

The Palgrave Star

Circulated by Palgrave and District Community Council

Issue 1.01 May 1980

EDITORIAL

Since the inception of the Community Council some of us have felt concern over the lack of an efficient means of communication with all members, and for that matter, non-members also. True, we have sent out letters at very infrequent intervals, and used the village notice board and the Post Office windows, but we felt that what was needed was a regular newsheet, distributed on the same day each month to all inhabitants of Palgrave, Thrandeston and Stuston and for which no charge would be made.

A sub-committee was briefed to study the situation and through the generosity of one of our members, Mr Robert Hall, we are enabled to fulfill all the requirements we felt necessary and this issue is the result. The name "Palgrave Star" will bring back memories to many who can recall the early years of this century when the Palgrave Stars were a very successful football team and the name seemed to us a happy choice.

What do we hope to achieve each month? To start with we will bring you news of the Community Council activities - both reports of events past and dates and information about future events, just as soon as details are to hand. We hope to print items of local interest, news and, when space permits, news and a calendar of dates from other village organisations. This is a modest enough venture but in these days of rapid change, when villages are being denuded of many of the essential features of country life: shops, Post Offices, pubs, schools, parsons, bus services and many more, we feel a regular distribution of news and views to all households will help to strengthen the bonds of village life throughout our three villages and help us to present a united front when any of our cherished features are threatened.

We hope you will welcome this venture and we would value your comments and, hopefully, your contributions to future issues.

All contributions can be received at The Swan, Palgrave.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The Palgrave and District Community Council came into being in 1972 to serve the villages of Palgrave, Thrandeston and Stuston and its membership stands now at about 300. This means that there are still quite a number of people in the villages who are not yet members.

As the Community Council exists to foster and forward the social, cultural and recreational activities of the village communities the larger and more comprehensive our membership, the more we shall be able to accomplish in all these various ways. Our outstanding need is for a village centre or hall where things can happen and it has been obvious from the outset that we should have to make this our major objective. Now already, in less than eight years, we have raised over £10,000 towards this project.

We shall be eligible for grants of seventy five per cent of the total costs from the County Council, the District Council and the Department of Education and Science. We are only too well aware that costs are escalating but as we will receive £3 to every £1 we can raise, we should go all out to reach our target.

We need not therefore apologise at all for encouraging the active enthusiasm of everyone and for asking those who have not yet joined to do so and help us to work for our common objectives.

Will you please, if you are not already a member of the Community Council, commit yourself to joining?

The subscription is 5p a week (and 3p more if you wish to take part in the weekly draw). You can contact Mrs Joan Prior, 35 Thrandeston Road, Brome. Tel No. Eye 732.

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LOCAL STUDIES

In recent years our school has built up a considerable reputation in environmental matters. In addition to our long term concern for the village pond, the state of the Green and tree planting, we have carried out three substantial studies.

a) We recorded in 1978 the three villages of Palgrave, Thrandeston and Stuston on 25" Ordnance Survey. The pupils looked at land use, dated hedgerows, measured trees, checked the health of the remaining ponds and generally examined the natural resources of the area. This work was followed by exhibitions at Ipswich, Bury, Lowestoft and Norwich. Two courses for teachers have been held at Palgrave with our pupils acting as tutors.

b) In 1979 we co-operated with Wortham School on a River Waveney Study. The river was closely studied between South Lopham and Hoxne Mill. The lower reaches were examined in less detail. Once again, this work was widely displayed.

c) Most recently we are looking at St Peters' Church; those of you who use the school in the evenings will have seen the development of this work.

The 'National Education Officer' of the Countryside Commission, Mr Dick Hansen, brought a group of advisers and planners from Cambridgeshire to work with our children and see their work.

We have advised a number of other schools on environmental matters.

Why?

1) We hope that our pupils will use their detailed knowledge of their own area to take a more careful and responsible attitude.

2) There has been an improvement in reading, writing and counting skills based on the discovery that these skills are useful outside school.

3) It has enabled the children to meet a lot of interested and informed adults with special skills which we do not have - this is particularly valuable in small schools.

4) It has helped us to see skills in our pupils which might not have shown in ordinary school work.

RB Perrett

MARKET STALL IN DISS

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, we will again be having a morning market stall in Diss on Saturday 10 May. Through your generosity last year, we raised £130 from our market day sessions and the items that were given sold extremely quickly. We shall be pleased to sell your produce/cakes/craft items, etc. on a 50/50 basis or receive them as donations.

Items may be left with Canon Rogers - Yew Trees, Palgrave or Mrs Hutton-Williams - The Old School House, Palgrave on the evening before, or at the stall on Saturday from 8.30am.

PALGRAVE PEDAL POWER

Mr Charles South has a remarkable collection of vintage cycles, ranging from an 1870 Penny Farthing to a 1938 Touring Tandem. A few cyclists are needed to accept the challenge of riding one of these rare machines for the Sponsored Cycle Ride on 17 May. If you would like a trial ride contact Mr South at The Priory, Palgrave. Details of the route and other information can be obtained from Mr C White, Crestalea, Palgrave.

CRAFTS EXHIBITION, HATFIELD HOUSE

A visit to the Living Crafts Exhibition at Hatfield House, Herts has been arranged for Sunday 11 May. Eighty crafts will be demonstrated on the extensive grounds of this fine house and it should be a very enjoyable day out. Bookings for this outing should be placed with your collector. The final booking date is 3 May so please hurry.

GRATITUDE

Our thanks are due to Mr R Hall for generously offering to print The Palgrave Star and to Mr Tony Yates who designed the heading and layout of the paper.

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PARISH COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

During April, members of Palgrave Parish Council were involved in two meetings to discuss measures which, when implemented, will have a tremendous impact on our village. The first meeting was with officials of the Eastern Electricity Board and the Mid-Suffolk District Council Tree Officer, to consider their proposals for the trees on the village green and the immediate vicinity. It appears that over the years the trees have grown so much that in many cases their branches are a danger to the overhead power lines and drastic action is proposed. Several trees are to be removed completely and many others lopped or pruned. Obviously, this will materially affect the visual aspect of the centre of the village and while Councillors were not wholly in favour, nothing can be done to alter the proposals because the Electricity Board is a Statutory undertaking and has far reaching powers. However, many of the doomed trees are close to houses and their removal will be welcomed by some residents. Mid-Suffolk District Council have promised replacement trees to be planted in new positions in the Autumn.

The second meeting took place at the Rose Lane Railway Bridge and involved the County Surveyor, Mr Williams, John Gummer our MP and Mr McGregor our County Councillor. The Parish Council has been concerned about the safety of traffic using the bridge for some time now, and our correspondence with the County Council and British Rail resulted in this meeting. We were told categorically by Mr Williams that no major alteration or re-building project is contemplated in the foreseeable future because of the cutback in public spending and also because Suffolk County Council have other dangerous sites which would have priority. However, he did confirm what had already been published in the local press, that work is being put in hand to change the priority of the Old Bury Road from Rookery Corner and when this is done all through traffic will be directed by that route. This will have the effect of drastically reducing the traffic flow through Palgrave and over Rose Lane Bridge and the potential accident danger will be much reduced. Your councillors also persuaded Mr Williams to have a new look at the

warning signs on both sides of the Bridge and he agreed to make certain improvements to these.

PALGRAVE EVENING CLASSES

When, jointly with Cambridge Board of Extra Mural Studies, we sponsored the two evening classes of Archaeology and Ecology in Palgrave School we had no idea of their ultimate success. That nearly sixty people from sixteen different towns and villages would support the classes for four years without any slackening of enthusiasm is very gratifying and we are now making plans for our fifth year - details will be announced in a future issue.

The underlying message in this success story is that minority interests within a limited catchment area have to be concentrated at one venue if classes such as the above are to be viable. Cambridge would be prepared to assist with other classes - appreciation of music is one that has been suggested for instance but the lack of a meeting room other than the school is, at the moment, an insurmountable handicap because the school is in great demand already. Roll on the opening of our own Community Centre.

To those people who are interested in joining a class but who perhaps think that Ecology and Archaeology are too academic and above their heads we would say. Come to one or both of the classes one evening as an experiment and we are confident you would be agreeably surprised. The tutors for both are extremely knowledgeable and very entertaining speakers. Talks are interspersed with slides exhibits and free discussion periods. Visits to museums and field study excursions to sites of particular interest and walks through different habitats are also part of the courses.

We are pleased to provide in Palgrave, facilities which are not available nearer than large towns like Norwich and Ipswich and feel justly proud of our part in this venture.

R Rolfe

The Palgrave Star

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

Palgrave Parish Council

Clerk: Mr DW Long
40 Mount Street
Diss
Tel: Diss 3588

Palgrave & District Community Council

Sec: Mrs J Prior
35 Thrandeston Road
Brome
Tel: Eye 732

Palgrave Playing Field Committee

Sec: Mr G Clarke
Ivy Cottage Palgrave

Palgrave Football Club

Sec: Mr K Charman
Carlisle House
Burgate Road
Gislingham
Tel: Mellis 582

Palgrave Table Tennis Club

Sec: Mr C Manning
Prospect Cottage
Palgrave
Tel: Diss 3703

Palgrave Winemakers

Sec: Mrs Alasia
Willow House
Scole
Tel: Scole 605

Palgrave Community Council Evening Classes

Sec: Mr R Rolfe
Burlington Lodge
Palgrave
Tel: Diss 2502

Palgrave WI

Sec: Mrs P Hocking
5 Forge Close
Palgrave
Tel: Diss 3338

Palgrave Parochial Church Council

Sec: Mrs Y Hutton-Williams
Old School House
Palgrave
Tel: Diss 2698

Palgrave Young Wives & Mothers

Sec: Mrs P Hocking
5 Forge Close
Palgrave
Tel: Diss 3338

Palgrave Mothers' Union

Sec: Mrs P Hocking
5 Forge Close
Palgrave
Tel: Diss 3338

Thrandeston Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs B Colchester
Church Farm
Thrandeston
Tel: Mellis 271

Thrandeston Parochial Church Council

Sec: Mr J Francis
The Cottage
Great Green
Thrandeston
Tel: Mellis 302

Thrandeston Table Tennis Club

Sec: Mr J Mortlock
Dairy Farm
Thrandeston
Tel: Scole 665

Thrandeston & Stuston WI

Sec: Mrs F Durrant
Anna Willows
Thrandeston Road
Brome
Tel: Eye 562

Stuston Parish Council

Clerk: Mr DW Long
40 Mount Street
Diss
Tel: Diss 3588

Stuston Parochial Church Council

Sec: Mrs H Walton
Tyrells Farm
Stuston
Tel: Scole 383

Stuston & Thrandeston Community Council Representative

Mrs J Prior
35 Thrandeston Road
Brome
Tel: Eye 732

DIARY

Monday 5 May

Car parking duty at Bressingham Gardens

Saturday 10 May

Market Stall in Diss

Sunday 11 May

Coach trip to Living Crafts Exhibition at Hatfield House Herts

Monday 12 May

AGM Palgrave Parish Council

Saturday 17 May

Sponsored Cycle Ride

Thursday 5 June

Bingo Palgrave School

Saturday 14 June

Jumble Sale
Palgrave School

Thursday 3 July

Bingo
Palgrave School

Saturday 12 July

am Market Stall Diss
pm Cider and Pie at The Priory

Wednesday 30 July

Coach trip to Sandringham Flower Show and Hunstanton

Wednesday 13 August

Day trip to Lowestoft

Tuesday 19 August

Childrens' Outing to Easton Farm Park