

FREE

# REEPHAM LIFE

YOUR Community Newspaper

www.reephamlife.co.uk

No. 6 September 2013

## No buyer yet as Old Brewery House closes

THE Old Brewery House Hotel in Reepham closed its doors in mid-August amid speculation about the future of the Grade-II listed building.

A spokesman for Oxford Hotels & Inns Management, which is the lessee/management company, said lack of trade was the main reason for the closure of the hotel, which is a key feature of the town's Market Place.

The hotel, which has 23 en suite bedrooms and includes a bar, restaurant, breakfast room and public rooms, as well as a function room and leisure centre, was understood to be operating at a loss.

The listed Georgian building was built in 1729 and originally named the Dial House because of a large sundial over the front door.

The house was converted into a commercial hotel in 1972 and renamed The Old Brewery House Hotel in recognition of its previous role as residence of the Bircham family that had run a brewery in Reepham for several generations, and because one of the hotel's principal rooms used to be the brewery.

While the building retains many of its original features, such as staircases and wood panelling, work on renovation and refurbishment is likely to involve a considerable investment, possibly amounting to millions of pounds.

However, it is believed that several parties have expressed interest in buying the property from a firm related to Oxford Hotels & Inns.

There are currently many rumours



**The Old Brewery House Hotel, Market Place, Reepham: closed and up for sale**

about the hotel's future, ranging from residential apartments, a care home or sale to a pub chain or brewery.

Several local businesspeople are understood to have made offers to acquire the Old Brewery House, and some sources suggest an announcement regarding the sale of the property will be made "soon".

Meanwhile, the closure of the hotel has left the town with one less venue for social and community groups.

The Reepham & District Rotary Club held its last meeting there on 19 August before it moves to a new venue, while the annual arts and crafts fair has also moved (see page 17).

The demise of the Old Brewery House could also have a major impact on the local economy, as there will no longer be

any hotel accommodation in Reepham, other than a couple of small B&Bs on the outskirts of town.

Judy Holland, who runs Homerton House B&B on Cawston Road, is currently compiling a list of accommodation in Reepham and nearby to help keep visitors in the town, where they will hopefully spend their money with local businesses and not elsewhere.

"Many of the town's shops, pubs and cafés rely on visitors to survive," she said. "This is where you may be able to help and earn yourself a small income at the same time."

■ If you can offer accommodation, even on a temporary or casual basis, please contact Judy Holland on 01603 308158 or email [info@reephambnb.co.uk](mailto:info@reephambnb.co.uk)

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# news

## The Crown made a community asset

THE Crown has been made an Asset of Community Value by Broadland District Council. The decision means the public house cannot be sold without the local community being told. It also grants the Council greater powers to refuse planning applications from developers and gives the community up to six months to put in a bid to buy the pub should it be put up for sale.

The move to place The Crown on the community asset register was led by Reepham Town Council.

However, the decision is unlikely to affect a current offer to purchase the pub from the owner, Punch Taverns, who are asking around £300,000 for the property.

Reepham residents Garron and Helen Monk want to convert the building in Oldlands Road into a five-bedroom dwelling.

However, in February, Broadland refused their planning application for a change of use from a public house to residential. The Monks have since appealed this decision, the outcome of which is expected to be made in the next few months.

Meanwhile, a second planning application for a change of use from public house to mixed use residential and business (office) has been withdrawn by the Monks, probably on advice that Broadland would be likely to refuse any similar application.

## Dr Barbara Kelly retires

DR Barbara Kelly retired on Friday 2 August after serving Reepham as a general practitioner for 29 years. A small celebration was held in the grounds of the surgery that evening, where many patients, friends and colleagues wished her a long and happy retirement.

"I've been overwhelmed with all the good wishes," said Dr Kelly. "It has been a privilege to be a family GP, to see people from babies to graves. But it's nice to hand over to younger doctors.

"I know patients don't like change; doctors don't like change either, but it has to



**Dr Barbara Kelly received a Rotary award in recognition of her services to the Reepham community**

come. I wish the practice well."

Dr Kelly has been replaced by Dr Philip

## New town councillors

TWO new councillors have been co-opted onto Reepham Town Council.

Joan Schulz of Sparham works as a lecturer in mental health at the University of East Anglia. With a background in nursing both adult and mental health clients, she is also a qualified therapist.

Moving to Norfolk 19 years ago to take up a lecturing post, Mrs Schulz brought her two sons with her; they are now both married and she has four grandchildren.

"I live just outside Reepham and love the warmth and friendliness I have experienced



**Joan Schulz**

from the local people," she said. "It is a beautiful part of the county.

"As a Councillor I wish to represent the thoughts and feelings of the local community and to work alongside them. I hope we can retain all that is good about Reepham."

Married with two sons, Gary Saunders moved to Reepham five years ago from York. He has been a teacher for the past 13 years, and currently works as director of learning at Alderman Peel High School in Wells-next-the-Sea.

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**Reepham**  
TOWN COUNCIL



Ager, who has started as a full-time partner with the practice and will work primarily at the Reepham Surgery.

A keen motorsports fan, he is also an avid supporter of his hometown football team, Hull City. He has recently taken up boating on the North Norfolk coast and enjoys cycling with his family along the Marriott's Way, as well as walking his two dogs in and around Reepham.

"I joined the Council because I believe Reepham is one of the best places to live," said Mr Saunders. "I want to help maintain this fantastic market town and enhance what we already have."



**Gary Saunders**



## ARE YOU READY FOR THE NEW TERM ON 16 SEPTEMBER?

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# views

## Bowling green trust

I THOUGHT I should inform the townspeople who signed a petition in 2011 to keep the bowling green as a green space that our attempt to protect the land by having it made a Field in Trust to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee has been refused by the Reepham Society's Executive Committee

The Committee has also instructed the Fields in Trust legal team to cancel the application to register the bowling green as a Field in Trust, which was made by Reepham Society member Taff Young.

I feel the Committee's action is regrettable because it means the Bowls Club cannot now apply for funds to improve the ground and the land will not be eligible for a Queen's Diamond Jubilee plaque.

It is my understanding that this also means the land could still be sold in the future when the lease expires.

*Margaret Taylor, Townsend Court, Reepham*

**Mike Cowdrey, Reepham Society chairman, replies:** I should like to clear up any potential misunderstanding arising from Mrs Taylor's letter about the bowling green.

It is natural that Mrs Taylor and Mr Young, as residents of Townsend Court which overlooks the bowling green, should "attempt to protect the land" from development. However, the Executive Committee of the Reepham Society must balance the interests of all the townspeople in managing this land, which it holds in trust and leases to the Bowls Club.

The Club, which is open to all townspeople, is in the early years of a ten-year lease that gives it security of tenure. As far as I know, the Bowls Club is happy with this lease and has no wish to change it; for our part, the Society and the town are happy that the Bowls Club contributes so much to the community and keeps the land in superb condition.

However, we should consider what our community would want to happen if ever the Bowls Club vacated the green, for whatever reason. As things stand, the townspeople, through the Reepham Society, would be able to decide what happened to the land; for example, whether to give it over to another recreational activity, or to pass



control of it to another local charity or the Town Council, or to dispose of it in some other way, including sale.

In other words, the right to decide the future of Reepham's bowling green remains in the hands of Reepham people. I cannot believe that anyone in our town would wish it to be otherwise.

However, had the bowling green land been registered as a Field in Trust our local control would have been lost to a London-based charity that had no intimate understanding of Reepham, that was not really accountable to our community and over which the people of Reepham had no control.

The Executive Committee did not and does not believe that would be in the best interests of Reepham or would be what our community would want.

For that reason, we cancelled the application for the bowling green land to be registered as a Field in Trust. (The Town Council made a similar decision about Stimpson's Piece.)

It remains, of course, perfectly possible to apply for improvement grants from a range of sources. However, the most important fact is that Reepham people now keep control of the future of their own bowling green. That is surely right.

I hope this clears up any misunderstandings about the bowling green and settles the matter once and for all.

## Legally parked

I FEEL I must write in reply to the story about parking (*Reepham Life*, July/August, page 1). When I look at the pictures, all

I see are legally parked cars and vans. As for the statement on the lorry and the near collision, what utter rubbish!

And as for the parking outside the wonderful shops in the town, if we wish them to stay open then we have to put up with customers wanting to park outside them.

I moved to Station Road four years ago and my life was made a living hell by others constantly calling my work and the police about where I legally park my van.

The matter got so bad that my boss and I asked the police to come to my house to tell me where I can and cannot park. (The police officer actually told me they liked it parked where it is because it slowed the traffic.)

The only time it gets bad on this road is Sunday when the local churchgoers drive to church; very few use the free car park.

I feel time may be better spent campaigning for a speed camera for Station Road instead of picking on the hardworking, legally parked few.

*Andrew Beales, Station Road, Reepham*

**Bill Rose replies:** I'm sorry to hear Mr Beales considers the details of my picture showing the near collision between a lorry and car to be "utter rubbish". What you see in the photo is two vehicles almost colliding in wet conditions due to one of them being in the wrong place at the wrong time.

In recent years, I have seen a fair number of near misses in various parts of Reepham, often due to the constricted nature of our roads.

I do not claim to have special expertise in traffic management and simply hope



## TWEETS

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# views

to draw people's attention to a worsening situation that needs urgent attention. Vehicles causing these problems may be legally parked, but this doesn't automatically exclude the owners from acting in a sensible and considerate manner. Our roads were never designed for the present volume of traffic, now often made worse by inconsiderate parking.

I simply feel it is time to start applying some common sense to local parking problems before things become any worse. We should be aiming to make life better for the majority of drivers and pedestrians who just want to find their way around Reepham and other towns and villages in relative safety, with the minimum hassle.

*Bill Rose, Bircham Road, Reepham*

## Problems on Norwich Road

I WRITE to applaud your article on traffic in the last edition of *Reepham Life* (July/August).

The parking situation on Norwich Road has exacerbated greatly since the new shop opened; this has increased since the addition of the café.

When objections were made when the planning application was put in, citing parking as an issue, we were informed by Broadland District Council that they like cars parked there because it slows traffic down before it reaches the Market Place.

As we own the property immediately opposite the shop, I have to ask drivers

to remove their cars from my drive on an almost daily basis. Almost without exception the drivers want to argue with me, saying they won't be long, as they're just "popping into the shop".

Sometimes they're even abusive, because I fail to see why I should provide a free car park on my property.

There have also been frequent occasions when those houses closer to the road have been hit by large vehicles as they attempt to pass the parked cars. I notice that Victoria House is currently exhibiting damage to an upper floor window [see picture, below].

I realise the owners [of Hampton's Home & Garden] are not responsible for where their customers park. However, if the road were to be made for residential parking only, the situation would be greatly improved, without inconveniencing the people who actually live there.

With regards to the New Road/The Moor junction, I too have had a number of near collisions. This has been even more dangerous when circumnavigating the parked cars while riding our horses. We have nearly been wiped out several times as vehicles come around the corner.

As a retired fire officer, I am well aware of the "hotspots" for traffic collisions in the county, and of the aftermath of these collisions. It is only a matter of time before such a tragedy occurs in one of these locations.

*Lea Smith, Norwich Road, Reepham*

## Let's hear it for Hampton's

I HEARD recently that the enthusiasm of one of our successful new business owners is being badly knocked by the actions of a few disgruntled people who appear to want to get that business closed down.

I love Hampton's and think it is a huge asset to Reepham. I believe it is a perfect example of how a small town like ours can become home to key independent businesses.

Hampton's brings in consumers from all parts of the county – shoppers who will return again and again and could benefit all our retail traders. We need more businesses like this. On one day in July more than 120 people came through Hampton's doors. We should be congratulating proprietor Annie Benton and her team, not complaining.

At the moment, the parking on Norwich Road is unrestricted and therefore Hampton's customers can – and do – park there if there is space. They are just as entitled to do so as the residents.

They're not parking on double yellow lines or private land, but on the public highway on one of the main routes into Reepham. If there is no space, they park elsewhere – in the Market Place or on adjoining roads. They are not there in the early mornings, evenings or on a Sunday.

We all know that parking in Reepham is a problem. It's something that Reepham Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council are talking about, but there are no easy solutions.

But since she opened, Annie has received a steady string of anonymous complaints and hate-mail pushed through her door, as well as more overt action discouraging her customers from parking outside. She is beginning to feel that we don't want her here in Reepham.

Please let's not allow the actions of the few to bring the success story of Hampton's in Reepham to a sad end. I'd like to see us counterbalance the negative messages she's getting with a campaign to tell Annie that, in the main, Reepham does love Hampton's and we want her to stay. Can I appeal to all of you who believe Hampton's to be good for Reepham to simply pop in and tell her so?

By the way, I love V's, Kerri's Pine and Very Nice Things, too – to mention just a few of our fabulous retailers and eateries! We're hugely lucky to have such a rich diversity that gives us something for every occasion. There's room for everyone and enhancing Reepham's reputation as a lovely country market town can only benefit us all.

*Brenda Gostling, Chairman,  
Reepham Chamber of Commerce*

## A 'bit of stick' needed

HAVING read Bill Rose's article on traffic and parking in the July/August edition of *Reepham Life*, I am sure it reflects many people's views of the problem.

However, it won't be sorted by double yellow lines or signs as can be proved by the casual disregard people show for these in other parts of the town.

Sadly, we need to go back to the



**Police in Reepham are appealing for witnesses following a collision in Norwich Road on 28 June. The incident happened at about 4.05 pm when a vehicle heading towards Church Hill collided with an exterior wall of Victoria House, damaging brickwork and a window**

letters@reephamlife.co.uk

# views

old-fashioned “bobby on the beat”, who looks, notes, remembers and takes appropriate action, whether it be a warning or a fine. What is needed is a bit of stick applied to the back pocket, then people will sit up and take note.

In fact, parking in Reepham is policed by an outsourced contractor from King’s Lynn. The local police will only respond to “obstruction” (and I thought parking in the wrong place was obstruction).

Regarding accident risk, several years ago a young lad on a motorcycle was killed in New Road where it narrows by Railway Cottages.

At the corner by the old Black Lion there have been numerous incidents, including one where a car buried itself in the garage of the house itself, plus near misses resulting in impromptu visits to the old vets on the corner, either via the drive or through the wall. It is even more lethal with ice on the road.

Occasionally, during the summer months, pea viner convoys, etc., moving between farms have found the road blocked and have resorted to knocking on doors in the early hours to get cars moved as the road is too narrow to pass.

*Simon Rayfield, New Road, Reepham*

## Leaded lights reclaimed

REGARDING the article on The Ollands in the July/August edition of *Reepham Life*, my father, a joiner, reclaimed two “leaded light” windows from the house.

These are (or were) in the built-in cabinet to the right of the fireplace in Virginia House, where my parents lived in until about 15 years ago, next to the Whitwell Road Cemetery.

I played in the derelict house [The Ollands] as a kid!

*Mark Bridges, Broomhill Lane, Reepham*

## Interior woodwork burnt

WITH reference to the article on Reepham House (*Reepham Life*, May 2013), I thought I would add what I know about Mr F J Irwin [who bought what was then The Ollands in 1950].

I did office work for him and although

he had many business interests, I was not aware he was involved in the shoe industry. He did have an insurance business in London under the name Grieve & Irwin and spent Monday to Friday in London and weekends at Reepham.

He also had interests abroad and always went to the Middle East during the coldest months of the year, hence him settling in Malta after leaving Reepham and calling his house there “Reepham House”.

The house and gardens in Reepham were fabulous and I’m sure he never expected them to be demolished. There was a butler and several household staff and at least four full-time gardeners; everything was immaculate.

When the house was finally demolished and the estate sold, the tenant of Echo Lodge [in what is now Ollands Road] refused to move so the developers built around it.

I don’t know what happened to the lovely interior of Reepham House; the only part of the building I remember being saved from a bonfire was a kind of bell tower, which Mr Kingswell who lived opposite rescued and had as a feature in his garden.

Colin Middleton, who lives in Reepham and was one of the gardeners on the estate, believes most of the interior woodwork was burnt.

*Doreen Hardesty, Reepham*

## Turning backs not helpful

I ATTENDED the Broadland District Council Consultation meeting on 11 July and can only say how disappointed I was at the lack of constructive comments received from both Broadland’s planners and the Realistic (UnRealistic?) Reepham pressure group.

I believe Reepham needs to accept that it cannot stand still nor remain stubbornly opposed to any developments in the mistaken belief that a problem will go away if we refuse to take part in a positive manner. It is far too easy to break down arguments/proposals rather than engage and propose positive and long-term plans for our community.

The stance taken under the guidance of Realistic Reepham’s spokesman was childish in its “publicity stunt” of literally turning its back on Broadland at the consultation meeting. Nothing comes of this type of action; it just makes positive communication more difficult.

When I asked the spokesman for his

ideas on what Reepham should be looking for in its future development, his answer was that brownfield sites within the town should be developed.

I cannot see where Realistic Reepham thinks the owners of these sites will park their cars other than the streets; not an ideal situation, nor do I think these infill developments add any “value” to the town. They put a stress on existing sewerage and generally add little to the architecture, general infrastructure or amenities within Reepham.

Broadland’s attempt at enlightening residents was also a disappointment. When challenged about the viability of sewerage from the Reepham 2 site, I was told that if it was OK with Anglian Water, then basically it was fine with planning.

Albeit, a planning officer said that of course if a sewage treatment plant could not be managed to the west of this site then it would be pumped across Reepham to join the already burgeoning sewage system on the east side of town.

I wonder what the resulting chaos to the road system and disruption to the town centre would be, let alone how sustainable this then makes the existing sewerage systems?

The Reepham 2 site also causes me great concern with regard to access to Dereham Road. A planning officer stated that he believed most residents of this proposed site would be commuting to Norwich. Surely this will put an enormous strain on the roads in the centre of town, creating a dangerous flow of traffic into Reepham’s market square.

If any new development site is agreed, one can presume there will be additional requirement for food shopping in Reepham. Where does Broadland or Realistic Reepham propose that such facilities should be made available locally or will families in search of reasonably priced food need to travel to Norwich?

The pressure on the Spar is already clear to see – car parking, prices and choice are not ideal. And yet apparently Broadland has not given any thought to this in relation to possible housing developments. Where is the joined-up thinking?

Indeed, Reepham has yet another card shop opening in the centre of town and the police station occupies a prime retail site that surely could be put to better use as a food outlet offering real choice and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 →

### When you write to or email

**Reepham Life...** please give your name, full postal address and daytime telephone number. All verified letters will be considered for publication – we aim to provide a wide cross-section of local views and opinions

# YOUR COUNCIL MATTERS

## Plenty of news from the Council

WELL, as is usual, there was no Town Council meeting in August and the next one is not until Wednesday 11 September. However, there is still plenty of news.

### New councillors

The first piece of good news is that at the Town Council meeting in July we welcomed on board two new councillors, Joan Schulz and Gary Saunders. This brings councillor numbers up to full strength after a long period in which our numbers were down.

### Assets of Community Value

At its June meeting, the Town Council voted to set up a register of community assets. Members of the public requested the Town Council to nominate The Crown as an Asset of Community Value (ACV), as had been discussed at the Annual Town Meeting, and handed to the Council more than 100 letters of objection to the application for change of use of The Crown to residential.

In line with the Council's decision to proceed with a Community Asset Register, we voted unanimously to nominate The Crown public house as an ACV. Therefore, an application for The Crown to be listed as an ACV was submitted to Broadland District Council on the 8 July.

On 13 August, the application was considered and approved by Broadland District Council Cabinet, so The Crown became officially listed as a community asset. The owners of the pub, Punch Taverns, had 21 days from that date in which to object.

If you would like more information on community assets, you can look at our brief explanation in the April edition of *Reepham Life* (still available for download online). However, if you would like to know more about this and about support for other community initiatives and opportunities, please go to the official Locality website at [www.locality.org.uk](http://www.locality.org.uk), where there is a lot of really useful and interesting material.

### Extraordinary meeting

A Town Council extraordinary meeting was held on 17 July to approve further action and to formulate a response to Broadland District Council's Preferred Options site allocations. Broadland's preferred options sites include:

1. an area of approximately 4.5 hectares between Park Lane and Dereham Road for residential development of approximately 90 homes;
2. an area of approximately 2.1 hectares between Whitwell Road and Mill Road, to the south of existing housing, for residential development of approximately 50 houses. There would also be a further 1.7 hectares reserved for landscaping related to the new residential areas.

## Your Town Council

<b>Chairman:</b> Les Paterson	Ann Middlemas
<b>Deputy Chairman:</b> Chris Wheeler (Broadland District Councillor)	David Patience
Sara Birtles	Gary Saunders
Mike Cowdrey	Joan Schulz
Giles Cutts	Andrea Wilson
James Joyce (Norfolk County Councillor)	Anne Woollett
	<b>Town Clerk:</b> Jo Boxall
	<b>Finance Officer:</b> Judith Flack

While the development of the old station area north of Stony Lane is a "preferred option", the number of houses proposed (around 20) on this site will not form part of Reepham's allocation of 100-200 new dwellings because it already has outline planning permission granted some years ago.

The Town Council agreed to use its previous letters to Broadland about proposed developments as a basis for its response to the consultation, highlighting the infrastructure problems in Reepham and making the case for a reduced density in the proposed housing developments.

At the end of the meeting there was a show of hands among the public, with the overwhelming majority against large-scale development in Reepham.

The Town Council urged everyone present to use their individual power to comment on the preferred development options proposed by Broadland District Council.

### Reepham Economic Strategy

Broadland District Council has funded a consultancy through Ingham Pinnock Associates to develop an economic strategy to improve and develop Reepham as a place to visit and shop in.

Out of this, a Town Team with a wide range of skills representing the Chamber of Commerce, the Town Council, the Reepham Society, Realistic Reepham, Reepham Green Team and other groups has been brought together to work on key projects.

The Town Council has taken an active part in all of the Town Team meetings and is working with the other members of the team. For example, one area in which we are heavily involved is a study to identify how parking arrangements in Reepham can be improved.

This is vital if we are to attract shoppers, visitors and new businesses to Reepham and so support our local traders and provide employment.

If you have ideas that you think could help achieve this, please contact the Town Council through any of the links and addresses below.

## Contact us – we can only do what you want if we know what you want

Text: 07788 546175

Email: [yourcouncilmatters@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:yourcouncilmatters@hotmail.co.uk)

Twitter: Your Council Matters @YourCouncilMatt

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

Follow the Town Council blog on [www.reephamlife.co.uk](http://www.reephamlife.co.uk) for current opinions and urgent news such as road closures in the area

# views

## Your letters continued

FROM PAGE 6

employment to local people.

I also wonder about the good sense of a shop selling sweets placed on a direct route to school.

We need the ideas and innovations that will enable Reepham to flourish over the next 25-50 years, let alone the next 5-10 years. Or will we all inevitably find ourselves driving through and out of Reepham to shop and work?

We need to take pride in the development of towns and villages as the UK's population continues to grow; some forethought and innovation, not just higgledy-piggledy stop-gap measures that "satisfy" our short-sighted and suffocating need to "keep things as they are" because it feels safe. Turning backs on discussions, even with those we might disagree with, is not helpful.

Personally, I can't see that 40 or so houses scattered in brownfield sites throughout Reepham will encourage a constructive and innovative approach to town planning.

But perhaps Realistic Reepham has some positive and innovative ideas or shall we just stick our heads in the sand?

*Alison Hovesen, Salle*

Thanks for the memory

I HAVE recently seen a copy of *Reepham Life* (May 2013) showing a picture of the

old lorry belonging to Gibbs & Son (my uncle Ted and his son Ned).

Many years ago, when my sons were of school age and staying with my mother (Mrs Clarke, previously Gibbs), we would spend a day in Reepham visiting the Gibbs family, while mother ran her shop on Towns End Corner. (After my mother's second marriage, she went to live in Dereham in 1939, but retained the shop, which was run by Mrs Curtis.)

With great excitement, my sons John and Peter were taken in uncle's lorry, driven by Stanley Woods, delivering corn, paraffin, nails and various bits of ironmongery.

It was great to see a picture [of the lorry]. I have shown it to Peter, who lives in Sheringham, and I am sending it to John, who lives in Kent.

Thank you for renewing old memories.

*Ann Dickinson (previously Gibbs),  
Sheringham*

## A town, not a village

WELCOME to Reepham – a historic market town since 1277, with a Town Hall, a Town Council, Reepham Town Football Club, Reepham Town Bowls Club and not so long ago the Reepham Town Band.

So as someone who was born and raised in Reepham, I'm always surprised to hear most people refer to it as a "village", even to the extent that there were signs up pointing to "the village".

Yes, Reepham is small for a "town", but

this makes it more unique – something we should be proud of. So don't nip down the village, pop into town!

*M R, Couch (née Read), Fakenham*

## Caravans at The Crown?

I SAW with interest the spot on *Look East* (13 August) concerning the possibility of the community taking over The Crown. Could I raise perhaps an idea that may not have been considered?

Many pubs are now joining up with local motorhome/caravan clubs by providing overnight accommodation. The only provision would be the facility of toilets/electric hook-ups, which are charged to members at £10 per night.

The benefits would be overnighters using the pub for meals, possible money to local producers and a lump sum to the pub. The outlay would be electric hook-ups and possibly the use of the toilets.

Being a motorhome enthusiast, the idea is somewhat similar to France, where nearly all small villages have an "aire" where an area is given over to motorhomes for stop-overs. The idea of pub stops in the UK is also spreading. Indeed, the Brisley Bell Inn at North Elmham offers such amenities.

I host a web page for the Spanish branch of the Motor Caravanners' Club ([www.mccinspain.weebly.com](http://www.mccinspain.weebly.com)), where I would be pleased to promote such a stop-over to our Spanish/UK club members.

*Roger Bates, Spain*

# Good planning can help your estate pay less inheritance tax

MOST of us would rather not leave a substantial portion of our estate to the taxman when we die. By understanding how your inheritance tax (IHT) liability will be calculated, you can plan ahead to minimise the impact on your estate.

The first thing to bear in mind is that anything you bequeath to your spouse or civil partner is automatically exempt from IHT liability.

Beyond that, each of us has what is called a "Nil Rate Band". This is the amount that we can leave to our heirs without incurring IHT and it currently stands at £325,000.

If, when you die, you leave all or part of your estate to your spouse or civil partner, then your unused nil rate band is added to theirs.

For example, if you leave everything to



money matters  
**JANE ARMSTRONG**

your spouse, their nil rate band would be double the prevailing level on their eventual death (£650,000 currently).

It's important to note, however, that the nil rate band can only be transferred if you are married or in a civil partnership, so cohabittees can't benefit from this.

If your estate exceeds the nil rate band, any balance is normally taxed at 40%. We recommend that you get financial advice about the measures you can take to reduce your IHT liability.

Making gifts to reduce your wealth is one option, but there are strict rules about how and when gifts are considered to

have left your estate. We will look at the treatment of gifts in the IHT calculation as well as tax-free gift allowances in a later edition of *Reepham Life*.

In addition, there are trusts and other plans that can be useful to lower your IHT liability. Your financial adviser can explore these options with you.

**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](mailto:jane.armstrong@almargreen.com)**

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# planning

## Campaigners in silent protest against Broadland planners

AROUND 60 supporters of a local campaign group turned their backs on Broadland District Council planning officers to protest over what they say is an unfair and unrealistic housing allocation for Reepham.

The 15-second silent protest organised by Realistic Reepham took place in the Town Hall during a public exhibition held by Broadland on 11 July to provide information on its preferred sites for housing development in the town as part of its latest consultation on the Local Development Framework.

The District Council's planning department recently announced three sites as "preferred options" for development in Reepham, which could see around 160 new homes being built in and around the town up to 2026.

The sites selected are:

- part of the Reepham 2 site to the south of Dereham Road (90 homes);
- land to the east of Whitwell Road opposite the High School (50 homes);
- land at the former station yard on Station Road, where a mixed development of residential and employment would see around 20 new homes being built.

During the protest, Realistic Reepham founder and chairman Mark Bridges delivered to Broadland District Council interim spatial planning manager John Walchester the first batch of questionnaires collected by the group, which he said showed overwhelming support from residents for smaller-scale developments within the town boundary as opposed to large housing estates outside the existing settlement limit. "We do not recognise the targets Broadland have set for us," he stated.

Speaking at an earlier public meeting in St Michael's, Mr Bridges said Reepham had grown by 80 houses over the past 15 years. Moreover, 44 sites had been identified with outline planning permission for new homes, with the Abbs Garage site in School Road understood to be "close to a planning application".

However, these would be additional to the town's allocation of 100-200 new dwellings, which Realistic Reepham believes will put even more pressure on the town's already over-stretched infrastructure.

"Reepham is the last market town in Norfolk that has not been enveloped by large-scale housing estates," said Mr



**Realistic Reepham turns its back on Broadland District Council planning officers**

Bridges, who believes nearby Aylsham has been spoiled by excessive development in recent years.

Broadland has now concluded its preferred options consultation of sites for future development across the district.

The process is designed to help the Council produce a Site Allocations Development

Plan Document, which will identify or "allocate" areas of land for specific types of development, such as housing, employment, community facilities, etc. It will also include the definition of development boundaries or settlement limits for those places where some further "infill" development may take place.

## Proposal to 'safeguard' school expansion

A PROPOSAL to build 22 new homes on Whitwell Street, Reepham, has been submitted as part of Broadland District Council's Preferred Options consultation.

The site, which will have vehicle access from Mill Road, is not listed as one of the preferred options for housing development in Reepham, but it was proposed as an alternative to the consultation held in autumn 2011.

The outline scheme proposes the allocation of 0.5 hectares adjacent to the primary school, which is required by Norfolk County Council to safeguard an area

of land for future expansion of the school owing to windfall sites and new residential allocations across the town.

The 22 dwellings will be a mix of detached, semi-detached and some terrace dwellings, with bungalows on the south-east boundary.

Earlier, a scheme for 45 dwellings on Whitwell Road was submitted by planning agent Hugh Ivins on behalf of the same landowners, who are represented by Julian Blake. This site has been listed as a Preferred Option.

■ More details at [www.reephamlife.co.uk](http://www.reephamlife.co.uk)

## Norfolk Big Switch and Save

BROADLAND District Council is working with other Norfolk Councils to help residents save on their energy bills – in the last round of the scheme, local residents saved an average of £111 each.

Residents can register for free with no obligation. The Council will tell you how much you could save, and you decide whether to make the final switch. You just need an annual statement or your latest energy bill.

The easiest way to register is online at [www.bigswitchandsave.co.uk](http://www.bigswitchandsave.co.uk). If you don't have access to the internet, you can call the

energy team on 01603 430627. The closing date for registering is 11 October 2013.

You can register five people with one email address, so why not help your friends and relatives to register? If you would like some leaflets and posters to help promote the scheme to residents, please contact the energy team.

The team has also developed an interactive map of oil buying groups in Norfolk, where you can enjoy savings on oil deliveries. The map is available at [www.bigswitchandsave.co.uk](http://www.bigswitchandsave.co.uk) or you can call the energy team on 01603 430627.



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# business

## Businesses frustrated by mobile phone 'not spot'

BUSINESS owners in Reepham have expressed their disappointment at the news that the government's Mobile Infrastructure Project (MIP) has identified just one specific "not spot" area to target for improvement in Norfolk. The project will be concentrating on a single road in the county – the A143 between Great Yarmouth and Haverhill.

Reepham's business community has been campaigning for some time for improvements to the mobile phone signal provision in the town. Signal from any operator is virtually non-existent in the historic Market Place and surrounding area.

Reepham Chamber of Commerce chairman Brenda Gostling expressed the town's frustration: "We had hoped that the MIP would benefit "not spots" in small rural business hubs like Reepham, but we have been told that this is unlikely to happen. We have over 30 businesses based in and around Reepham Market Place and the lack of mobile signal has an impact, to some degree, on them all."

James Ellis, marketing director of Norfolk Country Cottages, which is located in Market Place, finds the lack of mobile phone signal challenging. "Visitors to our



**Members of Reepham's business community desperately seeking a mobile phone signal in Reepham's Market Place. Photo: John Tym**

offices are delighted by Reepham's rural charm, but find it almost inconceivable that somewhere that has a significant business presence can exist without mobile phone communication," he said.

"For our own teams, we have had to invest in Vodafone signal boosters, which are limited on the number of mobiles that can use them, not always very good quality and use up our internet bandwidth. A proper mobile phone signal would be much more effective."

Claire Tuck of Bonhams auctioneers, whose Norfolk office is also located in

Reepham's Market Place, also supports the campaign to improve Reepham's mobile phone signal. "I am reliant on a fixed network connection to my laptop in order to communicate with the outside world

and unable to benefit from all that smart phone technology offers," she said.

"Secondly, we are unable to fit a smart meter at the office to monitor our electricity usage. Smart meters work on a minimum mobile signal being present and would really be of benefit, not just to us, but the rest of the residents and businesses around the Market Place, too."

Reepham Chamber of Commerce will continue to lobby Norfolk County Council to ensure the Market Place area is recognised as an important "not spot".

## Draft economic strategy circulated to community groups

A DRAFT of the Reepham Economic Strategy has been produced and circulated among the Town Team for comments.

Authors of the work, Cambridge-based Ingham Pinnock Associates, are now evaluating comments from local groups and producing a finalised document before it is launched later this year.

Having spent nearly six months undertaking research and consultation, the strategy seeks to address three main issues that were identified as undermining the

success of the local economy:

- consumer leakage;
- constrained business base;
- poor recognition and perception.

The draft strategy contains around 20 projects ranging in size, cost and scope that, if implemented, could help overcome these issues and support local economic development and growth.

A number of these projects are already being progressed, such as making the most of the community right to bid power

established by the Localism Act, improving signage and links between the town centre and Marriott's Way, and trialling evening opening hours of local retailers to help re-connect residents with their local shops.

Once the final report has been approved by the Town Team and Broadland District Council it will be made available to everyone.

[www.inghampinnock.com](http://www.inghampinnock.com)

### Sweet shop opens

A NEW shop selling sweets and cards in Reepham opened for business in early July. The shop is located in Sun House, Market Place, in the premises of the former Ocean Blue fishmongers, which closed in January.

The building is within Reepham's conservation area, and its location on Townsend Corner has been identified as a key gateway to the town centre.

### Late night opening planned for 30 October

Reepham's traders are planning a late night opening on Wednesday 30 October in the run-up to Halloween. Many shops have said they will stay open at least until 8 pm. If the trial proves successful, more evening openings are planned ahead of Christmas. The event, which is backed by the Reepham Town Team and Chamber of Commerce, will be a great opportunity for residents to show their support for the town's businesses.

■ More details in the October edition of *Reepham Life*.

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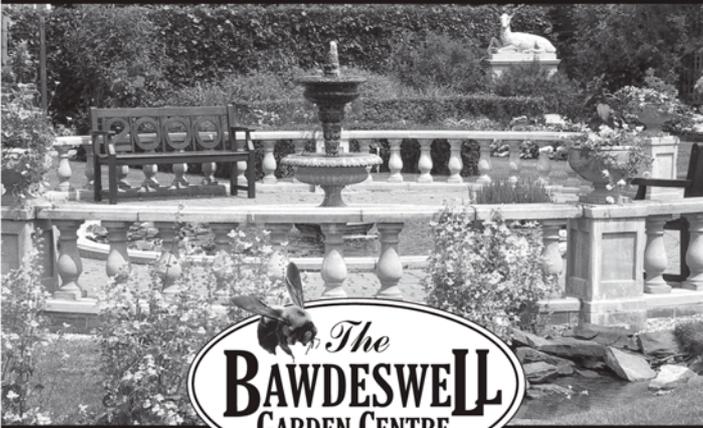


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# music

## Feelgood factor at Reepham festival

ENTHUSIASTIC music fans converged on Reepham on the weekend of 10-11 August for this year's festival of rock, rhythm, classical, folk and blues.

The event was a sell-out with more than 1,600 people flooding through the gates. This year saw more than 17 bands perform over 20 concerts across three venues – the twin stages in Rookery Meadow, St Mary's Church and Whitwell & Reepham Station.

Legendary rhythm and blues kings Dr Feelgood took to the stage on Saturday evening, along with perennial crowd-pleasers Buster James, festival favourites The Vagaband and tribute band The Kaiser Thiefs.

Saturday kicked off in true rock style with Norfolk-based Tattooed Lies and finished on the Sunday with energetic local band Shock! Hazard, who entertained an enthusiastic crowd of all ages.

Rising roots star Luke Jackson stopped off as part of his UK festival tour, while the Imperial Vienna Orchestra's dynamic and

energetic performance drew a rapturous reaction from a packed church audience.

Festival director Steve Jenkins said the festival, now in its sixth year, aims to provide a range of musical tastes and a great day out for families. "Such is the profile of the festival that we now get inundated with enquiries from bands and musicians, even from beyond the UK, wanting to play here," he said.

"Reepham's such a lovely location in which to host a music festival and it's great that visitors come from far and wide to this historic gem in the middle of Norfolk.

"The people of Reepham have embraced the festival and it's heart-warming that so many people offer to help over the weekend. And we donate net proceeds to local charities and good causes."

A high point of the weekend was a competition to win a Telecaster-style electric guitar, customised for free by Aero-graphics of Horsford and autographed by Dr Feelgood, whose lead guitarist Steve Walwyn presented the prize to compe-

tion winner and regular festival-goer Dave Tibbitts of Great Yarmouth.

Runner-up prizes comprised tickets to see Dr Feelgood at Epic Studios in Norwich in November; proceeds from the guitar raffle will go to local charities.

[www.reephamfestival.co.uk](http://www.reephamfestival.co.uk)

## Spitfire over Whitwell

FESTIVAL goers assembling at Whitwell Station on the morning of Sunday 11 August were surprised and delighted to witness a spectacular display by a Spitfire over an adjoining field.

The aircraft was ML407, the celebrated Grace Spitfire, originally built in early 1944 as a single-seat fighter and which served in the frontline for the remainder of the war.

The display had been arranged by Janet and Michael Pender-Cudlip of Mill Road, Reepham, as a finale to celebrations of their wedding the previous day.

"We planned this back in February and managed to keep it a secret from all our guests, although we didn't know for certain that conditions would allow flying until earlier that morning," said Michael.

"We, our family, friends and neighbours were privileged and moved at Carolyn Grace's wonderful flying of this iconic aircraft, and delighted that so many others in the area for the Reepham Festival were also able to enjoy the display."

[www.ml407.co.uk](http://www.ml407.co.uk)

## Royal concert at Salle

THE Prince of Wales, Patron of Music in Country Churches, and the Duchess of Cornwall, attended a concert at the Church of St Peter and St Paul in Salle on Tuesday 30 July.

The English Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Gianluca Marciano with pianist Mario João Pires, performed works by Beethoven and Mendelssohn.

The royal couple were joined by guests including actresses Dame Judi Dench and Dame Maggie Smith, and were welcomed by the Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk, Richard Jewson.

This is the third time Salle has been chosen as a venue for Music in Country Churches, which is celebrating its 25th season this year. Proceeds from the concert will help fund much-needed re-facing work on the church tower at St Mary's, Reepham.

[www.musicincountrychurches.com](http://www.musicincountrychurches.com)



Photos: John Tym [www.tympix.com](http://www.tympix.com)

# gardens

## Talk about a wonderful summer of gardening

WOW, what a summer! A fascinating talk in June on dahlias by Don Andrews (and actually I do know they aren't named after Roald Dahl), which was informative and made us laugh all the way through, proving my point yet again that it is not just the subject matter of a talk that is crucial to our enjoyment level, but the presentation.

Years ago, when I became interested in gardening, even before the lovely and enthusiastic Geoffrey Smith on TV made gardening accessible (you couldn't describe Percy Thrower as lovely, but perhaps that was due to my age at the time), Beth Chatto became famous because her stance was that foliage is interesting, so I always had at the back of my mind that I would like to go to her nursery.

It took 40 years, but luckily the Reepham & District Gardening Club trip took me to her gardens in July. What a wonderful day and a very impressive venue, all planting and plants immaculate. Thoughtful food and cake too, a bonus. So many thanks to Celia Else for arranging it.

The July meeting brought the lovely and knowledgeable Barry Gayton to talk about propagation. What a committed gardener he is, a real fund of infor-



mation. He told us that three crystals of potassium permanganate in a watering can full of water will stop all mildew, moulds on a seedbed, and if seeds are subjected to a temperature of more than 84°F (29°C) they will die. The meeting was especially memorable for me because I won some string in the raffle.

And then of course August brought the Summer Show, always a hilarious evening where we all judge the entries and there are prizes, too.

So now I am looking forward to the September meeting, which is an illustrated talk by Tony Leach on fungi. When I used to ride I often gathered fungi to eat, such as chanterelles, field mushrooms, puffballs and ink caps, because on horseback you can go further off the beaten track and get the pick of the crop. I look forward to see-

ing you at Reepham Town Hall at 7.45 pm on Tuesday 17 September.

### Volunteers wanted for Whitwell Common baling project

THE Hawk and Owl Trust's Baling for Biodiversity project is working with the trustees of Whitwell Common to do habitat management work and species monitoring on the Common.

The Heritage Lottery funded project is based at Sculthorpe Moor Community Nature Reserve near Fakenham. It is working in partnership with Norfolk Wildlife Trust and various site owners and trustees to restore and manage sites important for flora and fauna across Norfolk with the help of volunteers from local communities.

Whitwell Common is a fantastic Site of Special Scientific Interest that needs to be sensitively managed to keep it in peak condition.

If you are interested in helping out with practical tasks through the winter, like scrub management and coppicing, or would like to get involved in monitoring the flora and fauna on the site, please contact the Baling for Biodiversity Project Officer, Neil Chadwick, via email [neil.chadwick@hawkandowl.org](mailto:neil.chadwick@hawkandowl.org) or by phone on 07920 537053.

## Dealing with neighbour disputes

SOLICITORS receive instructions about disputes between neighbours with some caution. If there is an argument over a boundary line, the value of the land involved rarely merits the legal costs of sorting it out. At the end of the day, these people may still be neighbours, so is "lawyering up" likely to help?

If someone wants to sell their property they have to disclose if there is a dispute, so the presence of a dispute can be a block to a sale.

However, it may be economic to resolve it using a solicitor if development value is affected, or if something so unpleasant is happening that it makes a property unlivable.

Bad behaviour by neighbours may be in breach of the criminal law so it is always worth a word with the local police. The neighbour's behaviour might be serious and persistent enough to be "harass-

### legal view

**MARK FOLEY**



ment" under the Protection from Harassment Act 1997, which makes it both a criminal offence and a civil cause of action for damages or injunction.

Bear in mind though that police officers always want to find enough good evidence to support a prosecution and your word may not be enough. Indeed, getting the evidence to court is likely to be difficult; other neighbours in the area may well have been witnesses to everything, but will they want to be involved in your dispute? Not likely!

I acted for a client recently where the police had used a sort of mediation procedure, which they called "restorative justice", to successfully resolve a boundary dispute

over a hedge. Interestingly, the neighbours are starting to re-establish good relations.

Noxious or harmful things escaping from a neighbour's land (smells, effluent, cattle, noise pollution, for example) are likely to be what lawyers call a "nuisance" and give you a cause of action.

Matters like this tend to "eat away" at a person; before it gets to that stage it is worth getting an hour's worth of legal advice.

**■ To discuss these issues or for help with your legal affairs, contact Mark Foley, Solicitor, One Church Farms Barns, Well Lane, Sparham, Norfolk NR9 5PY. Tel: 07833 332055 or 01362 688946. Email: [law@25am.co.uk](mailto:law@25am.co.uk) Twitter: @lawyerfoley**

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# reepham past

## Hints of Gothic in the Old Rectory

THE Old Rectory in Church Street, Reepham, was designed by the Lincoln architect Henry Goddard in 1864. Goddard and his son, also Henry, were church architects, renovating old churches as well as designing new ones.

Built of polychrome brick in a rather severe, decoration-free style, the Old Rectory has hints of Gothic in its main entrance and in the oriel-style window above the door; the building has a slate roof.

Parts of the property appear to pre-date Goddard's work and further evidence for this can be found in the boundary wall. The wall south of the entrance gateway is part 18th century, while from the gateway to the north boundary is 19th century. It is also likely that the burial ground



at the east end of St Mary's church extended beyond the line of this boundary wall into the grounds of the rectory.

We know from excavations in 2007 below the current surface of Church Street, which revealed 60 skeletons, that the roadway was created over the burial ground probably in the 16th to 18th centuries. These burials from medieval times would have been unmarked and after 200 years their existence would most likely have been forgotten. The skeletons were reburied in the churchyard in June 2010.

Michael Marlow Wilkinson, a former Fellow of Trinity College Cambridge, was Rector of Reepham from 1864 until his death in 1916 aged 85. He and his wife Annie Harriot, who pre-deceased him in 1908, are both commemorated with brass plaques in St Mary's.

*Chris Peakome*

## books

### You're never too young to join the library

WE'VE had a busy summer helping all our readers complete their Creepy House Summer Reading Challenge. We had fun at our various craft events and had a lot of help from our volunteers, Emily and Rowan. Congratulations to everyone who took part in the challenge – we hope you enjoyed your reading and will come back and see us soon.

Now that everyone nearly is back at school, you might think Reepham Library would quieten down – but you'd be wrong. You're never too young to join the library and from 20 September we will be running Bounce & Rhyme sessions every Friday, especially for pre-school children and their grown-ups. If you fancy half an hour of singing, music-making and general noise-making with your baby or toddler, just come along and join in.

We have a lot of other things to offer pre-school children as well. We stock

board books, including some lovely touch and feel books and black and white designs for young babies. We also have a large collection of picture books for all ages, which are great to read together or to start learning to read with.

Have you tried story sacks? Each bag contains two books and a collection of toys and games to help tell and expand on the story. They're great fun for sharing.

We have a small selection of special-needs story sacks, which are designed for children with mobility or sensory impairments.

All this is entirely free. Children up to the age of five don't pay fines on late books. And there's no need to worry if things get chewed or dribbled on; there's no charge for replacement books for young children. If you have any questions, just pop in and see us or call 01603 870474.

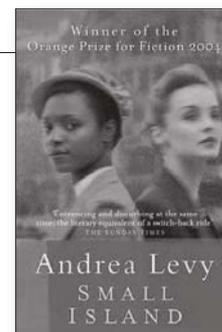
*Helen Johnson*

Coming soon to Reepham Library THERE are just a few days left of the summer holidays – still time to finish your summer reading challenge and win your gold medal.

- Bounce & Rhyme Time, every Friday from 10.30 – 11 am.

- Reepham Town Read for Black History Month: *Small Island* by Andrea Levy. Join us and the rest of Reepham in reading this modern classic. Books are available from 30 September.

- Wartime Sweethearts and GI Brides: Anglo-American Romance in Norfolk During WW2 – a presentation by Libby Morgan from the 2nd Air Division Memorial Library, Monday 7 October, 11 am – 12 noon, free, booking essential.



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# arts & crafts

## Painting on the wild side

CLEMENTINA Sutton lives in Cawston and runs a series of art classes designed to challenge and inspire. She has a refreshing and open-minded approach to artistic practice, believing that genuine creative endeavour follows a path and always leads to something else.

She studied at colleges in Devon and Sunderland to gain formal art qualifications, completing her teacher training at Brighton, and then worked in various places until settling in Norfolk to start a new venture with her husband in the form of a trekking centre for riders to explore the Norfolk countryside on horseback.

After some years of success, the opportunity arose to move to the island of Kalamnos in Greece and the couple lived there for two and a half years.

On returning to Norfolk in 2002, Tina began teaching for Norfolk Adult Education, touring village halls and providing her unique approach to art. Before long, she had set up her own privately-run classes for adult learners of all abilities in various locations around Norfolk.

Each term brings a new theme, such as landscape, portraits or still life, which are interpreted through the use of paint, ink, pastel and mixed media. She uses her extensive knowledge to incorporate the formal aspects of art, such as perspective,



**Tina Sutton**

composition and colour mixing, with periods of experimentation and fun activities, such as collaging images and text from newspapers, photos and magazines.

Her aim is to encourage artists to steer away from stereotypical depictions of poppies and beach huts and instead use intuitive and emotional responses to create artworks through an unfettered use of materials and techniques. She herself is inspired by the wild, abandoned

works of Maggi Hambling and the vibrant, fluid watercolours of Shirley Trevena.

Her next ten-week course starts on Monday 16 September with the suitably titled theme of Wacky Watercolours. The cost is £95 for the whole term or £10 for a taster session.

To find out more about Tina's other classes held on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, you can contact her on 01603 872441 or details can be found at <http://tinasnorfolkartcourse.blogspot.co.uk>

*Jules Allen*

## Venue/date change for festival of arts and crafts

OWING to the closure of the Old Brewery House Hotel, the new venue for the annual Art & Craft Fair will be St Michael's and St Mary's Church, Reepham, on Saturday 5 October from 10 am – 4 pm.

There will be 20 arts and craft stalls with a wide range of handmade goods, including wood, ceramics, paintings, photography, pottery and jewellery made by local crafters and artists. Tea and coffee with light refreshments will be available.

■ For further details, please contact Sandy Nevard on 01603 871600 or email [sandy.nevard@btinternet.com](mailto:sandy.nevard@btinternet.com)

## Harold Reeve celebrates 100th birthday

REEPHAM resident Harold Reeve, who celebrated his 100th birthday on 29 June 2013, was born in Bar Lane and has lived in Reepham for most of his life. He had many jobs, working on farms, as a fireman and driving vans.

Mr Reeve was very proud to receive a card from the Queen on his 100th birthday. This was not, however, his first encounter with royalty.

As a young man he was recruited into the army – he was what he calls a “rhubarb soldier”: a recruit, forced into the army. He served as a sergeant and took part in the D-Day landings in Normandy.

Mr Reeve was captured and spent a year in a prisoner-of-war camp, where his health suffered as a result. He lost three stone in weight, and when the war ended he was repatriated in a plane on a stretcher.

Queen Elizabeth (the mother of the current Queen and later the Queen Mother) was present when his plane arrived and he was welcomed back to England with a kiss on the cheek from her.

While a prisoner Mr Reeve got to know two Australian soldiers who encouraged him to emigrate to Australia, but as a Norfolk man he returned to the county, where he has since spent the rest of his life.

Mr Reeve is extremely fit and well for his 100 years – in spite of a doctor telling him after his time as a prisoner that he would be lucky to make it to 50!

The day before his 100th birthday he took his family out for a celebration meal. They arranged an open day at his home in Sun Barn Road to celebrate his birthday with family and friends.

*Anne Woollett*



**Harold Reeve (left) with his son Alan opening the card from the Queen**



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# church news

## 'Drop-Inn' for a coffee on Wednesday morning

EVERY Wednesday is a busy day at the Chapel. The "Drop-Inn" coffee morning (9.30 am – 12 noon) is organised by Ted and Brenda Palmer. Traidcraft tea and coffee is served and is free. There is time to relax and chat and there is a Traidcraft stall; a variety of cards and books are also on sale. If you have not been to the Chapel, this is a good time to visit.

The dulcet tones of the Chapel music group may also be heard practising for one hour from 10.30 am. We are currently singing some Rutter anthems. We check out the hymns and worship songs for the

Sunday Service and just enjoy singing a variety of hymns, songs or liturgical pieces. New singers are welcome.

Meanwhile, thank you to the Rainbows, Brownies and Guides for re-potting their sunflowers in the all-age worship service recently. The sunflowers are growing well at the side of the chapel. Many thanks to Leon Greenwald, who has been watering them when required.

The next all-age worship is a Harvest Celebration on Sunday 29 September led by Stephanie and Philip Chapman. Whose sunflower grew the tallest? And

whose sunflower is the biggest? Come and find out!

At the service you are welcome to bring harvest produce or food items. These are taken afterwards to the night shelter in Norwich or given to the local food bank.

And don't miss the quiz and chips night at the Chapel on Saturday 28 September. Book early as this is turning into a hot ticket in Reepham. Call Ann Chilman for tickets on 01603 873307.

*Michael Price, Church Steward*  
[www.eamethodist.org.uk/reepham](http://www.eamethodist.org.uk/reepham)

## Sharing our beautiful churches for different events

OVER the warm summer months, Reepham's churches have been delighted to welcome a large number of extra visitors. How fortunate that these two distinctive and beautiful buildings stand at the centre of our community; it is simple for folk to quietly "drop in" as they stroll round the centre of our town.

And they do. We are heartened and amazed at the number of entries in our visitor's book. Some enjoy the sense of prayer and peace; others the history and architecture.

The Art for All exhibition took place at the start of summer, when 80 exhibits created by gifted local artists were displayed in both buildings. There were a variety of paintings, ceramic and textile works, photographs and lace. This local talent

was enjoyed by enthusiastic visitors and a number of exhibits were sold.

The dedication of the Queen's Jubilee Window in St Michael's took place in early July. Members of the Town Council were welcomed to a short, prayerful ceremony followed by refreshments.

It was through the generosity of the Council that this memorial was commissioned, and it is placed at the base of one of the tall southern windows, exactly replicating the one in the next window celebrating Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1897 – a beautiful echo of appreciation.

Our sister church in Salle, with its amazing acoustic and space, is used regularly for concerts. The last week in July saw a two-day festival of three concerts arranged by Music in Country Churches.

A large number of people enjoyed listening to a high standard of performance in an exquisite building. The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall were welcomed on the first evening.

Salle has generously agreed to share the profits of these three concerts with the church in Reepham, who are most grateful.

In the early life of our church buildings, the empty naves (there were no fixed pews in those days) were used for a variety of purposes as well as for worship on Sundays and saints' days. We enjoy sharing these heavenly spaces for many different events. These buildings are intended for all people.



*Sue Page*

## A new look for our youth project for the new term

RAYZONE (Reepham Area Youth Project) has a new look for the new term.

Rayzone Friday's clubs continue to offer a safe place for young people to come together, meet new friends and explore life issues.

We look forward to seeing our club members again in the new term and welcome new members too.

Rayzone Youth Club is held in Reepham Methodist Church, Fridays (term time), 7.30 – 9 pm (unless notified of 9.30 pm finish), for Year 5-11 students, 50p a week.

Meanwhile, for Year 5-9 students, Rock Solid is held in St Michael's, Reepham, on Fridays (fortnightly during term

time), 6 – 7 pm, 50p subs.

Our Schools Work will continue at both Reepham High School & College and Reepham Primary School in the new term.

Claire's Club will continue on Wednesday lunchtimes at the Primary School with the support of Revd. Gill Wells; Discovery Café, a joint project with Simon Fenn (Holt Deanery) will start again at the High School. More information will be available in the schools in the new term.

A fun fundraising evening, the Rayzone

Quiz & Supper, will be held on Saturday 19 October at St Michael's, Reepham, 7 pm start.

This will be a time to give thanks for the youth work in Reepham, test your general knowledge and enjoy a delicious meal together.

Tickets (teams of six) will be available in September from Claire Mead and the local churches.

*Claire Mead, Rayzone Youth Worker*  
07748 502603  
[rayzoneyouthworker@gmail.com](mailto:rayzoneyouthworker@gmail.com)  
[www.rayzone.org.uk](http://www.rayzone.org.uk)

**October issue deadline:**  
17 September 2013



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# farming

## Salle Estate wins farm business competition

SIR John White's Salle Park Estate won the supreme champion award at the 34th annual Norfolk County farm business competition, organised by the Aylsham Agricultural Show Association (AASA).

Salle Park has won the title at least five times and was reserve supreme last year. Estate manager Poul Hovesen, who is also director of farming on the Earl of Leicester's Holkham Estate, won the award of champion farm manager.

AASA members and other guests were invited to the annual farm walk and presentation of trophies, which took place at Manor Farm, Salle, on 15 July.

The White family has owned Salle Park Estate since 1890. Sir John took over in

1971 and since then has focused on developing a professionally run, traditional family estate, with conservation as one of his personal commitments.

Mr Hovesen managed farms in Denmark before moving to the UK in 1987 to take over the role of farms and estate manager for Salle Farms, which has since increased in size from 1,000 hectares to 1,700 hectares following the purchase of the Guestwick Estate in 1991.

Today, the arable operations cover more than 2,000 hectares, including three local farms managed under contract arrangements. A further 900 hectares of arable land is owned and farmed in Poland.



**Left to right: head gardener Katie Duffield, Sir John White and housekeeper Clarissa Greves accepting the Barclays Bank trophy on behalf of Salle Park Estate**

## WI smelling sweet

THE past three months have been lively for Reepham WI. In June, we welcomed Suzie Abel, senior buyer at Jarrolds, who gave us a short history of the company and talked about her life in perfumery. We then participated in a practical demonstration on choosing fragrances.

Then in July, Liz Gaymer talked about her role as a "games maker" at the London Olympics. It was so interesting to hear her account of what it was like at the control centre and we all felt so proud of her

contribution to such an amazing event.

Also in July, there was the Royal Norfolk Show WI Competitions, where a small number of our dedicated knitters and sewers entered a tableau entitled "A Day at the Seaside" and won second prize. However, our decorated hat for "A Day at the Races" was not so successful. Even the poor horse (the one who refused to stand up without the aid of superglue) looked exhausted when the hat was returned.

There were also outings to Wells and Houghton, and our ten-pin bowling team are growing into a force to be reck-

oned with. And in August, we looked at the life of a Tibetan monk.

At our meeting on 19 September, Ann Coker will be telling us about the ups and downs of being a registrar, while Friday 4 October is the date of our annual quiz and buffet at Reepham College, 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Teams of up to six may be entered and the charge is £7 per person, including supper (bring your own wine and glasses). Please book no later than a week before through Liz Howes 07919 440518 or [elizabeth.vallis@btinternet.com](mailto:elizabeth.vallis@btinternet.com)

*Sue Robinson 01603 261771*



## digger's diary

### Remembering the days when there were far fewer cars

DIGGER looked out of his window one morning and saw the children in the primary school not their usual happy selves, which saddened him, for they are always happy and noisy and falling over.

They were standing in a circle around a litter bin looking frightened. Digger wondered if someone had put their sandwiches in there by mistake or if someone had dropped litter in and forgotten to let go.

Then a janitor appeared, took the top off the bin and turned it upside down, and out slid a rook, muttering "Blumen eck" (which is German for "Oh, what a beautiful garden"). It then proceeded to hop around the playing field on one leg chanting "Lalla-lalla" (a silly habit taught

them by Mr Disraeli long ago) closely followed by a teacher.

Who else but a Reepham rook could have done that (except perhaps a Reepham blackbird, which are just as mad)? All true; if you do not believe me ask at the school. (Digger once long ago knew a lady called Nesta Rooke.)

Now, those of you who are as old as Digger (not many, I know) may recall the days when there were far fewer cars and far fewer parking restrictions than now. If there was some sort of special event the police would put out little blue signs saying "Police Notice, Do Not Park Here Today".

Some devious people who did not like

cars outside their houses would make copies of these saying "Polite Notice, Do Not Park Here", hoping that people would read "Polite" as "Police." This has passed so much into English life that today we see notices in shops saying things like "Polite Notice, These Eggs are Fresh", when "polite" has no relevance.

What has prompted Digger to reminisce is seeing a woman on a horse going down Eve's Hill wearing a tabard just like the ones police riders wear, but this one said "POLITE" in big letters. Polite what? The horse? Does he never say "neigh" to a plea? Horses are delicate animals, which is why they have to be kept in a stable environment.

# sports

## Cyclists raise £2,100 for Nelson's Journey charity

THE first Nelson's 100 cycle ride raised more than £2,100 for Nelson's Journey, which supports bereaved children and their families throughout Norfolk.

Eight cyclists set off from Reepham on Saturday 13 July to complete 100 miles in a route around Norfolk, cycling up to the coast via Aylsham, along to Hunstanton and back to Reepham via King's Lynn.

The 100-mile ride was led off by Ben Johnson, who set up the ride in memory of his friend Amanda Ashby-Pickford, who lived and worked in Reepham (at the library) and died of leukaemia last year at the age of just 38, leaving two young children.

All eight cyclists completed the 100-mile route, despite the heat, and raised more than £1,700 for Nelson's Journey.

In the afternoon, more than 40 children accompanied by their families took part



**The eight 100-mile cyclists and children who saw them off, just before they departed from Reepham**

in the Family Bike Ride, a five-mile route along Marriott's Way, for Amanda and another parent in Reepham, Paul Lin, who also passed away last year from leukaemia. This raised more than £420, which meant the two rides together raised more than £2,100 for the Norwich-based charity.

Family Bike Ride organiser Lois Fuller said: "What started out as a small family

cycle ride turned into a lively, fun event and there were certainly lots of smiles on both the children's and the adults' faces as they set off.

"It has brought a small community together, with three local shops in Reepham and a local wholesaler donating sweets and snacks for the children after the ride.

"It feels good to be able to do something in a situation where sometimes you don't always know what you can say or do to help, and afterwards it was good to talk with friends and family of Amanda and Paul, which helps to keep their memory alive."

■ You can still donate to the Nelson's 100 cause by visiting: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/northnorfolk100/> Text donations can be made directly to the charity by texting NJNJ44 followed by the amount you wish to donate to 70070.

## Raiders seek new players

REEPHAM Raiders dodgeball club is looking for new players for the 2013/14 season. We welcome ages 15+, both male and female, and will be training every Wednesday from 6.00–7.30 pm at Reepham High School.

Reepham Raiders 1st team is also looking for sponsorship or generous donations. This upcoming season sees them retain a place in the Dodgeball Premier League, which tours across the UK. These funds will go a long way in supporting the team's travel around the country, as well as developing the future of the club.

*Henry Skinner*  
[henry.skinner@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:henry.skinner@hotmail.co.uk)  
[www.reephamraiders.com](http://www.reephamraiders.com)

## Another successful bowls season

HERE we are nearly at the end of another season of green bowls and I'm pleased to say it has been a very successful one. The results could have been better, but we have all enjoyed the season,

which is the main thing.

People have been very generous and since my last write-up we have received £150 from an anonymous donor, £40 from Rita and the residents of Townsend Corner, and nearly £700 from a Tesco Community Award.

The new season commences in April and if you are interested in, joining please feel free to contact me.

*Barry Barker, Treasurer, Reepham Town Bowls Club, 01603 870337*  
[barrydbarker@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:barrydbarker@yahoo.co.uk)

## Kurling resumes after summer

AFTER a break of several months over the summer, the Reepham Kurling Group will be resuming on 1 October, meeting from 2–4 pm on Tuesdays at Reepham Town Hall. The first session is free and after that it just costs just £2 a session, with tea/coffee/biscuits included.

■ For further information, please contact Gwenda Dove on 01603 870598 or email [grandove@doves.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:grandove@doves.eclipse.co.uk), or just come along any Tuesday afternoon.

## Reepham Town FC fixtures

### 1st Team

7/9/13, 14.30, home, Beccles Town – L

14/9/13, 14.30, away, Kirkley & Pakefield – L

21/9/13, 14.00, home, Corton – Mummery Cup

28/9/13, 14.30, home, Mundford/ Foulsham – Senior Cup

### Reserves

7/9/13, 14.30, away, Hellesdon Res – L

14/9/13, 14.30, away, Easton Res – L

21/9/13, 14.30, away, Martham Res – L

28/9/13, 14.30, away, Mulbarton Wanderers – L

Reepham Town Football Club is also holding an event at Stimpson's Piece, Reepham, on Saturday 28 September at 7.30 pm, when local band Wake The Neighbour will be making the evening rock. For further information, contact Marcus 07810 501506 or The Cutting Station 01603 879100.

*Maureen Wilkinson, Secretary, Reepham Town FC*

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# news

## The Bircham Centre – at the heart of the community

THERE were lots going on this summer at the Bircham Centre. Many of you will by now have seen that the porch renovations have been completed and the front door is once more open on a daily basis.

Further restoration work is currently under way to the chimney and the oldest parts of the building to house the Bircham Centre Archive, a working collection of local memorabilia and historical artefacts. It is hoped this will be open in a few months' time. We desperately need any unwanted, free-standing, open bookcases to help house the archives.

Gill Wheatley, a new part-time administrator, has also been appointed; she is in the office from Monday-Friday 9-11 am and can assist with all enquiries and bookings.

As well as housing the local library, the beautiful period rooms and facilities at the Centre are used by many local groups, including the bridge club, Pilates, sewing and music groups and the weekly Country Market.

You can join one of these groups or treat yourself to a little relaxation, such as reflexology, yoga or remedial massage, all available at the Centre. A full list of all our groups and activities is posted on our noticeboard.

The building also houses a charity shop, bookshop and an art gallery dis-

playing work from local artists.

There is a delightful garden at the rear of the building where you can sit with a cup of tea or coffee and relax. The kitchen is open every day; drinks cost only 50p. The garden, along with the kitchen and rooms, are all available to rent for groups, activities and parties at competitive prices.

We now also have a good-sized office overlooking the Market Place available to rent either part-time, full-time or on a hot-desking basis. The office is secure, with storage and power.

Donations, either items for the shop and bookshop or one-off payments, are always welcome. You can also become a member of the Bircham Centre 200+ Club. This aims to have at least 200 members and costs just £1 a month; all money goes to help support the day-to-day running and upkeep of the Centre. A monthly draw takes place for prizes of £25, £15 and £10.

■ If you are interested in booking or using the facilities at the Centre, please contact Gill Wheatley on 01603 879242 or email [birchamcentre@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:birchamcentre@yahoo.co.uk)

[www.thebirchamcentre.org.uk](http://www.thebirchamcentre.org.uk)

### Table top sale

A TABLE top sale will be held in St Michaels, Reepham, on Saturday 28 Sep-

tember from 10 am – 1 pm to raise money for Reepham Churches and the Nelson's Journey charity.

The sale will be a good opportunity to find out about the range of local businesses working with families who will be showcasing their products.

It will also offer the chance to have a clear-out, sell on the toys, clothes and equipment that your little ones have grown out of, and make room to buy some bargains.

A photographer will be offering free sittings for children's photos. There will also be a face-painter and an area for children's activities.

■ For more information, please contact Sam James on 07736 325189 or email [samjames@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:samjames@yahoo.co.uk) (tables are £10 for businesses, £5 for individuals).

### Sparham Garden Party

THE Sparham Annual Garden Party on 22 June raised more than £1,200, which will go towards maintaining the Grade I listed village church. Neil Dagless scooped the first prize of £100 in the Grand Draw. Thanks again to Rob and Tracy for the use of their lovely garden, the games and stallholders, and all the local businesses and residents who supported us with their donations. *Gus and Fred*

## WHAT'S ON GUIDE

### Sunday 8 September

RALGA summer social, Fiddler's Lane allotments

### Saturday 14 September

Harvest Supper, St Michael's, Reepham, 7 pm. Two-course supper; vegetarian option if booked in advance. Tickets £7.50 each from Very Nice Things (cash or cheques only). Please bring your own alcohol if desired. Tickets are limited in number and will not be available at the event. Proceeds to church funds.

### Tuesday 17 September

Reepham & District Gardening Club, Town Hall, Church Street, Reepham, 7.45 pm. Biology of Fungi – The Good the Bad & the Ugly, an illustrated talk by Tony Leach. Describes the diversity of fungal forms and relates them to the biology of fungi. Some "horticultural" aspects include mycorrhizas, fairy rings and woodchips. New members and visitors always welcome. Tel: Judy Holland 01603 308158

### Friday 20 September

Quiz and Home Cooked Supper, St Mary's, Sparham, 7.30 pm. Quiz, nibbles, main course and ice cream. Teams of six (if you would like to be put in a team please let us know). Bring your own liquid refreshments, plates, cutlery, glasses, etc. Tickets £10 per person from Fiona Sayer 01603 872246 email: [fa.sayer@gmail.com](mailto:fa.sayer@gmail.com); or Judith Pryke 01362 688426 email: [judith@pryke.co.uk](mailto:judith@pryke.co.uk)

### Friday 27 September

Coffee morning, Hampton's Tea Parlour, Norwich Road, Reepham, 10 am – 12 noon, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Tel: 01603 871050

### Saturday 28 September

Table Top Sale, St Michaels, Reepham, 10 am – 1 pm, to raise money for Reepham Churches and the Nelson's Journey charity. Tables are £10 for businesses, £5 for individuals. Contact: Sam James 07736 325189 or

[samjames@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:samjames@yahoo.co.uk)

### Saturday 28 September

Reepham & Salle Cricket Club quiz night, Salle Institute, 7 pm for 7.30 pm start. Licensed bar, BBQ and raffle. Entry is £7.50 (to include BBQ food). Up to six people per team. For further information, contact Martin Clapton on 01603 871257 or Stephanie Harris [the.harrisfamily@virgin.net](mailto:the.harrisfamily@virgin.net)

### Saturday 28 September

Wake The Neighbour (local band), Stimpson's Piece, Reepham, 7.30 pm, event organised by Reepham Town Football Club. For further information, contact Marcus 07810 501506 or The Cutting Station 01603 879100

### Friday 4 October

Reepham WI quiz, Reepham College, 7.00 for 7.30 pm. Teams of up to six may be entered and the charge is £7 per person, including the buffet supper. Bring your own wine and glasses. Please book no later than a week before through Liz Howes 07919 440518 or [elizabeth.vallis@btinternet.com](mailto:elizabeth.vallis@btinternet.com)

### Saturday 5 October

Art & Craft Fair, St Michael's and St Mary's Church, Reepham, 10 am – 4 pm. Twenty arts and craft stalls with a wide range of handmade goods, including wood, ceramics, paintings, photography, pottery and jewellery made by crafters and artists from our region. Tea and coffee with light refreshments will be available. For further details, contact Sandy Nevard on 01603 871600 or email [sandy.nevard@btinternet.com](mailto:sandy.nevard@btinternet.com)

### Saturday 19 October

Rayzone Quiz & Supper, St Michael's, Reepham, 7 pm start. Tickets (teams of six) available from the local churches and Claire Mead (Rayzone Youth Worker) 07748 502603 or [rayzoneyouthworker@gmail.com](mailto:rayzoneyouthworker@gmail.com)

**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](mailto:info@reephamlife.co.uk)**

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:keith.simpson.mp@parliament.uk)

Norfolk County Councillor: James Joyce 01263 587212 or email: [james.joyce@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:james.joyce@norfolk.gov.uk)

Broadland District Councillor: Chris Wheeler 01603 871799 or email: [cllr.chris.wheeler@broadland.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.chris.wheeler@broadland.gov.uk)

Town Council Chairman: Les Paterson 01603 871983 or email: [les.paterson@yahoo.com](mailto: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 Aylsham and 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 Monday to Saturday 8:30 am – 5 pm 0845 300 6116

### Local help

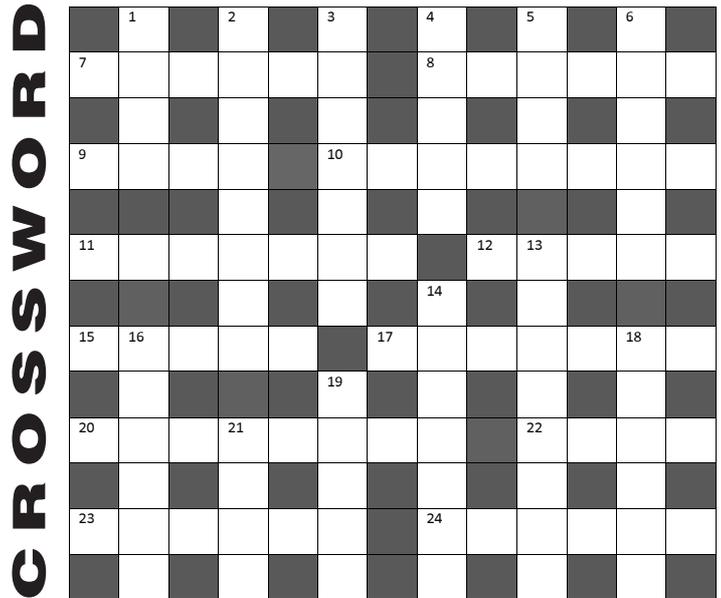
Reepham Patient Care Fund – Reepham Rover or general enquiries. Contact: Jeanette Overton 01603 870426

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>

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Richard Cooke  
ADVERTISING & MARKETING



### ACROSS

- 7 Dough on the up  
8 Rules M for monkeys  
9 Stop support for a flower  
10 Deem loan unfit for drink  
11 Brass from the ice cream van  
12 Duck, i.e. red  
15 Tell on pot  
17 Next door to 22 in Reepham  
20 Drain spa for European  
22 Next door to 17 in Reepham  
23 Small car on Mediterranean holiday  
24 Relative broadcaster

### DOWN

- 1 Can time for shade  
2 Manliest about illnesses  
3 Some Magi lit your deftness  
4 Go miles about ooze  
5 Last word at 17 and 22  
6 Red fig gets cold  
13 Bees' noise in stupid – not nice  
14 Angry pet for oil strike  
16 Fix ear rip  
18 Overhear an insect  
19 Container a learner for barges  
21 No home counties for wine feature

**Solution on page 26**

## New beginnings at Reepham Primary

THIS time of year is always exciting at Reepham Primary School. September marks transitions and new beginnings all round as children move into their new classes; a new reception class starts "big school" for the first time, and a new group of Year 6 pupils start to lead the upper school.

We hope that everyone is returning or starting school after some time to relax and share some fun with friends and family. The weather has certainly made it

easy to enjoy games and adventures outside!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all of the new reception class children – we hope that Robin Class and their families will soon feel part of our school community.

We also want to wish the new Year 7 children at Reepham High School all the best as they enter the next phase in their education. We miss every child as they move on, but we love hearing news of their ongoing successes as we work in partnership with our cluster schools and their staff.

Our staff and pupils are always striving to be the best they can be at school, and we can't wait to see what we can achieve this year... we'll keep you posted!

*Amanda Bell*

## Post office upgrade

JOHNSON'S of Reepham has been selected to become a main post office, which will hopefully secure the facility for many years to come. It will be open for longer and be more accessible to Reepham and surrounding communities, as well as offering more services.

The Post Office and retail area are being revamped, and the Post Office counter will be closed during some of this period: it will close at 5.30 pm on Wednesday 18 September and re-open at 1 pm on Monday 30 September. Books of stamps will be available at the retail end during this time.

The shop will remain open during the transformation, but certain areas will be sectioned off while a refit of the retail area is carried out; it will, however, have to close for a time while some electrical work is undertaken, but this date will be announced when it is confirmed.

**October issue**  
editorial/advertisement  
booking deadline:

**17 September 2013**

Please contact: Judy Holland on  
01603 308158

or email: [jholland@reephamlife.co.uk](mailto:jholland@reephamlife.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 Dreisin 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 Amateur Theatrical Society** Meets every Monday at 7 pm at Cawston Village Hall during school term time. We stage two productions per year and welcome members age 8 years and over from Cawston, Reepham and surrounding villages. Contact Liz Beard 07884 488642. Email: liz.beard@btinternet.com or mail@catsdramagroup.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 at The Annexe, Oak Farm, Park Lane, Reepham. Knitting, embroidering, 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: grandove@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

**Rayzone Youth Club** Meets every Friday at Reepham Methodist Church, 7.30 – 9 pm (unless notified otherwise). Open to all Year 5-11 students. Subs 50p. Games, chat, tuck... The autumn term will have a mixture of regular sessions (with a choice of activities) and themed evenings (all the group take part in the same activity). Contact: Claire Mead, Rayzone Youth Worker 07748 502603. Email: rayzoneyouthworker@gmail.com

**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 £2 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 Photographic Club** Meets on the third Thursday of each month from 8.00 pm – 10.00 pm in The Sidings Marquee, Whitwell & Reepham Railway, Whitwell Road, Reepham. Contact: M.R. Battams 01603 870874

**Reepham & District Rotary Club** Meets 6.45 pm for 7.15 pm every Monday at St Michael's, Reepham. Contact: John Tym 07760 272422 reservations@reephamrotary.org.uk or Robert Buxton, President 01603 870200

**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 Raiders** Dodgeball club meets for training every Wednesday from 6.00–7.30 pm at Reepham High School. New players aged 15 and over, both male and female, are welcome. Contact: Henry Skinner. Email: henry.skinner@hotmail.co.uk

**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 Dreisin 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 newborn 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

**Rock Solid**, one of Rayzone's (Reepham Area Youth Project) Friday clubs, meets alternate Fridays at St Michael's, Reepham, from 6 – 7 pm. All Year 5-9 students are welcome to come along for games and challenges – looking at life skills. Subs 50p. Contact: Claire Mead, Rayzone Youth Worker 07748 502603. Email: rayzoneyouthworker@gmail.com

**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 noticeboard. 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

**October issue deadline:**  
17 September 2013

# Free Ads

**FREE ADVERTISING OF HOUSEHOLD, GARDEN AND PERSONAL EFFECTS ONLY UP TO A TOTAL COLLECTIVE SALE VALUE OF £300**

**(Vehicles, cars, caravans, trailers, boats, property, businesses, etc., not accepted without charge)  
Animals – pets, livestock, live fish, etc., not accepted**

Vaporetto 2400 steam cleaner, hardly used, good condition £110 o.n.o. Tel: 01263 587602

I knit for charity. If you would like me to knit to your pattern with your wool or use my patterns and wool contact me. I also have some items already knitted up for sale. Tel: Edna 01603 872510

Plastic black moulded pond, 195 cm L x 130 cm W x 48 cm D. Very good condition, used only for pet duck (too old to use it now) £40. Tel: 01603 870581

Christmas tag-sale. Handmade gifts for the hard-to-find person

Will the person who got hit in the head with a tomato in the 1950s please contact me?

Football: signed by either Pele, the former Brazilian footballer widely

regarded by most experts and fans to be the finest player that has ever existed, or by some guy named "Peter", £75

Wanted: hair-cutter. Excellent growth potential

Wanted: man to take care of cow that does not smoke or drink

Our bikinis are exciting: they are simply the tops!

Knight seek his Queen. Male seeking female, 28 years old, 6' 4" tall. This knight in shining armour is seeking an audience with the queen. If you enjoy having a man make you dinner, a man who will sweep you off your feet, treat you to the world of never ending respect, with adventure, humour, kindness, relaxation and love mixed in for a solid foundation, than perhaps you are the queen for me. The Knight

requests a Queen who will dress to impress. I will bow at your feet. If I sound interesting or you have a wish to find the man of your dreams, look no further, your Knight in shining armour has arrived

We will oil your sewing machine and adjust tension in your home for £1

Get rid of aunts: Zap does the job in 24 hours

Wanted: widower with school-age children requires person to assume general housekeeping duties. Must be capable of contributing to growth of family

Minimalist seeks woman

1970 GMC w/jet skis SWM, NM, GL, NS, SD, AC. Low mileage, custom paint, long sandy blonde graphics. 6'2" Lift. Bright hazel headlights will take 20-30 SF

anywhere. Email for free test drive/ride

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**Free ads restricted to ONE submission of 30 WORDS MAXIMUM PER ISSUE ANY EXCEEDING THIS LIMIT WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY REJECTED**

Free ads can be emailed to: [freeads@reephamlife.co.uk](mailto: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

## LOCAL SERVICES

To advertise here telephone Judy Holland on 01603 308158 or email [jholland@reephamlife.co.uk](mailto:jholland@reephamlife.co.uk)

### Anna's Home Help Services

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

Booking deadline for the October issue: 17 September 2013

Call Judy Holland

01603 308158

email: [jholland@reephamlife.co.uk](mailto:jholland@reephamlife.co.uk)

[www.reephamlife.co.uk](http://www.reephamlife.co.uk)

### MINI-SCRAPBOX

Reepham's membership-based re-use charity

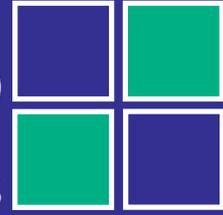
Unit 5 Collers Way Wood Dalling Road, Reepham

Call Jim on 01603 873128

[www.mini-scrapbox.co.uk](http://www.mini-scrapbox.co.uk)

# Hansells

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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**  
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The Market Place  
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### **LEVEL 2 AWARD IN FOOD SAFETY IN CATERING (FOOD HYGIENE)**

**Mon 14 Oct, 9.15am-4pm Reepham High School  
£55 includes certificate fee and light lunch. Delivered  
and Certified by the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health**

This course is suitable for anyone working in a catering, manufacturing or retail setting where food is prepared, cooked and handled. The day will include tuition followed by a multiple choice test. and certificates will be sent out approximately 6 weeks later when results are available.

### **GARDEN DESIGN**

**NEW  
CLASS**

**Mon 23rd Sept-4th Nov, 7-9pm Reepham College  
£45 with Nigel Boldero**

Master Gardener Nigel Boldero will be delivering the course in a surgery type format with a mixture of teaching, discussion and activities over the 6 evenings. **Week 1** Starting out  
**Week 2** Styles and approaches to developing your plans  
**Week 3** Garden framework and structure **Week 4** Planting  
**Week 5** Putting it all together **Week 6** Final design and delivery.

### **BEGINNERS WATERCOLOUR ART CLASS**

**Tues 24th Sept-3rd Dec 2013 (excl 29th Oct)  
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 seed pods, leaves, berries, fruit, glass, rusty objects and animals.

### **BASKET MAKING WORKSHOP**

**Sat 28th Sept, 10am-3pm Reepham High School,  
£35 (inc all materials) with Jonathan Carrie**

The aim of the workshop is to teach you, in a small group environment, the basics of English Willow basketry. You will learn about; the materials, how they are grown and harvested and gain an insight into the history of basketry. Please bring some garden secateurs and a sharp knife if you have them. You will need to bring your lunch and some cushions to sit on. [www.norfolkhedge.co.uk](http://www.norfolkhedge.co.uk)

### **INTRODUCING COMPUTERS**

**Mon 23 Sept-4 Nov, 4-6pm (excl 28th Oct)  
Reepham College £39 with Simon Pocklington**

This 6 week course teaches you how to use your computer, from turning it on, to using the mouse, searching the internet safely and sending emails. It covers word processing skills and shows you how to write, print and save documents and photographs plus how to find them again. It is tailored to individuals and absolute beginners.

### **COMPUTERS - THE BASICS**

**Tue 24th-Sept 5th Nov, 4-6pm (excl 29th Oct)  
Reepham College £39 with Simon Pocklington**

This 6 week course is for those who know a little about computers but want to gain confidence. It builds on, and practices, work done in the introductory course. Learn about the file system of your computer, organise, save and back up anything from word documents to digital photographs. Use the Internet interactively, safely shop for products and buy and sell on Ebay.

### **INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP**

**Mon 23 Sept, 6.30-8.30pm Reepham High School  
£20 with East Anglian Beauty Training**

Indian head massage is an ayurvedic massage treatment; the recipient sits on a chair, clothed, whilst the face, scalp, upper back, shoulders and arms are treated. In this 2-hour workshop you will be able to practice some techniques, and experience the treatment. Men and women are welcome. Some medical restrictions may apply; please contact East Anglian Beauty Training directly if you would like to discuss this on 07717 257756. Following the workshop you will have the option to attend a six week formal training course between 7th Oct -18th Nov (excluding half term).

### **SOAP AND BATH BOMBS WORKSHOP**

**Sat 28 Sept, 10am-12 30pm, Reepham High  
School £20 with East Anglian Beauty Training**

Have you ever wondered how bath bombs are made?  
Why bath melts leave your skin so soft and smooth?  
Which essential oils blend well together to create a new scent?  
Come along and spend a few hours with us, making perfumed soaps and other yummy skin products. All materials included.

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

**[www.reephamlearningcommunity.co.uk](http://www.reephamlearningcommunity.co.uk)**

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