is available from www.amazon.co.uk and on Kindle.**
Further information from Fritha Waters.
Email: cameo@frithawaters.co.uk



Skyfall to be screened

Skyfall (12A), the latest James Bond blockbuster, will be screened on Friday 26 April at Reepham Town Hall. These films are part of Village Screen, a rural and community touring cinema scheme supported by Creative Arts East.

■ **Doors open at 7.15 pm; film starts at 7.30 pm. Tickets (£4 each) are available from Reepham Post Office or the King's Arms, Market Place, Reepham.**

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community help

Reepham's new – and not-so-secret – (village) agent

THE things that most people take for granted, like using the internet to find the information you need, and transport to get you where you want to go, are all the more challenging when you also live somewhere with poor or non-existent communication and transport links and few local facilities.

And that's where Village Agents come in.

The Dereham-based charity, Norfolk Rural Community Council, with funding from Norfolk County Council and Broadland District Council, has recently launched the Village Agents project.

This is a team of community-spirited folk whose mission is to reach out to people and community groups in areas of what are deemed to be rural deprivation and point them in the direction of the help and services they need.

They are all Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) checked and carry photo identification – for what it's worth – and are therefore cleared to make home visits.

Such services might include help with applying for benefits, for example, or arranging transport for medical appointments or to attend social groups, or even



help and advice with setting up your own local group of some sort – the sky's the limit.

So if you find yourself wondering or worrying about just where to start or how to go about getting the help you need, why not try your local Village Agent, Peter Gallon?

All it takes is a Freephone call to Norfolk Rural Community Council on 0300 0304 357. Your details will be passed to Peter, who will quickly get in touch to hear about your needs and arrange a home visit if necessary to get the ball rolling.

If you prefer, you can call Peter direct via his mobile during office hours on 07827 664227.

Lift from Reepham to Wroxham wanted

24 HOURS from Wroxham. That's about how long it would take this 84-year-old lady to walk from Reepham so she can visit her dementia-stricken husband, who lives in a care home there.

A non-driver, our lady in distress has to take taxis there and back for her one-hour weekly visit, and part of the cause of her distress is the £50 cost.

Is there a kindly soul in Reepham who would take the lady to Wroxham and

bring her back again for something more affordable?

The round trip is 32.5 miles, a gallon of fuel or less for many cars, but this lady is certainly willing to pay the HMRC-approved rate of 45p/mile and is completely flexible on day of the week and time.

■ **If you can help, please contact Village Agent Peter Gallon on 07827 664227 or peter.gallon@norfolkrc.org.uk**

police

Home Watch and Police Direct

HOME Watch (also known as Neighbourhood Watch) involves residents coming together to create safer communities in which to live. It operates through a network of district associations and schemes that: are run by residents and are supported by the police; are set up using guidelines approved by Norfolk Constabulary; vary in size; are maintained by a co-ordinator and sometimes a small committee, who manage the scheme and liaise with police and partners; and take steps to prevent crime and anti-social behaviour.

Norfolk is one of the safest places to live in the country, with a very low crime rate. Norfolk Constabulary is committed to continuing to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime throughout the county. However, the police cannot fight crime and address qual-

Reepham SNT will be holding surgeries at Reepham police station on the following dates this month: Wednesday 10 April and Saturday 20 April from 10 am to 12 noon. This is your chance to talk to local officers in confidence about your neighbourhood concerns

ity-of-life issues on their own; they need the help of the whole community.

Home Watch provides a way for local people to play an important part in making their communities safer and reducing crime.

Norfolk Constabulary can now keep you up to date with Home Watch messages through our high-tech messaging service called Police Direct.

You can register your details to receive



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messages from the Constabulary direct to your email, mobile, landline or fax.

Registering your details is easy – just visit the following link: <https://policedirect.norfolk.police.uk/registration/>, and tell us your name, address and how you wish to be contacted.

Once registered, Norfolk Constabulary can keep you up to date on priorities your local policing team are working on to improve the quality of life where you live.

There is no charge for this service – all messages you receive are free.

■ **For any further information regarding Home Watch or Police Direct, contact Reepham Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) by calling the non-emergency number 101 or email sntreepham@norfolk.pnn.police.uk**

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2004 04 Toyota Celica 1.8 VVTI 3 door coupe in silver, 94,000 miles £2,500

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church



Parading around the parish

THE Lent lunches held recently in St Michael's attracted a good number of people who enjoyed the excellent soups made by local cooks. So far, about £750 has been raised for the diocesan project to help the poor in Uganda. We are grateful to all those who supported the lunches, and to the cooks and servers – what a blessing it is to have St Michael's!

In Christian tradition the season of Easter lasts for 40 days (matching the 40 days of Lent before). The last Sunday before Ascension Day is known as Rogation Sunday. "Rogation" means "asking", and on this day it is an old custom to process round the parish and ask for God's blessing on gardens, fields and other important places.

This year we intend to do this again on 5 May. The plan is to meet at the new allotments on Stony Lane, Reepham, at 10.15 am and proceed to the surgery by way of Stimpson's Piece, then on to the fire station and primary school, and along Bar Lane to St Marys, concluding with refreshments in St Michael's.

Do plan to come with us for all or part

of this walk, when will give thanks and pray for some of the many amenities we enjoy in Reepham.

Several people from Reepham responded to the invitation of our new Archbishop, Justin Welby, to walk with him on 14 March through the heart of Norwich and join him in prayer in the Cathedral as part of his programme of preparation for his enthronement in Canterbury Cathedral on 21 March.

It was heartening that so many made the effort to support Archbishop Justin as he begins the huge responsibility of leading not only the Church of England, but also the Anglican Communion of some 85 million Christians in 165 countries across the world.

Of course, we are a small number compared with the more than one billion Ro-

man Catholics worldwide. We pray for them and for Pope Francis as they, too, face the challenges of the 21st century, and determine the distinctive contribution that the Christian churches can and should make.

Rosie Footitt



Photo: Paul Hurst/ARPS

Archbishop Justin Welby

Reepham WI open meeting: Miss Savage Moves House

OUR next meeting on 18 April at St Michael's at 7.30 pm is an open meeting – everyone is invited (even men!). We are lucky to have as a speaker Christine Adams, the niece of the famous Miss Savage, who moved her house from Hertfordshire to Wells-next-the-Sea because she loved it so much. Christine will be explaining how this enormous project was carried out and should be really interesting.

Our forthcoming programme includes: 16 May, Discussing the WI resolutions for 2013; 20 June, Jarrolds, A Modern Department Store – Suzie Able; 18 July, Craft Evening – mixed crafts to experience.

Sue Robinson 01603 261771

WHAT'S ON GUIDE

April 2013

Tuesday 9 April 2013

The Reepham Society, St Michael's, Reepham. Inside Norfolk Churches, speaker: Richard Barham, 7.30 pm; the AGM will also take place at 8.30 pm. Contact: Christine Powell 01603 879184. contact@reepham.org.uk

Wednesday 10 April 2013

Reepham SNT surgery, Reepham Police Station, Market Place, Reepham, 10 am – 12 noon. Contact: Reepham SNT. Tel: 101. sntreepham@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

Wednesday 10 April 2013

Reepham Town Council meeting, Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham, 7.30 pm. Contact: Town Clerk 01603 873355. clerk@reephamnorfolk-tc.gov.uk

Saturday 13 April 2013

Film: Quartet (12A), Bawdeswell Village Hall. Doors open at 7 pm; film starts at 7.30 pm. For tickets or further information, contact Bawdeswell Village Cinema 01362 688749. bawdeswell@gmail.com

Sunday 14 April 2013

Auto Jumble & MG Cars Visit; diesel trains, Whitwell & Reepham Station, Whitwell Road, Reepham 01603 871694. richard@whitwellstation.com

Tuesday 16 April 2013

Reepham & District Gardening Club, Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham. AGM at 7.30 pm followed at 7.45 pm by "Bees in your Garden" – a talk by two of our members, Alvan Parker and Tony Myhill. Contact: Judy Holland 01603 308158

Thursday 18 April 2013

Reepham WI, St Michael's, Reepham. Miss Savage Moves House, speaker Christine Adams, 7.30 pm. Contact: Sue Robinson 01603 261771. suzierobbo@hotmail.co.uk

Thursday 18 April 2013

Wensum Valley Birdwatching Society, Weston Longville Hall, 7.30 pm. Indoor meeting: AGM followed by a talk by Allan Hale (WVBS member). Contact: Liz Bridge publicity@wvbs.gmail.com

Saturday 20 April 2013

Reepham SNT surgery, Reepham Police Station, Market Place, Reepham, 10 am – 12 noon. Contact: Reepham SNT. Tel: 101. sntreepham@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

Saturday 20 April – Sunday 21 April 2013

1940s Weekend (Steam), Whitwell & Reepham Station, Whitwell Road,

Reepham. Tel: 01603 871694. richard@whitwellstation.com

Saturday 20 April – Sunday 21 April 2013

Reepham Tennis Club Open Days, Stimpson's Piece, Bartle Court (off Station Road), Reepham, 2 pm – 5 pm. Contact: Tony Gurney-Read 01603 873297. info@reephamtennisclub.co.uk

Thursday 25 April 2013

Cawston Historical Society, Cawston Village Hall, 7.15 pm – 9.15 pm, History of the Royal Air Force at Swanton Morley, talk by Stephen Pope.

Friday 26 April 2013

Film: Skyfall (12A), Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham. Doors open at 7.15 pm; film starts at 7.30 pm. Tickets (£4 each) available from Reepham Post Office or the King's Arms

Saturday 4 May 2013

Wensum Valley Birdwatching Society. Outdoor meeting: Bayfield Walk & Glaven Valley. A three mile circular walk around the Bayfield Estate. Meet at Cley Spy, Glandford at 9 am. Contact: Liz Bridge publicity@wvbs.gmail.com

Wednesday 8 May 2013

Reepham Town Council meeting, Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham, 7.30 pm. Contact: Town Clerk 01603 873355. clerk@reephamnorfolk-tc.gov.uk

Saturday 11 May 2013

Reepham & District Gardening Club Annual Plant Sale, Market Place, Reepham, 8.30 am until sold out. Contact: Judy Holland 01603 308158

Thursday 16 May 2013

Reepham WI, St Michael's, Reepham. Update on FFWI resolutions: discussion and voting, 7.30 pm. Contact: Sue Robinson 01603 261771. Email: suzierobbo@hotmail.co.uk

Saturday 18 May 2013

Reepham Quiz Night, Old Brewery House Hotel, Market Place, Reepham, 7pm – 11pm. Adult's and children's Teams. Contact: Leslie Tooley, Group Scout Leader 01603 870701 (evenings)

Saturday 18 May – Sunday 19 May 2013

Annual Charity Gardening Event, Woodgate Nursery, Cawston Road, Aylsham, 10 am to 5 pm. Free entry, but donations on the day to the Air Ambulance. Tel: 01263 731510 or enquiries@woodgatenursery.co.uk

Tuesday 21 May 2013

Reepham & District Gardening Club, Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham, 7.45 pm. Tony Goode – A crocus for all seasons. Contact: Judy Holland 01603 308158.

**Deadline for May issue:
17 April 2013**

USEFUL INFO

Emergency services

Fire, emergency only: 999

Fire Station, School Road, Reepham 01328 862222 (office hours)

Police emergency only: 999, otherwise: 101 and ask for the Reepham Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) or email sntreepham@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

Ambulance, emergency only: 999

Local representatives

Member of Parliament: Keith Simpson 020 7219 4053 or 01603 865763 or email: keith.simpson.mp@parliament.uk

Norfolk County Councillor: James Joyce 01263 587212 or email: james.joyce@norfolk.gov.uk

Broadland District Councillor: Chris Wheeler 01603 871799 or email: cllr.chris.wheeler@broadland.gov.uk

Town Council Chairman: Les Paterson 01603 871983 or email: les.paterson@yahoo.com

Shopping

Market Day: Wednesday

Early closing: Some shops Thursday and/or Saturday

Public transport

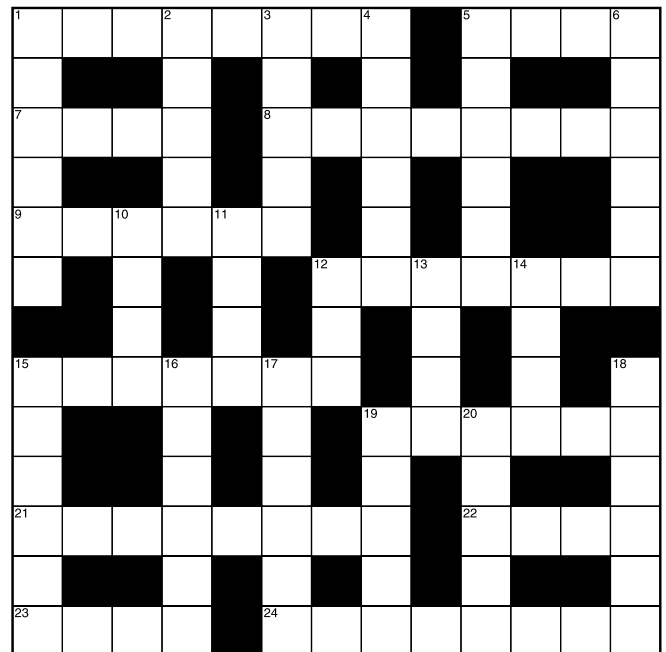
Daily (Monday to Saturday) coach services to Norwich via Cawston. There is also a once a week service to Fakenham, Wroxham and Dereham. Timetables are displayed outside the side window of the Police Station. For information 8:30 am – 5 pm Monday – Saturday 0845 300 6116

Local help

Reepham Patient Care Fund – Reepham Rover or general enquiries. Contact: Jeanette Overton 01603 870426

Citizens' Advice Bureau, Girton House, Market Place, Reepham. Wednesdays 10 am – 12.30 pm only, otherwise telephone Norwich office 01603 765783 for advice or 01603 660857 to make an appointment. Full information on services available at <http://www.ncab.org.uk>

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Adulteration
5. Hock (goods)
7. Nominate
8. Mimes
9. Slightly drunk
12. Skimpy underwear (1-6)
15. Arrived at
19. True
21. Belief in perfection
22. Cat's-paw
23. Thaw
24. Fixated

DOWN

1. Inbred
2. Overturn
3. Wanderlust, ... feet
4. Hankers
5. Band member
6. Prying (into)
10. Facts
11. Heavy drinker
12. Gallivant (about)
13. Keyboard mistake
14. Part of an archipelago
15. Bigotry
16. Deep blue pigment
17. Arctic person
18. See (to)
19. Hillocks
20. Classic art subjects

Solution on page 30

May issue advertisement booking deadline:

17 April 2013

Please contact: Judy Holland on 01603 308158
or email: jholland@reephamlife.co.uk

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Wednesdays 10-11am

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Fridays 7-8pm

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Di Graham Fitness

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Call Tony on 01603 873297 or see website

www.bootonmanorswimmingpool.co.uk

REGULAR EVENTS

The Bircham Centre Shop Market Place, Reepham. Shop opening hours 9 am – 1 pm, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, plus tea shop open at these times. Tel: 01603 879242. Email: birchamcentre@yahoo.co.uk

The Bircham Under 5s Music Group Meets every Monday from 1.45 pm – 2.30 pm (term time only) upstairs in The Bircham Centre, Market Place, Reepham. All under 5s and their adult welcome for lively fun. Only £1 per child. Contact: Louisa Dreisen 01603 879466. Email: louisa.dreisin@hotmail.co.uk

Bridge Club Meets every Monday from 7.30 pm in The Bircham Centre, Market Place, Reepham

British Legion, Men's Section Meets first Thursday in the month from 2 pm – 4 pm in The Bircham Centre, Market Place, Reepham. Contact: Bernard Dye 01603 871791. Email: dye.reepham@btopenworld.com

British Legion, Women's Section Meets first Thursday in the month at 2.30 pm in the Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham. Contact: Moira Dye 01603 871791. Email: dye.reepham@btopenworld.com

Cawston Historical Society Meets fourth Thursday in the month from 7.15 pm – 9.15 pm at Cawston Village Hall

Citizens Advice Drop in for free advice every Wednesday from 10 am – 12.30 pm at the Police Station, Market Place, Reepham

The Craft Club Meets every Tuesday from 9.30 am – 12 noon in The Old Brewery House, Market Place, Reepham. Knitting, embroidery, tapestry, card making and other crafts. Contact: Moira Dye 01603 871791. Email: dye.reepham@btopenworld.com

Decibells Handbell Ringers Meets every Thursday from 10 am – 12 noon in the Bircham Centre, Market Place, Reepham. We are available to play for events, groups and concerts. Newcomers welcome. Contact: Tamara Goulding 01603 870249. Email: playford1@btinternet.com

Kurling Meets every Tuesday from 2 pm – 4 pm in the Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham. First session no charge, but if you do decide to join us it will only cost you £2 per session, with tea/coffee/biscuits included. Equipment

provided. Contact: Gwenda Dove 01603 870598. Email: granddove@doves.eclipse.co.uk

Line Dance with the Wednesday Weavers Meet every Wednesdays from 1 pm – 2 pm beginners, 2 pm – 4 pm beginners and improvers, in the Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham. Learn to dance and exercise at the same time. All ages, easily paced, casual dress. Tea/squash break. Country music-based 60s/70s golden oldies/pop. £2 per session, first taster free. Contact: Sandra Williams 01603 872102

Reepham Badminton Club Meets at the Reepham High School Sports Hall every Thursday evening during autumn and spring terms. Junior session (for Year 7 upwards) from 7.00 pm – 8.15 pm. Adult session from 8.15 pm – 10 pm. Tel: 01603 873244 or 01263 584221

Reepham Business Network Meets on alternate Thursdays from 7.30 am – 9 am at V's Café, Townsend Corner, Reepham. There is no membership charge – just pay £6 for breakfast, but please let us know if you intend to come. Contact: David Laws 01603 871126 or 07933 149810. Email: info@reephambusinessnetwork.org.uk

Reepham Carpet Bowls Club Meets every Monday from 1.30 pm – 4.30 pm and Monday evenings 7.30 pm – 10.30 pm in the Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham. Membership is £1 per year and £1.50 each session, including tea and biscuits. Children half price. Contact: Eve Webber 01603 871943, or Doris Frost 01603 870845

Reepham Chamber of Commerce Meets every other month, normally the last Tuesday in the month at 7.30 pm in the Kings Arms, Market Place, Reepham. The Chamber exists to promote businesses in and around Reepham and to act as a channel for sharing information about what's going on in the town. New members are always welcome. Contact: Brenda Gostling 01603 870582. Email: reephamchamber@gmail.com

Reepham Cluster Area Sure Start Bumps to 5s Meets every Friday from 1.15 pm – 3 pm (term time only) at Stimpson's Piece, Reepham. Play, chat and snacks including toy library every third week. No charge

Reepham Country Market Held every Wednesday from 8 am – 11 am, in The Bircham Centre, Market

Place, Reepham. Home-made cakes, pies, biscuits, savoury dishes, vegetables, fruit in season, free range eggs, jams, jellies, chutneys, etc

Reepham & District Day Centre Meets every Wednesday from 9.30 am – 2.30 pm. Welcome coffee on arrival, home cooked lunch and social time. Contact: Beth Rossetti 01603 870393, or Pauline Cooper 01603 871230

Reepham & District Gardening Club Meets on the third Tuesday in the month at 7.45 pm (except for the AGM, which starts at 7.30 pm) in the Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham. Visitors and new members welcome. Contact: Judy Holland 01603 308158

Reepham & District Rotary Club Meets 7 pm every Monday in The Old Brewery House, Reepham. Contact: Gareth Homfray-Davies 07771 683133

Reepham Golf Society Meets monthly at various courses around Norfolk and Suffolk. Contact: Mark Smith 07824 849397, or Dean Mears 07825 299634/01603 870814 (day time)

Reepham Good Companions The Friday Club meets every Friday at 2 pm in the Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham. The Reepham Rover will bring you and take you home if transport is a problem. Contact: Eve Webber 01603 871943

Reepham Knit and Natter Meets on the first Monday in the month from 2 pm – 4 pm in The Bircham Centre, Market Place, Reepham. Contact: Brenda Palmer 01603 871641

Reepham Methodist Church, Station Road, Reepham. Sunday Worship at 10.30 am. Coffee morning/Traidcraft every Wednesday from 9.30 am – 12.30 pm. Contact: The Minister 01263 732102

Reepham Runners Meet Sunday mornings 8.30 am start; Tuesday evening sessions 6.30 pm start, (which offers more structured training sessions with a coach and is suitable for all standards, including beginners); Friday mornings 9 am for a slower run; and Thursdays 6.30 pm. Meet at car park of Stimpson's Piece recreation ground, Reepham. Contact: Jenni Egmore 01603 308192. Email: jenni@egmore.co.uk

Reepham Singers Meet every Thursday (term times) at 8 pm in The Bircham Centre, Market Place, Reepham. We are a small, female

voice choir. Contact: Louisa Dreisen 01603 879466. Email: louisa.dreisin@hotmail.co.uk

The Reepham Society Holds five public meetings a year from February to November, on the second Tuesday in selected months at 7.30 pm at St Michael's, Reepham. Contact: Christine Powell 01603 879184. Email: contact@reepham.org.uk

Reepham Toddler Club Meets every Wednesday (term times) from 9.15 am – 11.15 am at Stimpson's Piece, Reepham. Pregnant mums and parent/carers with children from new-born to nursery age welcome. Toys, crafts and activities and a snack time (with a cup of coffee or tea for you too!). £2.50 per first child and 50p per additional sibling. Health visitor is also present at each session

Reepham Town Council Meets on the second Wednesday of the month (excluding August), at 7.30 pm in the Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham. Contact: Jo Boxall, Town Clerk 01603 873355. Email: email.clerk@reephamnorfolk-tc.gov.uk

Reepham WI Meets on the third Thursday in the month at 7.30 pm at St Michael's, Reepham. Women of all ages are welcome to join. Contact: Sue Robinson 01603 261771. Email: suzierobbo@hotmail.co.uk

St Mary's Sunday Worship at 10.30 am, followed by refreshments in St Michael's. For details of this and other services, see the church notice-board. Contact: Revd. Margaret Dean 01603 879275

Yoga Classes Held Monday 6.15 pm – 7.45 pm (£6) and Tuesday 10.30 am – 12 noon (£5). Also chair-based exercises for mobility, flexibility and strength, breathing exercises and relaxation, Tuesday 1.30 pm – 2.30 pm (no charge, donations only). St Michael's, Reepham. Contact: Angela Thompson 01603 870800. Email: ken_thompson@lineone.net

We cannot accept event details or corrections by telephone. Please send to: Reepham Community Press, Homerton House, 74 Cawston Road, Reepham NR10 4LT or email: info@reephamlife.co.uk

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Dig it! Old but serviceable wooden-handled pickaxe £3. Tel: 01603 873280

Men's mountain bike, Trax TFS 1D, bought from Halfords, black, 18 gears, handbook, in good condition £45. Tel: 01603 879867

Wanted to rent: garage, outbuilding or space in a barn for storage. Tel: 01603 870757

Two green armchairs, only 15 months old, very comfortable, as new, settee available if required. Chairs £50 each; settee £100. Absolute bargain. Buyer collects. Tel: 01603 872510

Kerri's Pine dressing table, triple mirror, VGC, £15 ono. Tel: 01603 871641

Three-seat leather sofa, excellent condition, no marks, three years old, camel in colour, length 2

metres. Buyer arranges collection (heavy item) £200. Tel: 01603 870503

Smith Corona electronic portable typewriter, comes with spare ribbons, printwheel and user's manual. Cost £90 when purchased new (as new, unused present). £40 ono. Tel: 01603 871448

Canadian extreme cold weather garments similar to Ice Road Truckers, down to -40°C, LaSalle boots (worn once), choice of heavy insulated coveralls and jacket, all in very good condition, ideal for fishing, etc. Tel: 01603 870581

Savic pet cage, 24 inches x 18 inches, £20. Tel: 01603 870427

Professional couple with well-behaved, field-trained springer spaniel seeking 3+ bedroom house to rent in or near Reepham. Must have garage or similar outbuilding.

Up to £800 per month. Tel: 01692 538103

30 Companion Book Club hardback books VGC £20. 50 Readers Digest condensed books (4 novels per book) VGC £25. £40 lot. Other books on email list available. Tel: 07768 057960

Tombstone, standard grey, a good buy for someone named Grady

Snow blower for sale, only used on snowy days

Two wire mesh butchering gloves: one 5-finger, one 3-finger, £15 for the pair

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Free ads can be emailed to: freeads@reephamlife.co.uk or left at Very Nice Things, Market Place, Reepham Please include your name and address (not for publication) so we can verify your entry

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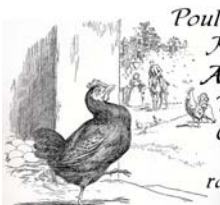
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Advertise your business in the Local Services Guide for just £10 month

Booking deadline for the May issue is **17 April**

Call Judy Holland
01603 308158

email: jholland@reephamlife.co.uk
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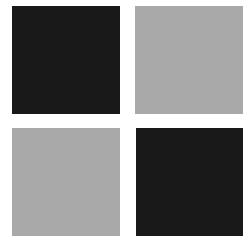
Watercolour Painting Courses

Ten week courses start 15th April at:
Aylsham ACT Centre.
Elsing Village Hall &
Reepham Methodist Chapel.
Informal, friendly classes for beginners and those with more painting experience. Demonstrations on a variety of subjects. Please contact Sara Kenyon 01603 872190



Hansells

Solicitors and Financial Advisers



Legal and financial advice for now and the future

Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority No 50602 Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

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Aylsham
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Aylsham
NR11 6BN
01263 734 313

Cromer
10 Church Street
Cromer
NR27 9ER
01263 512 003

North Walsham
Canada House
4 Grammar School Road
North Walsham NR28 9JH
01692 404 351

Reepham
The Bircham Centre
The Market Place
Reepham
NR10 4JJ
01603 615 731

Sheringham
Waterbank House
Station Approach
Sheringham NR26 8RA
01263 822 176

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MACHINE EMBROIDERY WORKSHOP

**Sat 11 May, 10am-3pm Reepham High School
£39 with Textile Artist Dianne Randle**

Learn how to draw with stitch using freehand machine embroidery. This one day workshop will teach you how to use a sewing machine to 'draw' onto fabric. You will bring in a photo of where you live or your childhood home or a favourite place and you will recreate it using a combination of appliqué, machine and hand embroidery. This textile art would make a beautiful keepsake or a gift for someone special.

DRAWING WORKSHOP

**Sat 18 May, 10am-3pm Reepham College
£30 with local Artist Sara Kenyon**

This workshop is suitable for absolute beginners as well as those with some drawing experience. Learn the basics of perspective and composition when drawing buildings and landscapes. A variety of drawing materials will be available to use.

GARDEN DESIGN

**Thurs 2 May - 27 June, 7-9pm Reepham College
£60 with Nigel Boldero**

This 8 week course aims to provide those wanting to change or develop their garden with information, advice, support and skills in developing and delivering their own plans.

COMPUTERS FOR THE TERRIFIED

**Wed 1 May - 26 June, 4-6pm (8 week course)
Reepham College £50**

It is never too late to learn how to use a computer. Come along to this friendly, supportive class where you will be able to work at your own pace. Learn how to get the most from your computer. Suitable for absolute beginners or for those who have a little experience and want to progress. The class will be tailored to meet individual needs.

WATERCOLOUR ART CLASS

**Tues 16 April - 25 June, 7-9pm Reepham College
£75 with local Artist Sara Kenyon**

A 10 week beginners Watercolour Art class. Teaching is by demonstration. Individual help and advice will be given. The subjects for the summer are seascapes, boats, landscapes, birds and flowers.

INTERMEDIATE DRESSMAKING

**Weds 1 May - 26 June, 6.30-8.30pm £60
Reepham High School with Dianne Randle**

This practical 8 week course will develop your confidence in dressmaking and textile construction skills. You will either choose your own commercial pattern, or bring in a product that you would like to draft a pattern from. You will construct the pattern and garment in an informal and relaxed atmosphere, with guidance as necessary.

NEEDLE FELTING WORKSHOP

**Tues 4 June, 9am-3pm New Frost Hall, Foulsham
£45 with Textile Artist Dianne Randle**

Needle Felting is an exciting and creative technique binding fibres and found materials together to create textured and colourful surfaces. During the day you will learn how to use merino wool fibres to create your own pieces of felt. The felt pieces made on this occasion will be used to make brooches and flower corsages.

DADS + LADS/LASSES COOKING WORKSHOP

**Sat 11 May, 9.30am-12.30pm £15 per family
Reepham High School with Katrina Parsons**

Earn some brownie points by cooking lunch for Mum. This workshop is for Dads to attend with their sons or daughters (maximum two children). During the workshop you will make chicken and bacon cacciatore and carrot cake.

For details of all our other courses and workshops or for further information please visit our website

www.reephamlearningcommunity.co.uk

email rlc@reephamhigh.com or call 01603 308133 (term time) or Sandie Athow 07796 698127 (other times)