

TUNSTEAD AND SCO RUSTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER March 2012



A very warm welcome to the early Spring edition of the village newsletter. Working on the basis that the praise has been greater than the criticism, and that Tunstead parishioners are opening their doors to interest and scrutiny, we have doubled the output to 8 colour pages. In order to achieve this, we have asked for the support from local businesses: and their contribution in the shape of advertisements proclaim their belief in the continuing success and growth of our illustrious organ!

In this issue our village reveals more talents: an author and a painter divulge aspects of their work and inspirations not commonly known; as well as a glimpse into the life of Tunstead's dog-handler supremo. Over the past years there has been much talk about repairing the village sign, now simply a decaying shadow of its former self. Harry Carter's 'Tun-Man' is sadly beyond repair and progress has been made towards his replacement, a process in which the local school children have played a major part. Brenda Marler takes us back to the time when the original was erected and unveiled—47 years ago!

School action: fresh from the fractious dissonance of the Lib Dem conference, local MP Norman Lamb clearly revelled in the positive atmosphere of a Class 4 science lesson; literature, however, took centre stage for the rest of the week as the school immersed itself in National Book Week.

News from the recent Parish Council Meeting is found on page 3 with an update about the Village Hall. Reports from the District and County Councillors are on page 5.

There is an open invitation to every parishioner (and those who live outside these walls) to join our celebration day on the 5th June—see the advert on this page. It promises to be a fun family affair!

Lastly, many grovelling apologies to Derek Kirk who submitted an incredibly detailed account of what we need to be doing in our gardens, but alas, even our new 8-page format proved too small for his jottings. If you would like a copy, please email suebdaisy@supanet.com, and you will be sent one.

Happy browsing!



QUEEN ELIZABETH'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

TUNSTEAD SCHOOL & PLAYING FIELD

5th June 2pm – 5pm

Children's Traditional Tea Party; Games for all;

Dog Show; Craft Activities; Country Dancing;
Fancy Dress Competition;

Fun Football 5-a-side; Floral Auction; Races,
Refreshments and other events.

Free commemorative mug for all parish children

0 – 16 years of age. For YOUR child's free mug,
please contact Sue on 01603 737572.

To take part simply bring a contribution for the tea
party and a picnic for yourselves.

S & V News

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01603 737867 (Steve) Mobile: 07776 022323



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Sisters and lovers: a profile of Lizzie Bennett

All the ingredients are there: a self-proclaimed interest in History and Literature, a fascination for family and intrigue, and a large measure of romantic imagination. Lizzie Bennett's novel, 'Sweethearts and Soldiers', which follows the fortunes of 3 sisters around the period of the 1st World War, had been slowly incubating for years; but amid the domestic 'obstacles' of raising 4 sons, supporting husband Richard, dog caring and maintaining house and garden, writing has often had to be side-lined. But with the success of having 2 short stories published, Lizzie was motivated to create a longer piece, and where better to draw inspiration from than a powerful mix of ancestral fact and fiction, a sharp contrast in locations, (the industrial heartland of Nottingham juxtaposed with the rural landscape of North Norfolk), and the essential inclusion of feminine guile, betrayal and ultimate consequences.



Liz Bennett grew up in Nottingham and understood the dynamics of a large, bustling community. When she was 16, her family uprooted to North Norfolk, where the tranquillity and relative isolation initially infuriated her, but the beauty and peace of the countryside eventually captured her heart and, marrying at 21, she has been a Tunstead girl for close to 4 decades. When she speaks of her writing, an unbridled enthusiasm for life and romance is evident, and the discovery of the tragic consequences of her mother's parents' incompatible relationship informed her main protagonist. In all 3 sisters she displays an astute sensitivity: she cleverly interweaves the passions, frustrations and torments of women whose independence is fragile, and where society's restraint on female ambition and achievement is all-pervasive. They are, it would seem, trapped in a world of gentility and reputation, where infidelity is made to pay.

Just as her characters are fashioned from real-life people, so too can her Norfolk locations be identified: Nightingale Farm is based on Watling Farm; and the pivotal encounter at the unnamed Broad was a privately owned Broad near Horning where she spent much time swimming with her sons. Everyone has a story, but few have the skill and determination to realise it in print. I look forward to her sequel.

Liz's book 'Sweethearts and Soldiers' is available from Amazon.

CHURCH SERVICE AT EASTER

Sunday 1st April PALM SUNDAY: 10.30am
Group Sung Eucharist at **St Bartholomew's**
Sloley, with Liturgy of the Palms and
Dramatic Reading of St Mark's Gospel.

Tuesday 3rd April: 7.30pm
Stations of the Cross at **St Mary's** Tunstead



April 8th EASTER SUNDAY: 7.30pm
Group Eucharist at **St Mary's** Tunstead .

23rd April:
Ethnie Christmas' 90th birthday!

CHUNKY'S Pet Shop

This month's specials from Chunky...

- Mixed Corn 20kg Sack - **£8.85**
- Layers Pellets 20kg Sack - **£8.50**
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- Growers Pellets 20kg Sack - **£8.50**
- Chick Crumb 1kg - **£1.00**



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Tunstead Parish Council – meeting on Tuesday 20th March at Tunstead Village Hall.

Parish Council matters:

The finances were approved and the planning was not contentious. Various issues were discussed:

The Queen's Jubilee : the Tunstead celebration will be held on the afternoon of Tuesday 5th June in the school hall and field. Many villagers have already pledged their support, and another meeting will be held in The Olive Branch on Tuesday 24th April. The Council pledged a financial underwriting of £600 to cover the costs of the commemorative mugs, the tea-party requirements, the floral display by David Wright and the rosettes and prizes for the dog show and other activities/competitions.

The village website: a webmaster is still being sought, with the favoured option being the Norfolkparishes domain.

The newsletter: the Council supported the move to an 8 page, fully-coloured format with very little increase in its costs due to the generous support by local businesses through their advertising.

The village sign: The Council approved the quote from Clive Howard, a metal worker from Coltishall, to produce the sign based on the designs submitted by children from Tunstead Primary school. The graphic designer, Rache Bowie, has been commissioned to design the sign ready for Clive Howard. We look forward to reporting on the sign's erection in June!

The allotments discussion nears a barren completion: the Tunstead Combined Charities, which own small pieces of ground around Tunstead, have offered a small patch of land in Anchor Street as *possible* land for allotments, and wondered whether the would-be allotmenters at all interested? It's small, inconvenient and remote. Are you interested? If you are, respond to the clerk, Jo Gardner.

In the Public Participation session, Peter Tye reported on the progress of the village hall. He explained that there had been delays because of technicalities on the size and costings, but that planning permission has finally been approved and the lottery application has been submitted, with a decision expected by the end of the month. The cost of the village hall is expected to be about £500,000; the lottery application is for approximately 66% of the costs for this year, with a further 18% next year. Further funding will be sought from a myriad of funds and grants available. The Council extends its deep-felt thanks to the work of the Playing Field and Village Hall Committee, and especially to Peter Tye, whose dedication and resolve to see this matter through has been so commendable.

TUNSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

CORDIALLY INVITES ALL PARISHIONERS TO THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ON TUESDAY 17 APRIL 7.30PM IN THE MOBILE UNIT ON THE PLAYING FIELD.

PLANNING PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED FOR A NEW VILLAGE HALL AND THE COMMITTEE IS AWAITING A RESPONSE FROM THE BIG LOTTERY FUND

COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF WHAT THE HALL WILL LOOK LIKE

COME AND SEE WHAT YOU SAID IN THE PARISH PLAN THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE HAPPEN IN THIS HALL

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The art of the matter

An extract from the portrait of Andi Rowe, artist.

To say that Andi Rowe's art is versatile is an understatement; he is positively eclectic in his range and talents: developing a fine drawing skill from a very young age and expanding this into water colours, acrylics and oils. Often the 'Masters' have a recognisable style – think of Picasso's anatomical dissemination, of Van Gogh's impressionism, of Dali's surrealist juxtaposition of bizarre images. Andi's art seldom stays within a genre: his pictures range from conventional animal portraits to abstraction that gives a nod to Jackson Pollock, although Picasso is his cynosure, his muse. Although he admits that 'painting to order is not always fun', the range of commissions he has completed is impressive: striking portraits, ranging from Winston Churchill with his iconic salute, to the evocative Daryl Hannah; from the might of a shire stallion to the appeal of faithful Labradors. He can also approach traditional compositions and abstract representations with equal flair.



The landscape of Cornwall, where he grew up, informed his early artistic endeavours, where he learned about space, light, colour and perspective, but his skills remained self-taught and he has had no formal training; his artistic talents remained secondary to the conventional expectations of job prospects and career achievements. He admits his motivation is muted by 'the day job' – a dilemma not uncommon to people whose passion to pursue an interest which is more than a mere hobby – but works more intently and with greater focus when undertaking a commission. Trying to define Andi is like capturing a restless spirit – he is passionate, yet cautious; vivacious, yet subdued; enthusiastic, yet seemingly always on the verge of disappointment. Like many artists, he is bedevilled by doubts: his seeming lack of direction and the need for self-exploration to discover a style to which he can truly relate, as well as his fear that "this is as good as it gets". I don't believe this for one moment – the breakthrough, when it comes, will reflect the true essence of Andi Rowe.



To view a selection of Andi's work, click on www.andirowe.com



Small patterings — huge hearts

Is there any person in Tunstead who doesn't know Vicky Easter and her pack of miniature black and tan dachshunds? Ambling along the village, ankle-deep in a wriggling, vocal throng puts a smile on everyone's face. But don't be misled by Vicky's self-effacing modesty: for this is no mild interest, but rather a passion that goes well beyond the norm: for more than 20 years she has bred Dachshunds to Kennel Club standard, shown them in countless canine competitions where they have frequently won not only 'best in class', but occasionally 'Best in Show'. But there have

been setbacks: Pebble, her most successful dog, developed degeneration of the spine, causing her to lose her back legs' mobility. Undeterred, Vicky initiated 2 inspirational therapies to help her stricken pet: firstly, a trolley in which Pebble's lower torso and legs were 'carried', chariot-fashion, pulled by her forelegs! And against the odds, it worked! Secondly, to build up Pebble's muscles, she invested in a hydrotherapy pool where, not only Pebble, but also the rest of the pack – and friends' pets, too – could swim, splash and play. Extraordinary!

She is probably best known, however, for the Terrier Racing events. Attracting huge crowds at the Worstead Festival, her dogs would delight and entertain us by exploding from the traps and hurtling the full length of the arena after a mock-rabbit, yapping furiously in sheer excitement of the 'chase'. And not just at Worstead, but at Chatsworth and Gatcombe, and on TV's 'Animal Country' with Desmond Morris.

Vicky will be organising the Dog Show at our Queen's Diamond Jubilee held on 5th June, on the Tunstead Playing Field.

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Report from Trevor Ivory, Councillor NNDC

Every household received a booklet regarding the spending of both the County Council and The District Council; Trevor reiterated that council tax will stay the same; it has achieved its £1m saving this year (with a further £1m to be saved over the next 2 years) by restructuring services and cutting quangos. He reported on 2 key issues:

The Big Society Fund has been launched, providing funding for councils or community groups who apply for 'community' projects. This money has been raised from second-home taxes which have been redirected to community funds.

A New Homes Bonus, where money is received for every new home built within the area: which is linked to larger building projects, and probably doesn't affect smaller parishes such as Tunstead.

Report from Nigel Dixon, Councillor NCC

Reiterated the 0% rise in Council tax this year; services were redesigned and efficiency measures undertaken. The question was raised about the continued blocked gullies in Tunstead: he reported on a Highways Rangers scheme operational around Norfolk, which could be useful in this specific area, though the Parish Clerk reported on having had no contact from them. A question was asked about the Vehicle Activated Sign, which should be coming to Tunstead soon – Nigel suggested the Parish Clerk make inquiries about this.



Remember that the hosepipe ban comes into operation on the 5th April. Hope your water butts are full!!

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AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

- 12.01: Annual Report by Chair.
- 12.02: Financial Report.
- 12.03: Reports from : 1: Tunstead Charities,
2: Tunstead Village Hall and Recreation Ground
3: Tunstead Primary School, PTA and progress pre-school
- 12.04: Public Participation:

Have your say, voice your concerns.

Refreshments will be available.

Johanna Gardner, Clerk, 21st March 2012

For and on behalf of Tunstead Parish Council

There are bottlebanks in the car park opposite Church Farm. The proceeds of which come to the village. Last year, they made £151. Please use them.

Oil Purchase Scheme:

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NEWS FROM TUNSTEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Village sign competition

Earlier this year, the children in Classes 3 and 4 were invited to create and submit a design for the new village sign. 10 children took up the challenge and produced some imaginative and exciting ideas, many of which will form the basis of the new sign, which is now under commission. It will replace Harry Carter's Tunstead Man, which will be moved to a safe refuge before its future is decided upon.

The 10 participating children were: Bella Chenery, Molly Gamble, Charlotte Harris, Emily Keen, Jasmine King, Dannie Kirkup, Lacy MacKenzie, Billy Monsey, Carla Richardson-Rowe and Paige Riches. Congratulations to all of them.

Friends of Tunstead School

MP observes a smashing science lesson

North Norfolk MP Norman Lamb recently visited Class 4 to see some of the great science work happening there. He watched



as the children tested the strength of different grades of concrete they had made themselves in the previous lesson. The work is part of the SciChem Project which aims to raise standards in science by providing lesson plans, resources and teacher training.

Mr Lamb was particularly impressed with the children's enthusiasm for science, how engaged they were with their learning, and the high standard of work they were achieving. Headteacher Jonathan Rice said: "We are very lucky at Tunstead to have an outstanding Science teacher in Sandy Watson and her love of the subject clearly rubs off on our children. But the lessons and resources which SciChem provides are so good and the support so detailed, they would benefit any primary school teacher, whatever their level of expertise in science.

"We are one of the 10% of schools which has been selected to take part in the Key Stage 2 Tests in Science this year, so we will soon be able to demonstrate how much our children have learned."

Jumble Sale – 10th March 2012

Our annual Jumble sale proved to be yet another financial success, raising £360 for the Friends of Tunstead Primary. Despite lots of hard preparatory work put in by volunteers from the school, the outcome and camaraderie always makes for a good day, turning peoples unwanted items into cash, which in turn is used to benefit the school.

Items being offered for sale included clothing, shoes, handbags & accessories, books, DVD's, records and garden wares. We even managed to sell a single bedstead frame!

Any items left over from the day will be offered for sale at one or two local car boot sales and thereafter sent to charity shops. Nothing goes to waste.

Now in its 3rd year, the event was well attended and has become a firm fixture on our money-raising calendar.

Can I thank all those people from the village who donated items or attended the sale. In the next few weeks we will be asking for your further generosity with our 'Bags2school' jumble collection where we provide a bag for your unwanted clothing items. This is a bi-annual event, which earns our school up to £1,000 per annum. Thank you all in advance for your support. The money we raise for the school, aids and enhances the future development of the children that attend Tunstead Primary.

Alan Monsey – Friends Of Tunstead Primary

Book week: Last week was National Book Week, where every child received a voucher from the DfES towards the purchase a new book. Throughout the week visiting readers were encouraged to share their favourite stories with the classes and the older children helped the younger ones with their daily reading. On the Friday, children and staff were invited to dress up as characters from books, bringing real meaning to the term 'living literature'. Great fun!



TUNSTEAD VILLAGE SIGN

Brenda Marler Remembers.....

The Women's Institute was formed in 1915, and celebrated its 50th Golden Jubilee in 1965. The Tunstead branch of the WI held regular meetings in the Village Hall (long-since demolished to make way for more homes in Granary Way), and it was decided to celebrate the Jubilee by donating a sign, which now stands at the entrance of the village, on the corner of Market Street and Ashmanaugh Road.



Harry Carter was commissioned to design Tunstead's sign. Mr Carter, an art and woodwork teacher of the 1960s at Hamond's Grammar School in Swaffham, was responsible for a great number of the carved village signs that are now found in many of Norfolk's towns and villages. Playing on the old English word 'tun' – meaning a barrel and a pot-bellied man – the Tunstead sign was created. Mrs Brenda Marler, still resident in the village, was President of the Tunstead WI in 1965. She records meeting Harry Carter on a number of occasions, usually at the home of the Hon. Pamela Walpole to discuss the design and construction. Lady Grace Barry, the County Chairman of the Federation, unveiled the sign.

The village sign is unveiled. Present are: Brenda Marler (left of sign) and her twins; (right) the Hon. Pamela Walpole, Lady Grace Barry, Rev Whyntie and his family.

MARCH COMPETITION—DO YOU KNOW YOUR VILLAGE SIGNS?



These 10 signs are all local. Put the correct name to the letter and send your answers to suebdaisy@supanet.com. The winning entry will win a copy of 'Timpson on the Verge' - a wonderful look at some of Norfolk's most colourful signs.

Tunstead Parish Council details:

C/o The Shambles
Westwick Road
Worstead
Norfolk
NR28 9SD

Phone: 01692 536381
E.mail: clerk@worstead.co.uk

Useful Contacts

All Emergency Service: 999
Non emergency and
PCSO Dack
0845 4564567

Parochial Church Council
01692 536800

Tunstead Primary School
01603 737395
www.tunsteadschool.co.uk

Tunstead Village Hall * Recreation
Ground Committee:
01603 783377

PARISH COUNCIL WHO'S WHO

Chairman	Tim Place	
Vice Chairman	Gordon Gilding	Derek Kirk
Councillors	Elizabeth Powell	Sue Badger
	Wendy Atkins	Abi Rudd
	Arnie Williamson	Chris Oakes

All councillors can be contacted via the Clerk:
Johanna Gardner 01692 536381 clerk@worstead.co.uk

District Councillor Trevor Ivory trevor.ivory@norh-norfolk.gov.uk
07747 708623 (daytime)

County Councillor: Nigel Dixon nigel.dixon@norfolk.gov.uk
01603 783885 07976 524602
www.norfolk.gov.uk/nigeldixon

Local MP: Norman Lamb normanlambmp@gmail.com
Guyton House North Walsham 01692 403752
www.normanlamb.org.uk

North Norfolk District Council: www.north-norfolk.gov.uk
01263 513811

Norfolk County Council: www.norfolk.gov.uk
0344 800 8020

To report potholes in the road please contact directly 0344 800 8009

TUNSTEAD VILLAGE HALL & RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE



Sadly, the organiser of the CSI event, due to take place at Church Farm on 28th April, has been taken seriously ill and therefore, it is with great regret, the TVHRGC announces the postponement of this event. All tickets will be refunded.

200 CLUB January Draw

Pos	Prize	No	Name
1 st	£34	159	S Allison
2 nd	£27	8	P Holmes
3 rd	£20	116	J Pennington
4 th	£13	198	L Joerger
5 th	£6	172	P Kirby
6 th	£6	156	A Barrett

February Draw

Pos	Prize	No	Name
1 st	£33	12	J Thickett
2 nd	£26	53	P Fox
3 rd	£19	82	B Jackson
4 th	£13	142	C Pennington
5 th	£6	109	P Talbot
6 th	£6	178	M Stagg

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Money raised to go to the Village Hall funds and NNVTC funds.

Dickens East Anglia Quiz Answers:

Peggotty's house, a beached boat, was in Great Yarmouth.
Miss Mowcher was in Norwich.
Sam Weller met Job Trotter in Ipswich.
Eatanswill was based on Sudbury.
David Copperfield and Pickwick Papers were the source of these questions.
There was no winner because there were no entries! Oh Tunstead!!!



Tunstead Parish Council would like to express its thanks to the Apple & Pear People for their kind donation towards this publication. We wish Francis and Norma a long and happy retirement.