



**MOLLY SMITH BEING PRESENTED WITH  
THE 2020 EARL CUP**

# **SOUTH ELMHAM COMMUNITY NEWS**

**ISSUE No. 227    FEBRUARY - MARCH**



**BERNARD DUFFIELD BEING PRESENTED WITH THE  
2021 EARL CUP**

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# SOUTH ELMHAM COMMUNITY NEWS

February - March 2022

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NEXT COPY DEADLINE MARCH 7TH

*The views and comments printed herein are not necessarily the views of the Editor or this publication*

## **EDITORIAL**

Sadly the virus still rolls on in one guise or another, the rules and advice changing by the hour. Causing havoc in its wake, with some places losing much of their workforce and being forced to close or run at reduced speed. The strain on the NHS and others is immense. The worry lays heavy on most of us, will we contract it, will we pass it on, can we go to a gathering or play sport, dare we visit elderly relatives or friends as we don't want to infect them. The list is endless. So please if you haven't had the vaccine go and get it. It is FREE after all.

## **GPC [www.flixton.onesuffolk.net](http://www.flixton.onesuffolk.net)**

The Grouped Parish Council of Flixton, St Cross and St Margaret South Elmham, met at Flixton village Hall on 9/11/21. Councillors from St Cross stated that as yet they had been unable to find an alternative position for the Notice board on the Old Iron rooms site. There had been no new developments on the permissive Flixton gravel pit footpath. Funds for replacement battery and pads for the St Margaret defibrillator were approved, as was the replacement of the broken sand bin in St Felix Rise. Grange Road drainage was discussed at great length and the Chairman was going to get all parties to a meeting with our MP Peter Aldous. Cllr Warne outlined the work he had been doing and correspondence relating to speeding in Flixton. Unfortunately, all the measures appear to be expensive and any financial support from Highways seems doubtful. It was thought prudent with less financial support coming from outside sources to raise the precept by 5% this proposal was approved. Wheelchair access in Flixton, particularly the lack of drop down curbs, was also discussed. Cllr Mulhearn brought the meeting up to date with the present state of UK Powers work, under grounding cables in St Margaret S.E. Most of the major work was done, connecting and moling to the houses, is waiting for drier weather

Next Meeting: Zoom Monday 17 January 2022 7.30pm

## **MOLE**

It's 'rum' weather, temperature bouncing from -3 to + 15c, whilst my African colleague was sweltering at 36c. First aid classes by Michelle, of MJ training, went ahead in St Margaret S.E village hall, Covid friendly masked and gallons of sanitiser. Spread over 3 Monday nights, all who took the course passed the exam, congratulations. One thing that Covid has changed is that Artificial Resuscitation no longer involves the First Aider having to give breaths, unless it is a very young child. Chest compressions are sufficient. Many thanks for the sponsorship from Durrants and County Cllr Cloke.

Still in St Margaret S.E I see David Page is not only of an age, but has a heliport, although it was not quite big enough for Santa to land on. Santa with sleigh and Ronnie the Reindeer flew through the village dispensing gifts, bit of a surprise to some young children who had arrived from Australia only a few days before. It was not only the children who were pleased to see the man in red, many adults turned out too.



*Elisabeth*



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Mole continued...

That rascal Ronnie the Reindeer was seen at Badminton, Flower arranging, Christmas tree festival, Carol Service and Rumburgh Buck, where not only do they allow dogs but reindeer too. He had his own place set and a carrot to munch on. Several attended the Carol service led by Lynda Lee, there were even singers from afar, well the other St Margaret. Paths were lit by candlelight and mulled wine and mince pies were enjoyed afterwards.

#### EXTRA

A virtual meeting hosted by County Cllr Judy Cloke with District Councillor David Richie, MP Peter Aldous, 3 members of the GPC and 2 representatives of 2 Sisters, met to hear Suffolk County Councils 2 representatives from Highways, proposals for Grange Road. It is planned to shut the road for perhaps a month whilst the road is dug up, a larger pipe laid from the 2 Sisters water treatment plant across the road to connect with the culvert. Alternative routes will, we were told, be clearly signed. There was no specific date for this work apart from the Spring.

#### FROM THE TRACTOR CAB

The weather is playing with not only me but the natural world too. The warmth is keeping the grass growing and I was told that sheep had been wormed, as the temperature has not been cold enough to kill the parasitic worms. Butterflies and flies in January. It also seems to be a good year for the Grey Squirrel as they appear to be seen regularly, this could however also be due to the mild weather. The Robin is still here and on the contrary to what some may tell you both, Male and Female Robin have red-breasts and if you see two Robins together they probably are a pair as they are fiercely territorial and would not let another male near. I have also seen several flocks of Fieldfares bumbling along over the fields looking for insects or clearing the last of the berries from the hedgerows. The weather still has time to turn cold and wintery, so please feed the birds.

#### St MARGARET S.E CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Our Christmas Tree Festival was a great success thanks to all the people involved in setting it up. It was lovely to see familiar and new faces in the church so a big 'Thank You' to all who helped and supported the event. Together we raised £586.13 for church funds, thank you.

# J. FELTON

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## ST MARGARET VILLAGE HALL

The Christmas Lunch went ahead with reduced numbers, smaller and distanced tables and a plea for participants to flow test before coming. Thank you to Philip and Sally Sands for providing the Turkeys. Santa was there and when he had given out the children's presents, he presented first Molly Smith with the 2020 Earl Cup, which was not able to be presented last year, and then Santa presented the cup to Bernard Duffield, the winner for 2021. The Sam & Jean Earl Cup is presented to the person who has contributed most to the community in the year. Thank you to Simon and Harry Murton for installing the hall's new effluent tank.

## ST JAMES CHURCH NEWS

The Carol Service on the 22nd December was a great success. Armed with torches and carol sheets, about 24 of us started from the village hall and proceeded up to the church singing carols on the way and avoiding bemused motorists. In the church we listened to the traditional readings and sang some more carols. Much needed warm mulled wine, cakes and mince pies followed. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thank you all for helping us make it such a festive occasion.

These are the services coming up in St James

23 January Evening prayer at 4pm

6 March Holy communion at 10 am (Palm Sunday)

I hope you can join us for one of them

## HALL AND VILLAGE NEWS

The photo competition, held on 4th December produced some very good entries. Competition was strong, but 1st prize was awarded to Toni Maclean, who also claimed second place jointly with Chris Bradley. The children's prize was won by Freya Bussey in one category and by Tristan Bussey in another.

Coffee and cakes were provided and thanks to all who had a hand in that. Well done to all and we'll look forward to doing it all again in 2022.



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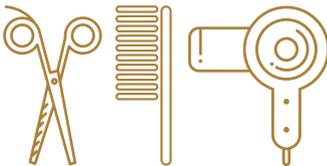
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surrounding villages

St James, continued....

No planned events as yet but the hall is still available for hire privately. The sports activities continue, both badminton and table tennis. (Details from Caroline on 782545). Also, sports equipment for badminton, table tennis, soft ball and pickle ball are available for private hall hire.

#### HOMERSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL COUNCILLOR NEEDED

The need for a new parish councillor became even more apparent when we were unable to proceed with the January meeting because two of the four councillors were unable to attend which meant we did not have a quorum of three to vote.

Please get in touch with Sally Chapman, Clerk to the Parish Council – email [homersfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:homersfieldparishcouncil@gmail.com) if you would like to be considered as a parish councillor. No previous experience is needed - just a willingness to work as part of a team.

#### VILLAGE LITTER PICK – SATURDAY 5TH MARCH 2022

Come along and help tidy up our village for the benefit of people and wildlife. We will be meeting on the Green at 10.00am and we will provide grabbers, bags and hoops for everyone to use. If you have your own grabber, please bring it. It is recommended that you wear gloves and, if possible, a high-vis item of clothing (we do have some that can be borrowed).

#### HOMERSFIELD WOOD

Thank you to Mark and team for their continuing work in the community wood. How wonderful to see the newly planted trees. It would be great if more people would like to get involved. The dates for the next wood working parties are:

Saturday January 22nd 2022 (10am-12pm)

Saturday February 12th 2022 (10-12pm)

Saturday March 12th 2022 (10-12pm)

#### VILLAGE BENCH

Tim and Albert have kindly installed the metal bench on the Green, which has been donated in memory of June. A small plaque will soon be fixed to it.

## Monthly Flower Arranging Workshops

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## HOMERSFIELD VILLAGE GATEWAY ENTRANCE SIGN

The Police are aware and have investigated. It has been reported to the County Council in order to obtain a new sign.

## MEETING DATES

Our 2022 meeting dates/agendas etc can be found on the village notice board and on the website:

<http://homersfield.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/>

The next Parish Council meeting is on Tuesday 8th March, 6pm in The Black Swan.

## ST MARY'S CHURCH, HOMERSFIELD

### CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

The Carol Service was, not surprisingly, a smaller affair than usual with around twenty people attending. We enjoyed listening to the Saints Choir and joining in with the carols. The church looked beautiful (our thanks to Sally, Emma, Debbie and Mary). Afterwards some of the congregation moved on to The Black Swan to sing some more carols in a new event for this year – 'Carols and a Pint'. Thank you to Tony, Helen and staff for hosting us and to those unsuspecting customers who were persuaded to exercise their vocal chords.

The Benefice Christmas day service was in St Mary's this year, with around 18 people attending. Reverend Leon talked to us about the wonderful gift of Jesus in our lives. Our thanks to Ellie for playing the organ for us (drafted in as Gail was out of the country). Chocolates were munched on the way out as a stop gap between breakfast and Christmas lunch.

Our evening prayer service on 2nd January reflected on 2021 and looked forward to plans for 2022. Leon included a prayer for the newly planted trees in the village wood to grow for the benefit of ourselves, our children and grandchildren.

## APPLES

Thank you to everyone who took apples in exchange for a donation for the church roof and tower appeal from the stall outside Mill Cottage. £86.07 was raised and hopefully a lot of apple pies and crumbles enjoyed.

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# Church Services

Rev Leon Collyer 01986 781345

30/01/22	Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 4.00pm	St Margaret SE St Lawrence
06/02/22	Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 4.00pm	Homersfield Rumburgh
13/02/22	Holy Communion Outdoor	10.00am 4.00pm	St Peter St Cross
20/02/22	Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 4.00pm	St Michaels FLixton
27/02/22	Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 4.00pm	St John Ilk St Margaret
06/03/22	Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 4.00pm	St James St Margaret SE
13/03/22	Holy Communion Outdoor	10.00am 4.00pm	Rumburgh St Peter
20/03/22	Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 4.00pm	Ilk St Lawrence Homersfield
27/03/22	Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 5.00pm	St Cross St Michael

03/04/22	Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 5.00pm	Flixton St John
10/04/22	Palm Sunday Holy Communion Outdoor	10.00am 5.00pm	Ilk St Margaret St James
17/04/22	Easter Sunday Holy Communion Evening Prayer	10.00am 5.00pm	St Margaret SE St Lawrence



## HAPPY NEW YEAR

Santa was seen again, travelling our lanes,  
With Ronnie and a dubious looking Elf at the reins.

We hurtled towards Christmas at the speed of light,  
But everything stopped dead on Boxing Day night,  
To describe it as 'a week of Sundays' is the best way,  
Every conversation ended "So, what day is it today?"

But we made it through to an exciting new year,  
Just hope The Beast From The East doesn't reappear.

Lots to look forward to, hopefully staying healthy,  
You can be happy and contented without being wealthy.  
Well, that's what I tell myself when I see what I've spent,  
Too much food, too many presents, I know where it went.  
It's the same every year and I won't change a thing,  
I'll just keep eating the shortbread until early next spring.

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## CHURCH WOOD

Work parties met in Church Wood in November and December. Our cheerful band of volunteers cleared two areas in preparation for tree planting and cut up and burnt a fallen oak branch. Just before Christmas we planted 50 trees supplied by the Suffolk Tree Warden Network. The mix included oak, hornbeam, wild cherry, crab apple and hazel - all trees that should grow well in the wood. Some mostly small dead sycamores have also been marked and these will be felled in the near future.

*Mark Timms, Homersfield Tree Warden*

There are so many visible and invisible volunteers spending time doing job around Homersfield and the parish benefits from all these often un-thanked hours of effort. I do want to elect a few to thank, for instance Tim and Albert for installing the metal bench around the chequers tree on the green. It looks so inviting and will be well used come spring & summer. Mick has kindly agreed to mow the green for another year. He has made the centre of the village look most attractive and the flowers are shown off to their best.

The village sign which was knocked down in early November is back in position, which is great news. May 2022 be a better year for everyone's health and wellbeing.

## ST PETER

Another year passes and we certainly hope that 2022 will mark our return to a normal life. Not that I've ever been that normal really, but you know what I mean.

We managed to sneak in our village Christmas do up at The Hall before things got to out of hand again and a good time was had by all. Thanks to all the staff for their hospitality.

The carol service went ahead but unfortunately by that time things were deteriorating from a covid point of view and so not too many villagers attended. Visits to vulnerable relatives over Christmas meant that by then some people were keeping themselves to themselves. Hopefully by next Christmas things will be different.

The 49 club in December was won by the church as the number wasn't issued. January was won by Tim Bonnett. Numbers are still available, please speak to Pamela if you want to join in. Proceeds to the church.

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Hopefully the unseasonably warm weather hasn't confused the wildlife too much. With a bit of luck the recent cold snap will reset their clocks. We have a large flock of around 30 goldfinches at the moment, who are able to make a racket that bears no resemblance to their size.

It was an eventful sugar beet cart in the village this year with two lorries slipping off the road in separate incidents.

This caused a bit of chatter on the messaging group with Caroline asking for photographic evidence as she was away. Carol, our resident photographer, managed to capture this striking image for her.

Happy New Year.



## ST CROSS NEWS

The New Year is here and the Christmas lights and decorations are packed away. The unseasonal mild weather is currently replaced with a cold and frosty outlook. As usual, our community will look out for each other and particularly our elderly residents.

## SANDY LANE ROAD CLOSED

Over the weekend before Christmas, 3 vehicles had to be pulled out of the flood near the bridge over the Beck. Emergency services were involved with 2 fire engines attending one of these rescues late one night. This is not an unusual event as this area inevitably floods when there is even moderate amounts of rain. The issue is well known to local residents, as is the poor state of road surface. Unfortunately, many vehicles are directed to use the lane by their sat navs.

Welcome to Stanley, a new 4 legged resident with Martin and Amanda. We anticipate lots of 'oo's' and 'ah's' when he makes his first public appearance!

## EAST SUFFOLK COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

The Beccles, Bungay, Halesworth and villages Community Partnership is keen to see how it can further support local community needs.



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East Suffolk Community Partnership continued...

The Community Partnership is composed of community organisations, town/parish councils and councillors. It commissions and delivers projects/initiatives that meet its priorities; reducing social isolation for all and improving physical and mental health and wellbeing. There is also Connected Communities; a project connecting over 65s with services and each other. If you run a community group/project or know of an emergent local need, feel free to email [sam.kenward@eastsuffolkcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:sam.kenward@eastsuffolkcouncil.gov.uk)

### HARLESTON & DISTRICT U3A

Harleston & District U3A will be hosting a talk by The Humanimal Trust on Wednesday 16 February at 2.00 pm, entitled 'One Medicine'. The Humanimal Trust drives collaboration between vets, doctors and researchers so that all humans and animals benefit from equal and sustainable medical progress.

In view of the current Covid situation this talk will be either online or at St John's Church, Harleston. For confirmation please visit our website: [u3asites.org.uk/harleston](http://u3asites.org.uk/harleston) or by contacting Kim Poulton on 01986 788149.

### FLIXTON

100 club

Nov 21

1st	Roy Heaton	87
2nd	Ivan Howard	85
3rd	Peter Maddersmith	42

Dec 21

1st	Christine Davidson	27
2nd	Frankie	49
3rd	Jo Custerson	37

### SOUTH ELMHAM & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Our meetings are held on the last Thursday of each month at St Margaret South Elmham Village Hall IP20 0PJ at 7.30pm, unless otherwise arranged.

Everyone is most welcome, you do not have to be a member to attend. £3 on the door, £1 members, including refreshments.

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Contact Details inside front cover

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Want an opportunity to put something back into your community? Metfield Stores is recruiting volunteers now... Metfield Stores cic has been serving the village and beyond for over 15 years. We stayed open throughout both lockdowns – thanks to our manager Sue, her family and a much-reduced team of volunteers. We were even able to help vulnerable customers with home deliveries. It's when the chips are down that you realise the true value of such an amenity!

Over the past year, some of our volunteers have decided to hang up their aprons or have moved away from the village. We are keen to recruit new ones to fill those gaps and are seeking people who have two hours a week to give (or more if they would like to). Where you live is not a problem, several of our volunteers live outside Metfield. We prefer that you can offer your time on a regular basis, but we also like to have some 'standby' volunteers, who can be flexible and are able to cover slots at short notice. Over the years, individuals aged between 14 and 90 have become valued members of our volunteer workforce. So, no matter what your age or experience, we'd love to hear from you. Training will be given.

There are many tasks involved in keeping the shop functioning well. You can serve customers behind the counter or, if you prefer, you can help in other ways such as pricing, refilling shelves or keeping the shop spick and span. And a friendly face behind the counter will always be appreciated!

Interested? Why not pop in and ask for more details, phone Sue on 01379 586204 or mail your contact details to [metfieldstores@gmail.com](mailto:metfieldstores@gmail.com).

Join our friendly team of volunteers at the heart of the community

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## FROM BECCLES AND BUNGAY JOURNAL AUGUST 1968

Showing at Bungay Mayfair: Kings Solomon Mines by local author Sir H Rider Haggard. Mondays and Fridays, Sat at 5.30pm Norman Wisdom in the Early Bird. Whilst headlining at Britannia pier at Gt Yarmouth were Bernard Delfont and Jimmy Clitheroe. Showing at the Theatre Royal at Norwich was Sound of Music seats were 5shillings.

Good trade for fat cattle at Beccles Auction was reported by Messrs George Durrant & Sons, even rabbits were in strong demand. Under the caption of Cyclist 'Chanced it' was the report of a cyclist who was stopped by a Police whilst riding a bicycle without lights after dark, he said 'I chanced it as whether I would meet you or not \_ I did'. He was fined £2 at Bungay magistrates court. A lady was also fined £2 by Bungay Magistrates for speeding at 40mph in a 30mph limit. A male motorist was also fined £2 by Beccles Magistrates for driving without out lights in the dark. Another motorist in Beccles was fined £2 for not having a test certificate, whilst in Beccles 4 were fined £3 for infringing parking laws. Bungay Rotary welcomed 2 German brothers for lunch at the Three Tuns, as part of International Service programme of the club. The president offered best wishes of the club to Mr C Mulhearn who was leaving for two weeks holiday in the United States. Travelling by Nightingale Coaches to London Zoo would have cost you 17/3d whilst for £1 you could go to London airport.

Be careful what you do in the garden. The potatoes have eyes, the corn has ears and the beanstalk....

Why is it easier to fall asleep on the couch unintentionally than to fall asleep in bed intentionally?

You would think that the part of the brain that used to remember phone numbers would remember passwords! But NOOO!!

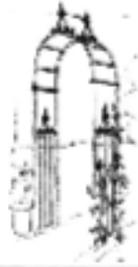


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