

Dave's Kitchen

By our resident Chef David Wheatley

Finger-licking chicken balls

Preparation time less than 30 mins  
Cooking time 10 to 30 mins  
ingredients  
2 large chicken breasts, cut into chunks  
1 onion, finely chopped  
1 tbsp parsley  
50g/2oz fresh white breadcrumbs  
1 large granny smith apple, peeled and grated  
1 chicken stock cube dissolved in 1  
tbsp boiling water  
flour, for coating  
vegetable oil for frying

Method  
1. Using your hands, squeeze out a little excess liquid from the grated apple.  
2. Mix together the first six ingredients and chop in a food processor for a few seconds. Season

with a little salt and pepper.  
3. With your hands, form into about 20 balls, roll in flour and fry in shallow oil until lightly golden and cooked through (about 10 minutes).

NB: Suitable for freezing

Western Hot Pot  
Children’s special

This serves 4-6  
1 onion sliced  
1 red pepper, sliced  
1 sweet potato or 2 carrots chopped  
45ml /3tbsp sunflower oil  
115g/4oz green beans, chopped  
1x400g tin baked beans  
1x200g tin sweet corn  
15ml/1tbsp tomato puree  
5ml/1tbsp barbecue seasoning  
115g/4oz smoked cheese cubed  
450g/1lb potatoes, thinly sliced  
25g/1ozof butter melted  
Salt and pepper to taste

- 1. Fry the onion, pepper and sweet potato or the carrot gently in the oil until soft not browned

- 2. Add the green beans, baked beans, sweet corn (and liquor), tomato puree and barbecue seasoning. Bring to the boil the simmer for 5 minutes.
  - 3. Transfer from the pan to a shallow ovenproof dish and then scatter with the cubed cheese.
  - 4. Cover the vegetable and cheese mixture with the sliced potato, brush with melted butter, season and then bake at 190C/375F/gas mark5 for30-40 minutes until golden brown on the top and the potato is cooked
- This can be served with burgers, sausages or Finger-licking chicken balls

Barbara Carr

Barbara Carr celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with a party in the Village Hall. A collection for Papworth Hospital totalled £522  
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Village Life NORTHWOLD & WHITTINGTON

Issue October 2006  
Copy date for the next issue is;  
23rd October 2006  
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Football Returns to Northwold Rec'

Taking a day off from being editor I took on the job of roving reporter on a bright



Kyle Dyer puts Northwold in front

Sunday Morning because there was much going on in the village. I made my way to the Rec’ as requested to cover the Northwold under 10 year old football match which was being played against Dereham Wanderers. When I got there “Jenky “ had just finished making an excellent job of preparing the pitch, while others were setting up the goals



Action in the Dereham Goalmouth

etc. The Northwold team appeared, extremely smartly kitted out, and were with their coach Gary Hodder, doing last minute preparations. There was quite a bit of support for the Northwold team, but so far the opposition had not arrived. Then when they did arrive, equally smartly turned out and roughly as well supported it was time for kick off.



Northwold team  
Back row left to right  
James Randell- George Gatward- Theo Prud’homme- Callum Adams- Fraiser Forbes- Kyle Dyer- Gary Hodder(Team Coach)  
Front. Max Thomas- Ryan Watts -Liam Bunten- Adam Marsh- Tommy Bell

I was very surprised at the standard of football being played, and an even first half ended goalless thanks to some extent to some good saves from either keeper.  
At half time the Northwold coach Gary Hodder made some substitutions, one of which was to take Kyle Dyer out of goal and put him in the forward line. This turned out to be the master stroke, as soon into the second half, Kyle scored the opening goal. 1 – 0 to Northwold. In an evenly contested second half Northwold scored again. At this point I had to leave to cover the Pram race, but shortly after my departure Northwold scored again and ran out winners by 3 goals to 0.  
On the down side it seems that Gary will be leaving the team in November, and they will be desperately looking for a new coach. Gary is a professional coach who does this for a living, and by the look of the standard he will be a hard act to follow. But what he has done, along with all the helpers from the village is to put in place something which has been lacking for a long time in Northwold, and it is worth remembering that these lads won’t be under 10 for very long. I know there are quite a few slightly older boys who are very promising footballers so there is a good team here in the making. !!!



Start of the race

The pram race was a quite different event creating a lively and somewhat carefree and comical atmosphere in the School playground as the teams warmed up for the race. The course ran from the School to the phone box, down to Chapel Corner, right into High Street stopping at the pub where they had to down a specified amount of fluid, then up to hall lane and back to the School again where they were compelled to eat and swallow a cream cracker before they were allowed to do the final lap. During all of the race they were bombarded with water bombs aimed with a good degree of accuracy by younger people.  
The race was won by ... .... as if this was important. What was important was that everyone there enjoyed themselves. It is hoped to make this an annual event, and the only drawback was that there weren’t enough prams in the race. So next year, they are looking to get a lot more entrants and bring out the spectators to watch. This really does have the making of a good event..



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The views expressed in submitted items are not necessarily endorsed by Northwold & Whittington Village Life. Whilst we endeavour to ensure that all information contained in the newsletter is correct, we cannot be held responsible for errors. The Editor reserves the right to refuse or omit items without explanation.

## Christmas is coming!

The festive seasons is fast approaching, and although most of us are trying to push it to the back of our minds, lots of little elves are now hard at work crafting all of our presents.

If you have no idea what to buy this year, we have a fantastic opportunity for you. Why not avoid all those tedious queues in town and try something new this year.

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December, Methwold Year 12&13 Travel and Tourism class are organising a trip for all the community to Lincoln's famous Christmas Market. Here you will find many unusual and handcrafted goods. Perfect presents for anyone!

So why not join us for the day and get into the festive spirit, for only £15 per adult and £12 per child (under 12). A great way to kick start this Christmas.

Further information on the market can be found on the website, [www.bbc.co.uk/lincolnshire](http://www.bbc.co.uk/lincolnshire)

For booking or any other information contact:

Kate 07881726579 Jade 07818471248 Stephen 07721761336  
Kelly 07718583324

If you would like to join us please call for a booking form or alternatively write to **Kate Eyles, c/o Methwold High School, Stoke Road, Methwold, Thetford, Norfolk, IP26 4PE** by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November.

Last Month **Pog** mentioned a sea Lion which was supposed to have lived in Wereham pit years ago. A lot of people thought it no more than a story - But **Joan Rickard** has supplied us with a photograph of this creature actually being fed by a man who was her late husband Edwin's, Mother's, Grandfather. His name was Frank Andrews, and he was the Headmaster of West Dereham School But we still aren't any wiser as to how it got there, bearing in mind travel and transport in those days was not what it is today.



Thanks for that Joan. If anybody has any suggestions sensible or otherwise please let us have them. **Ed.**

### Hamish's Football Pontoon.

The first one of the season was won by no fewer than eleven people. Too many to name here. **Ed**

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Trees & conifers trimmed or removed  
Hedges, bushes and ivy trimmed  
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## New Youth Club

Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> – a mild but changeable evening, saw the launch of the new Northwold Youth Club.

To be on the safe side, Sharon prepared and cooked the food at home, then brought it to the Club where Bernie and Jean kept the burgers and hot dogs coming from the kitchen.

The assembled company, (there must have been over forty guests) of helpers and young people mingled, talked and enjoyed each other's company.

Suggestions were encouraged from the children for a name and logo for the new club 'though we've yet to decide on the best ones.

Steve briefly described the aims and ethos of the club – as already discussed by the children at a previous meeting. We all feel very optimistic about the success of the venture and we are grateful to all who have already given or offered any kind of support. We can always use more!

The age range for membership is 7 – 14 and the first Club night will be from 6. 30 pm to 8pm on Wednesday,

Sept 27<sup>th</sup>.

We should be delighted if any of the existing groups in the village were able to involve the club members in any of their events and activities from time to time.

Jane

### Bowls Club 100 Club Draw for August 2006

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mr Ronald Knights	£50
2 <sup>nd</sup>	M Carter	£25
3 <sup>rd</sup>	R. Eyles	£15.

Sylvia

## Little Normans Pre-School

We currently have a vacancy for a Pre – School Administrator. Five hours per week term time only @ £5. 05p per hour.

The applicant will require a good knowledge of payroll, general accounts and administrative skills, have excellent communication skills and be able to provide two references.

Applications in writing to :- Mrs Maria Goodley. Chairperson of Little Normans Pre-School., Fendick Field, School Lane, Northwold, Thetford Norfolk. IP26 5NB

If you have child(ren) of pre-school age and are interested in the Little Normans then please call in and collect one of our information booklets or phone 728804 and speak to a member of staff.

Pre- School opening hours are as follows:

Monday. 9am until 12 noon  
Tuesday 9am until 3pm  
Wednesday 9am until 3pm  
Thursday 9am until 3pm  
Friday 9am until 12 noon

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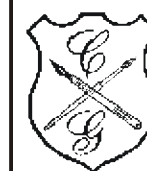
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## Northwold Produce Show 2006

The ever-popular annual event held in the Village Hall attracted a high number of entries in the 64 categories, with a large number of supporters attending the Award Ceremony in the early evening.

Classes from the Norman School, Pre-School and Tots & Co provided colourful displays and craftwork, as well as showing a selection of the vegetables Class 1 had grown in the School Vegetable Plot.

Children in a Ukrainian Orphanage will be benefiting from the donations by entrants in the craft section (class 47) who knitted some beautiful cardigans and jumpers and the lovely blankets also submitted in the craft section (class 50) will be given to the Rudham Ward at the QEH.

A big thank you goes out to all the exhibitors – without whom there would be no show. For those who didn't take part– see you next year!

Thanks must also be extended to all those volunteers who kindly gave up their time on Friday evening and all day Saturday to ensure the show ran as smoothly as possible.

The 2006 Cup Winners were as

follows:-

The Vegetable Cup: Mr J Cooper; Ted Moore Shield (for the best Vegetable Selection Box): Mr M Rickard; Lavender Flower Cup: Mr L Lavender; The Cookery Cup: Miss V Lavender; The Cooper Craft Cup: Mrs F Eyles; The Childrens' Cup: Miss E Lavender; The Tallest Sunflower Cup (children): Master F Preston; Tom Stimpson Runner Up Cup: Mr R Akers; W Dixon Shield: Mr J Cooper. Prizes were also awarded to the

following:-

### Section 1 - Vegetables and Fruit

Class	1st	2nd	3rd
1	Mr L Lavender		
2	Mr J Cooper		
3	Mr R Osborne	M r J Cooper	
4	Mr R Osborne	M r L Lavender	
5	Mr R Osborne	M r T Raven	Mr J Cooper

6	Mr R Akers	M r R Osborne	
7	Mr L Lavender		
8	Mr J Cooper	Mr R Akers	
9	Mr J Cooper	Mr L Lavender	
10	Mr R Osborne	M r J Burton	Mr L Lavender
11	Mr T Raven	Mr L Lavender	
12	Mrs P Eyles		
13	Mr J Cooper		
14	Mrs P Eyles	Mr R Akers	
15	Mr J Haylock	M r s M Hodges	
16	Mrs M Hodges	M r s P Eyles	Mrs F Eyles
17	Mr J Haylock	M r J Burton	Mrs P Haye
18	Mr J Haylock	M r A Lavender	
19	Mrs P Haye	Mr J Cooper	
20	Mrs P Haye	Mrs P Clear	Mr J Burton
21	Mr J Haylock	Mrs P Haye	

### Section 2 - Flowers

22	Mr M Rickard	M r J Cooper
23	Mr R Akers	Mrs M Hodges
24	Mr J Cooper	
25	Mr L Lavender	
26	Mrs A Howarth	M r L Lavender
27	Mr J Cooper	
28	Mr F Everett	
29	Mr J Cooper	
30	Mr R Akers	M r F Everett
31	Mr S Freemantle	M r R Akers
32	Mrs V Lynch	Mrs J Elliot
33	Mrs P Eyles	
34	Mrs V Lynch	
35	Mr L Lavender	M r J Haylock
36	Mr L Lavender	
37	Mrs P Haye	

### Section 3 - Cookery

38	Mrs B Akers	Miss V Lavender
39	Mrs F Eyles	
40	Mrs R Crisp	Mrs B Booty
41	Mrs P Cundy	Mrs F Eyles
42	Mrs P Cundy	Miss V Lavender
43	Mrs A Howarth	
44	Mrs R Crisp	Mrs B Akers
45	Miss V Lavender	
46	Mrs P Cundy	Mrs F Eyles
47	Miss V Lavender	
48	Mrs B Booty	
49	Miss V Lavender	
50	Miss V Lavender	Mrs P Haye
51	Mrs W Lavender	
52	Mrs S Freemantle	

### Section 4 - Craft

46	Mrs A Howarth	M r s M Hodges
47	Mrs J Bartlett	M r s E Everett
48	Mrs P Clear	
49	Mrs V Lynch	
50	Mrs F Eyles	
51	Mrs S Wilson	Mrs E Everett
52	Mrs P Eyles	
53	Mrs K Lorentzen	M r s F Eyles
54	Mrs J Bartlett	

### Section 5 - Children up to and including 12 years old

53	Russell Missin	E b o n i McGuirk
54	Alfie Anderson	
55	Jack Anderson	T h o m a s Fonken
56	April Barnett	
57	John Pearce	C a i Stocking
58	Molly Agnew	
59	Harriet Shorthose	R y a n Billmen
60	S a p p h i r e Stutchbury	
61	Grace Chestney	K y l e Paddick
62	Bruce Paddick	M a x McGuirk
63	Emma Boulton	
64	Jacobi Raven	K y a R a v e n Emily Lavender
65	Kay Eyles	
66	Kya Raven	J a c o b i Raven
67	Harley Raven	
68	Emily Lavender	V i c t o r i a Lavender
69	Fen Preston	
70	John Pearce	

## Sporting Legend Still hitting the Winning Trail

Northwold Sporting Legend **Ron Knights** is still winning competitions despite being by his own admission over 45. In August he added another trophy to his already vast collection. When asked the secret of his latest success he said with typical modesty that he owes it all to “Jock”. Ron's prize winnings for the year so far stand at a staggering £50. (See page 11 Col. 2)



## St Andrew's Church

### Church Diary for October, 2006

Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> 11am  
Harvest festival

Oct 8<sup>th</sup> 11am  
Matins

Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 8am  
Holy Communion

Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> 11am  
Matins

Oct 29<sup>th</sup> 9.30am  
Benefice Service at Whittington

### Church Bazaar

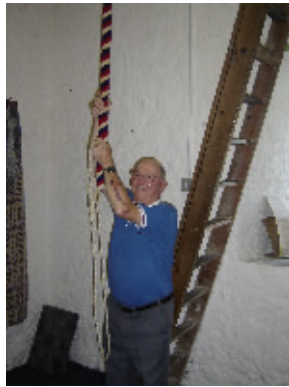
Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm  
until 4pm in the Church

The Bazaar will be opened by father Christmas Himself arriving, as usual, by his pony and trap. There will be stalls, refreshments, and the chance to see father Christmas in his Grotto!!  
This is a real family Event, so do join us – And bring your friends!!

### Christmas Tree Festival

Carols by Candlelight - 17th December  
Please don't forget to let Brenda (728565) or Jackie (728571) know if you, your organisation, family etc. know by 31st OCTOBER if you would like to decorate or sponsor a tree.

Our Congratulations go to **Charlie Askew** who will have been involved in **Church Bell ringing for “60 Years” this month**



Since taking up the practice as a young man at the age of 16, he's been of service to the communities of many churches, not just Northwold. Many of you will have been married, or even Christened to the sound of Charlie ringing the bells for your special day.

At Special services such as Easter, Christmas, Harvest festivals and even some funerals, whatever the occasion Charlie's always there.

It would be impossible to know how many people, including children he's taught. Even so he's been able to pass on just a fraction of the knowledge and expertise that he's acquired over those 60 years. Bell-ringing like riding a bike is something that you never forget how to do, and so it's to be hoped that many of those youngsters will return to it as adults and pick it up as though they'd never been away.

Getting up early on a Sunday morning, he regularly joins the ringers at St George's church at Methwold before returning to his own band of ringers at St Andrews where he's **Tower Captain**.

Northwold is extremely fortunate to be custodians of 8 such beautiful old church bells and we should feel privileged that dedicated people like Charlie are keeping the tradition and sounds alive.

Please do contact Charlie on 01366 728 877 If **you** would like to develop the skills of Bell Ringing

### Little Normans Northwold Pre School

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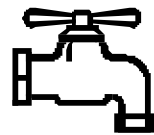
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## Northwold News By Jim Booty

### Parish Council

Representatives of the Rural Community Council reported on progress in providing affordable housing in the village. A further meeting is to be held to suggest sites. Vandalism has apparently died down, except for broken glass in the "phone box". The new wheelie bins have become an obtrusive part of the village scene, but a solution is not obvious. The Old Manor House is still falling down, but progress towards compulsory purchase is very slow. This blot on the landscape has spoiled the look of the village for over 50 years and is one reason for our only coming second in the Pride of Norfolk contest.

### Art

An Art Class has been formed by Glenda Burton and Patsy Hood, meeting on Thursday evenings in the Village Hall. Attendance so far has been very good.

### Youth Club

The new Youth Club, Led by Mr and Mrs Freemantle, held it's first meeting at the Pavilion on Wednesday. Plenty of adults have offered to help.

### Pride Of Norfolk

Northwold came second in the under 2,500 population section of the Pride in Norfolk Competition.

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September two members of the Parish Council and the two authors of Northwold's entry attended a reception at County hall in Norwich.

Jim Booty Chairman of the Parish Council, received a prize, a commemorative plaque and gardening vouchers, on behalf of the village. The vouchers will be used to purchase a tree to be planted in the village. We will announce exactly where when the decision has been made.

A copy of our entry can be seen in the village shop, The Pub and The Tile Shop.

### Having seen the football report on the front cover- below are listed the home fixtures for the season

1 <sup>st</sup>	October.	Watton Rangers
15 <sup>th</sup>	October.	Thetford Independents
29 <sup>th</sup>	October.	Wymondham Lizards
12 <sup>th</sup>	November	Wymondham Serpents
3 <sup>rd</sup>	December.	Watton Rangers
10 <sup>th</sup>	December.	Dereham Town
14 <sup>th</sup>	January	Wymondham Dragons
28 <sup>th</sup>	January	Brandon
11 <sup>th</sup>	February	Swaffham
4 <sup>th</sup>	March	Thetford Bulldogs



### WHAT DOES THE DOCTOR THINK THIS MONTH?

From Dr Ian Nisbet

**FUNDAY AT THE SURGERY, JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup>:** (Held in memory of Joe Riley and to raise funds for the Sudden Adult Death Syndrome charity) Nettie and Steve (Joe's parents) wish to thank everyone at the surgery and their friends and family for all the hard work and generous donations which made this event such a success. £2,500 was raised for the charity and, of course this would not have been possible without the generosity of all those who attended the event and gave so generously. **Very many thanks indeed to you all!**

### FARMING SECTION:

**DEFRA:** Over the past couple of years, this column has drawn attention to the failings of Defra (The Department for the Elimination of Farming and Rural affairs). You will be happy to learn that the Prime Minister has eventually bowed to our pressure and carried out a massive reshuffle, getting rid of the ministers most closely associated with the Single Payment fiasco. Margaret Beckett was promoted as a reward for failure and Lord Bach was sacked. Elliot Morley, who has held ministerial positions at MAFF and Defra for many years, has also gone. Jim Knight, who has been Rural Affairs Minister for a year, has also gone and is now an expert in the Education Department. Only Ben Bradshaw remains.

Having removed the above, President Blair announced that Lady Ashton of Upholland was earmarked to take over from Lord Bach as Food and Farming Minister but that she would also remain as Minister at the Department for Constitutional Affairs. In other words, she would be a **part-time Minister for Farming**. Happily there was an outcry and friend Tony then did away with Lady Ashton of Upholland and appointed Lord Rooker as Food and Farming Minister. However, he will continue to take questions in the House of Lords on Northern Ireland, his previous role. What chance does farming have when this government presides over such chaos and

confusion and, very obviously, gives farming a very low priority?  
**WE SHOULD LISTEN TO THE FARMERS:** Farmers live very closely with nature; their work is affected by the weather and the nature of their soil. They spend hours alone, driving up and down their fields in straight lines and **thinking** long and hard about world affairs and the environment. In particular, they are concerned about the looming energy crisis. The farming press is heavy with articles about farmers who are converting their entire operation, buildings, cookers, holiday-huts, etc. to renewable energy. Methane pits deliver gas from manure to fire their heating and cookers, miles of pipes laid deep underground bring up heat for central heating and hot water and solar panels deliver hot water all year. Biomass and Biofuels and their production loom large in farmers' thinking. Unfortunately, the government is sending out very mixed messages to farmers, making them reluctant to invest in the production of the necessary crops. The Energy Crops Scheme has come to an end but other schemes to promote green energy are only promised "for the future", with nothing definite at present.

Having thought carefully, Deannie and I have decided not to install a methane pit, a straw burner or miles of underground pipes under the lawn. However, we have decided to change our 28 year old solar heating system (25% efficient) for a new system which is 95% efficient and works all year round. The increase in recent years of the price of 500 gallons of heating oil from £200 to £800 certainly promotes thought!

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The Nija Levis
Health Column

Stress

We all suffer with stress sometimes and that's ok but it's not ok when we are stressed all or most of the time as this is when our health and well-being is affected.

When we are in a stressful situation our bodies go into a 'flight' or 'fight' state so we can either face the situation head on or run away. Physically what happens to the body during this state is adrenaline is produced so more blood can be pumped round the body. Therefore the heart has to work harder to achieve this. The blood is pumped to the muscles and our brain and less is directed to our internal organs like our digestive system. This is why many people suffer with digestive problems when stressed.

If you do have a stressful life or going through a stressful time NO HANDS

Massage can help you to cope. Like with any NO HANDS Treatment you choose your outcome and the Massage is carried out in the style that will help you achieve that outcome. During the session your body and mind get a chance to slow down, returning your body to normal levels, leaving you balanced and able to go back to your life, feeling stronger and calmer to cope with any stress.

Regular monthly treatment enables you to bring your stress levels down so that your body isn't constantly in a state of stress. Over the month your stress levels may rise but are brought back down again with your Massage session. In fact, knowing your massage is due, even about a week before, starts to lower your stress levels as you look forward to having that time out away from everything else.

You may not think that 1 hour a month, which is very little time to give yourself in all the hours there are in a month, would make a difference. I see how just this hour each month

makes such a difference to my clients yet it does amaze me how this little time does keep people in a good state of well-being.

The effects of Massage are accumulative so on-going treatment is more effective than a one off treatment. So if you are suffering with the effects of stress deal with the stress, give yourself some time out and help your body be balanced and healthy again. Of course with NO HANDS Massage you get to enjoy your time, much better than having to pop pills because you're body is suffering from the effects of stress.

Nija

Apology
In the last edition I printed a Thank You from the Cater family to Tots and Co. This Should have been to the Pre School and Tots and Co. Sorry about that. Ed.

River watch
by Ivor Hook

Jack sat in the village pub with his pint of beer. No one knows his age but he is certainly old. Having lived in Northwold all his years he is fully aware of country ways. He knows all the fields and the animals and birds - in fact they are an important part of his life. Most nights in the Crown he talks about the countryside. His favourite pastime is fishing and he always has lots of stories to recall. Perhaps he exaggerates but no one really knows. He is just accepted as a very gentle and interesting person.

One night, a young gent from the posh end of the village, was in also the pub. He was extremely noisy and even more irritating than normal. He had been fishing and it seemed he had caught every fish in the river. He was eager to explain that he had the most expensive rods and tackle and boasted that he could out-fish anyone. Everyone tried to ignore him but they could not escape. Jack just listened and smiled inwardly.

Then in an attempt to obtain some peace and quiet the landlord mentioned that Jack was also a fisherman. Poor Jack cringed and then had to suffer for the next hour or so. Whilst he enjoyed good company this person was a complete bore. Then a bystander casually suggested the two have a fishing match. Before Jack could decline the pub was buzzing with anticipation and bets were even placed on the outcome. Jack went home that night really miserable - his evening had been ruined and his head was spinning.

Soon the entire village was aware of the match and the other persons name was found to be Ted. So a week or so later, somewhere alongside the River Wissey, Ted was busy erecting his 2 man bivvy. Inside he had a gas bottle stove to make cups of tea and a padded recliner chair that also doubled as a bed. He then spent ages wiring up his 3 rods to hi-tec alarms. After intricate testing and retesting he was at last ready. Then with only a few minutes to spare along came Jack. His only rod was somewhat tatty but it was an old friend and had belonged to his dad who had taught him the art of fishing when he was just knee-high. He also had a carrier bag with his net and bits and quickly everything was assembled. Then they started their combat.

The day had always been cloudy but soon it rained and rained hard. Ted got inside his bivvy and sheltered but alas the rain played tricks with his electronics and strange noises followed. All the wiring had to be dried and tested again. Then the wind increased and the delicate settings of his alarms failed to function properly. Ted was now in serious trouble. In truth he was only used to fishing in fine weather and then it was normally confined to the two weeks of his annual summer holiday.

Meanwhile our friend Jack was fishing undeterred. He loved the rain and wind - it was his favourite time to be fishing. He caught fish non-stop and then in a while (as Jack had expected) he started catching really big fish. He skilfully played each to his net and by the end of the match he had a massive

catch. Even he was quietly pleased at the way he had fished and after a few words of courtesy to Ted he cycled home with his rod tied on his crossbar. 'Electronic Ted' as he is now known did catch a few very small fish. However he seldom visits the pub anymore and he certainly never mentions his fishing to anyone in the village. Jack as before is always down the pub and is now a bit of a hero.

Ivor

Northwold
Spiritualist Group.

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6th October.

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Carol and Len Minnet

20th October.
Peter Fox.

3rd November.
Nick Brown.

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Our Past According To POG Aka Mike Coley



Northwold has undoubtedly enjoyed a very colourful and historic past, the details of which were meticulously recorded and kept by the parish over some hundreds of years. These records, some in a very delicate state due to their great age, were kept at various venues including the church. However a fateful decision was made, in good faith of course, when it was agreed to let them go to the County Records Office in Norwich for safe keeping. Ironically these priceless historical documents and the information contained therein were subsequently lost for all time, along with countless others from all over the county of Norfolk and beyond. They were destroyed in the horrendous fire that devastated the repository in 1994.

It wasn't actually the flames that were immediately destructive however, but the copious amounts of water that the fire-brigade needed to pump into the place to dampen it down. Swathes of irreplaceable information was thus dissolved into mush, or otherwise damaged beyond all repair.

The authorities did learn from the experience of course, and so now, if fire ever again threatened to damage the counties historical documents, there would be no need to dowse them with water at all. In the new, 'state of the art' premises, built to replace the old, inert gas would automatically be pumped in to smother the flames, causing no damage whatever to books, papers etc.

Luckily there are still those who have long memories and private hordes that retain at least some detail ( *although often fragmented* ) of what had once transpired. One such tale goes back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century(*the Napoleonic Wars*) when the field next to the church, ( *that once belonged to the Manor House across the way* ) was used for **Blindfold Wheelbarrow Racing** no less. This same field, at a much later date when it was the property of **Brigadier Simpson**, who along with his wife lived in Linden Cottage opposite, was the venue for the Dog shows that were staged upon it. The old boy was an active sportsman with a gun and his

working dogs were Pointers. He had already worn out the replacement hips with which he'd been fitted and was well on his way to requiring a couple more, largely I suspect as a result of his continually traipsing across other fields and uneven ground in all weathers.

He had a fine selection of guns that he would delight in showing me from time to time, including an elephant gun. This was, to my surprise, loaded with a cartridge rather than a bullet, although like a bullet it only held a single warhead. Quite different to the more usual 10 and 12 bore shotguns that we were all familiar with.

The old man ( *whom I liked greatly* ) got some extra action with his air guns from time to time, when a couple of little Pug dogs, owned by a **Mrs Russ** who lived in the Grange at this time, would stray into the aforementioned field. Their cute and curly little tails, held aloft to expose their nether regions, presenting an irresistible target to someone of the Brigadiers mentality.

When tackled by the enraged owner, he would simply laugh and say that he was just warming their dear little A\*\*\*\* for them. This sport was of course non-lethal to the hapless creatures, considering the range involved, though it did make them vacate his field in something of a hurry. Then again it never stopped them from coming back for more at a later date. ( *strange animals* )

Before Mrs Russ took up residence, The Grange, ( *situated immediately behind the church* ) had been in fact the village Rectory. It was later replaced by the purpose built house which now sports the name '**The Old Rectory**' which itself became redundant and has now also become a private residence.

However, when the Grange was a functional ecclesiastical building, all the village fetes were held on its spacious back lawns. Traditional attractions were regularly staged at these fetes, one of which was inevitably **Bowling for the Pig**'. It was always a live youngster and as so many in the village kept pigs anyway in those days, they would be sure to be well looked after. ( *I well remember an old lady that would take the runt from each litter when the sow*

*farrowed, and mollycoddled it in her bedroom for the first few weeks of its life, until it started to thrive* ) In fact pig keeping was so prolific that many of our residents clubbed together to pay to have the pig feed delivered in bulk.

Another attraction that was always there was old **Mrs 'Whittle' Dye's** bath tub. ( *Whittle was her husbands nickname, hence 'Mrs Whittle'* ) This was filled with water and the bottom liberally strewn with mostly copper coins, and just the odd **2 Bob Bit** ( or florin ). The challenge was to drop a penny into the water and if it came to rest on any other coin, covering it completely, you would receive both as a prize.( *a penny then was bigger than our 50p piece today* ) This old girl was a bit of a character, another of our eccentrics if you like. As a very small child, I had the privilege of referring to her as 'Aunty Dye'.

**The Lodge** at Little London also provided locals with excitement, action and entertainment, in the form of **Boxing Matches** where 'Tommy Bowers' often appeared as **Top of the Bill**. ( *more about Toms exploits at a later date* )

Northwold also had it's own **Brass Band** at one time and their instruments were kept by Gus Carr, who used to own the Post Office opposite the war memorial. This band used to lead our parades and I have a photo of my dad marching proudly at the front, leading the band. They played alongside many other ensembles that visited us regularly, like the **Salvation Army**.

Well my dears, unless this little historical gem is destroyed by fire and water, before you lay eyes upon it, I live in hopes that we shall see you maintaining another of our ancient traditions by rushing to the shop to fill your 'wheelbarrows' instead of your shopping trolleys. Although if you do I don't necessarily recommend the blindfold. Take care of yourselves until next time, when I shall certainly be Looking Forward to Looking back with you yet again, so 'til then **Best wishes**

Pog

Northwold WI

WI members have really enjoyed a varied few months.



This started back in July when any lover of swing or jazz passing the Village Hall at the time of our meeting would have had a lovely time if they had joined us 26 toe-tapping ladies when Douglas Baker was our guest. He brought with him his vast knowledge of the swing and jazz era and many original recordings. We were transported back to the Cotton Club and to the great players Scott Joplin, Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman and so many more and not only listened to the music but learned a great deal about the artists themselves and their sometimes not very easy life. We had a lovely evening.

That month the meeting was chaired by Patricia Haye, our vice-president, Photos of a number of members taken during their childhood were on show and the competition was to guess who was who. There were many wild guesses, but the eventual winner was Jenny Langley who managed to identify the most.

In August 23 of us enjoyed a quiet stroll around the delightful Gooderstone Water Gardens. These are slowly being brought back to how they were years ago when designed by the present keeper's father Bill Knights.

Business matters on this occasion were curtailed, but we did learn of the proposed visit to Theatre RoyalNorwich in February and the

evening ended with refreshments.

The WI you know has its own Residential College, "Denman College" in Oxfordshire and in September we welcomed Margaret Waite who explained for the benefit of us all the various courses that you can enjoy there, i.e. cookery, crafts, rambling, and more too extensive to mention. There are day and three day courses and these prove so popular it is wise to learn of the various events and visits coming up and book well in advance.

The President mentioned the WI Art Exhibition in Norwich from 24<sup>th</sup> September. A number of our current members have had entries accepted amongst the 240 received. Many of us will be attending the Group Meeting in Thetford and we are helping Ann Howarth with her Macmillan Afternoon Tea. It will be our AGM next month and Pat asked for any nominations for Committee. The competition was for a WI memento – the winner was Ann Howarth, Jenny Langley second and Jenny Bunyan third.

Joann Kidd and Ann Howarth were congratulated and thanked for their work in putting forward the Northwold entry for the Pride of Norfolk Awards which resulted in the village being placed second. They were looking forward to attending the presentation ceremony.

Monthly lunches have been enjoyed – we usually average 12-14 in number- and we have been to The Angel at Wattlington, The Heron at Stowe Bridge and lastly The Bell at Denver. The last coincided with the Flower

Festival at the Church and several of us took the opportunity to visit and take in the delightful displays. This month we are going to "Timbers".

The evening closed with the raffle and very tasty refreshments this time supplied by our newer members, Patsy Hood and Teresa Waller.

Verity Lynch

THANKS

**Doreen, Sid and Sheena Randell and family** Would like to say thank you to all the kind and wonderful people who sent cards, flowers, offers of help and kind words to us during the recent loss of Eileen Mary Dyce, who was Doreen's mother.

Eileen loved Northwold and its people and she spent the last few years of her life living at the Almshouses in School Lane. The carers of Manor Court were wonderful and Eileen thought the world of them, she also enjoyed the luncheon and Forget me Not clubs, her favourite day was Friday as she would be going to the age concern club up at the Methwold Social Club.

**When a family loses a loved one, it is a very hard and emotional time, but it is helped very much by the people around you so thank you to you all, it meant a lot. Also thanks to Philip Bowers who is an angel. He really did our family proud.**

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