

The Palgrave Star

Circulated by Palgrave and District Community Council

Issue 7 November 1980

COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGM 1980

Attending an AGM is not to everybody's taste but it is a vital part of running a Community Council such as ours. As our chairman, Geoffrey Rogers, reminded us. This year's AGM was our eighth and every committee needed to have its injection of new ideas so it was to the Annual Meeting that the Committee looked for comments, views and suggestions for the future. This was particularly so for this year. Having achieved a bank balance of £12,204 in a relatively short time we could see ample evidence of the support that people had been prepared to give in the past. The disappointing, yet not unexpected, news of the curtailment of grants for all village hall projects from the DES, County & District Councils now meant that we needed to review our situation and decide which way forward we proposed to go. Geoffrey Rogers asked the members of the meeting to give the matter their careful consideration and put forward their suggestions.

Mr Rolfe, in answering queries about the proposed village hall, outlined the exciting plans that had been drawn up. The timber-framed construction had aroused considerable interest and enthusiasm from the county planners but it appeared that a new look would have to be taken at these plans now that grants were so difficult to obtain. Various suggestions were made and Geoffrey Rogers said that the committee would consider these at the next meeting.

Our chairman had refreshed our memories about the aims of the Community Council as drawn up eight years ago and Joan Prior, in giving the secretary's report, reminded us of the wide ranging activities the Community Council now undertook. These included, evening classes, bingo, cribbage, outings, socials for young and old plus many more fund raising activities. The success of the latter could be seen recorded on the balance sheet as prepared by our Treasurer M Atkinson. Wise investment by her had increased the interest we had received and our healthy bank balance had managed to

keep up its fight with inflation.

It was generally felt that 'The Star' was a welcome development and thanks were expressed to Mr Hall, who generously undertook to print the paper at cost. Every home in the three villages now received a copy free of charge and it was suggested that a fund raising event might well help to defray the cost of producing the paper.

Several new members joined the committee for its new year and it was hoped that their new ideas and enthusiasms would continue to swell the bank balance and strengthen our efforts to improve our community life.

Community Council Committee 1980/81

Mrs M Atkinson, Miss W Atkinson, E Barlow, G Cartwright, Mrs B Chapman, S Chapman, Mrs M Channell, G Clarke, A Fox, Mrs Holbrook, Mrs Y Hutton-Williams, Rev. R Knott, C Manning, Mrs G Manning, Mrs B Oddy, Mrs J Prior, Mrs J Read, K Roberts, Mrs M Roberts, G Rogers, R Rolfe, C South, Mrs B Stratton, Miss Thorndyke, C White.

WEAVER'S MARK BULLETIN ON ELIZABETH

Denny Harrison, Joyce and Bill Brindley thank all in the village for their prayers, warm sympathy, offers of help and general kindness during the, for them, past horrifying month.

They are happy to report that Elizabeth's condition has improved enormously - speech, memory and the use of her right arm have come on very well during the past week and they are hopeful that her right leg will follow suit as soon as she is allowed out of bed.

She may have to have a further operation but meanwhile the family thank you all.

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PALGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

At the Palgrave Parish Council Meeting in September the topics for discussion were as usual wide ranging. Street lighting seems to crop up at almost every meeting. The council complain that the timing is wrong or that lights need repair. The Electricity Board reply that they have been seen to or will be seen to if faults are reported and so the story continues. The Council have not been successful in making any progress about having a speed limit on the A143 through Palgrave. Apparently there are no staff available to carry out the necessary survey and there even seems to be some doubt about the promised diversions from Rookery Corner. However, a breakthrough has been made about signposting at the junction of the Old Bury Road with Crossing Road. Warning signs will be erected soon. It is hoped that a notice board will be made and displayed in the village showing public footpaths. Great concern was shown about possible developments on a site on Palgrave Hill; the Council are opposed to any change of usage. Two items were of special interest. The replacement trees will soon be planted on the green and it is hoped that some concerned villagers will 'adopt a tree' each and water it through next spring and summer. The Council also decided to purchase and designate a 'Queen Mother's Tree' to celebrate her eightieth birthday. Finally there is a possibility that the village green could be purchased by and for the parishioners. The executors for the Lord of the Manor have indicated that they might sell the ownership of the green to the Parish Council, at a price. This is a big change in attitude and the Council are eagerly following this up. Three members of the public attended this meeting.

ROAD SAFETY

Recent incidents in Palgrave have prompted the head teacher of the school to circulate the following letter. We feel that his concern will be shared by all members of the villages.

Dear Parents

This letter lays me open to being told to 'mind your own business'. To those who object to our having opinions about childrens' behaviour outside school hours I apologise in advance.

However, the accounts which reach me from many quarters concerning how children ride and run around our villages so frightens me; and my visits in the evening and at weekends confirms those stories; that I feel that I must write about:

- a) Children riding two or more on a bicycle.
- b) Children on the back of motorcycles with no protective clothing.
- c) Children on bicycles being towed by motorcycles, cycles and possibly cars.
- d) Children playing 'chicken' on the roads (encouraged by older children).
- e) Children racing cycles across the Green - crossing the roads at right angles.
- f) Children riding after dark without lights.

Two children were involved in road accidents in September. This has had no obvious effect.

WHERE WILL IT END?

Yours sincerely, R B Perrett, Headmaster

CAN YOU HELP US PLEASE?

As part of our local studies, we are trying to find out the approximate age of the houses in Palgrave, Thrandeston and Stuston. We hope to show the dwellings on a map in a manner which distinguishes between the different centuries.

If you know when your house was built, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Bob Perrett
Palgrave VCP

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HOME MADE TOYS

I wonder how many country boys could make their own pop-gun today? This was an essential weapon in every small boys' armoury before the arrival of expensive factory made replicas of Wild Bill Hickok's "Colt 45" and The Saint's "Mauser". It was also real good fun to make and even today, with so many hedges removed and trees felled, it is still possible to find the basic items without too much trouble. First you will need a length of green elder as long as you can find without joints - leaf or branch scars - and about one and a half inches in diameter. Next you will require a length of holly for preference, although other woods will do, about six inches longer than the elder barrel and slightly smaller than the pith core. This is known as the 'stick'. Then a short piece of elder to form the handle of the stick. Now to the actual making.

Peel the bark from the elder and remove the pith from the core by forcing it out with a metal rod just thick enough to pass through the core. Treat the small piece of elder likewise and force it securely on to the end of the stick which should also have had the bark removed. At this stage you may need to pare down the stick with your penknife to allow it to pass easily but

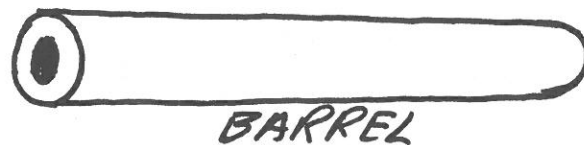
not loosely through the barrel.

The next operation is to form what is known as the 'brush' on the small end of the stick. This is done by continually wetting it and banging the end on to a brick wall ending up with a miniature sweep's brush which serves the same purpose as the leather washer in a bicycle pump - it forces air along the barrel.

Now to fire your weapon. Find a large acorn and bite it in half. Put one half in the barrel and hammer it in on a tree or a post, then using the brush end of the stick force it to the other end. Now hammer in the other half acorn and ease it along the barrel for about two inches with the stick. Hold the barrel with both hands and rest the handle on your tummy. Take aim and pull the barrel towards you firmly and quickly. The air compressed inside will cause the acorn bullet to eject with a considerable report and accuracy and the other bullet will be left in the breech ready for you to repeat the operation.

This is a harmless fun toy and gives the maker of a good one the kind of kudos that makes him a gang leader on the spot.

R Rolfe



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HARVEST SUPPER

During the day of 4 October, pleasant aromas of food could be smelt around Palgrave. By 7.30pm about 60 people were seated around the tables in the school. Canon Rogers led the 'Harvest Grace' and then the potatoes were brought to the table. The ham and turkey were already on the plates and the salad in bowls. This soon disappeared and was followed by delicious apple pie and cream, washed down by 'punch'. What was in it, I don't know but my golly it was good!

Then came the job of moving the tables out. Forward, back whoa! Straight ahead, and they're all out.

Mrs South presented the 'Rose Bowl', for the best kept garden, to Mrs Knights; second place went to Mr Cartwright who was otherwise engaged and third prize to Mr Mossman.

The grand draw was taken next and Mrs Joan Prior presented the prizes. The first prize was £10. Who would it be? There were so many tickets. Mrs Prior announced Iain Sturgeon of Diss and like a 'Jack out of a box' he was at her side. His comment when he got home was 'Now I can buy anything I want!'

The entertainment which followed was hilarious to say the least. The Melodies from Moulton they were called. We didn't know what was coming next. They even recruited some of the audience. And the best recruits of all were the five children who joined the man at the end to sing 'Cum ba ya! It was lovely. Many thanks to all who made it possible.

G Sturgeon, Diss

DRAW WINNERS SEPTEMBER

W/E 6 No
1 471 Mrs J Rolfe
2 366 Mrs Clabon
3 488 Mrs J Lye

W/E 13 No
1 260 Mrs P Rodwell
2 443 Mr Hicks
3 257 Mrs G Rose

W/E 20
1 483 Mr Staples
2 371 Mrs R Trudgell
3 70 Mrs Louch

W/E 27
1 481 Mr P Read
2 43 Mrs Lambert
3 2 Mr Ward

DIARY

Wednesday 5 November

Bonfire, Stalls
The Green, Palgrave

Thursday 6 November

Bingo
Palgrave School

Thursday 27 November

Cribbage
Palgrave School

Saturday 29 November

Church Christmas Fair
Palgrave School

Friday 12 December 8.00

Conservative Association
'Cheese & Wine Plus'
Thrandeston Church Hall

BEANZ MEANZ HEINZ

Palgrave School is in need of as many "Heinz" food labels as possible, to enable them to obtain "Free" sports equipment. The offer closes at the end of December, so time is short, if anyone requires the labels collected I am sure Mr Perrett or myself will arrange for a child from the school to collect them. So start purchasing and eating Heinz products right away.

Joan Prior, Secretary, Palgrave Friends of School.

CHURCH CHRISTMAS FAIR 29 NOVEMBER

Book this date and buy your Christmas presents. The sale takes place in the Schoolroom Palgrave at 3.00pm. Stalls include: needlework, cosmetics, stationery, cakes, produce, Christmas crackers and arrangements. The church will be grateful for any contributions to be sold on the above mentioned stalls. See you there!