

# ASSHINGTON

## NEWS



APRIL 2020

# CLUBS & ORGANISATIONS (useful numbers)

If your club or organisation is not listed here and you would like to be included, then please let me know on 01787 210354 or email [bronwenstacey@btinternet.com](mailto:bronwenstacey@btinternet.com)

Allotments ( <a href="mailto:sjking@btinternet.com">sjking@btinternet.com</a> )	Stephen King	01787 210932
Assington Books, Village Hall (see post office for times)	Michelle Bourner	07954 221773
Assington Farmshop	Maxine Gardiner	01787 211610
Assington Post Office, Village Hall	Mon 1.30-3.30,	Wed 9-12
Assington Village Charity, Sec	Nettie Osman	07957 394780
Boxford CEVC Primary School ( <a href="mailto:office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk">office@boxford.suffolk.sch.uk</a> )	Head: Mrs J Davies	01787 210332
Brownies, Boxford	Moira Grant	01787 211513
Church, Children's activities	Michelle Bourner	07954 221773
Church - Organist	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
Church - Reader	Dr John Symons	01787 211534
Church - Secretary	Emily Cartlidge	07976724266
Church - Treasurer	Ian Clark	01787 211133
Churchwarden	Roger Britcher	01787 211021
Churchwarden	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
County Councillor ( <a href="mailto:james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk">james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk</a> )	James Finch	01473 264993
District Councillor (Assington)	Lee Parker	01787 376073
Doctors surgery – Sudbury	Hardwicke House	01787 310000
Doctors surgery – Bures	Bures	01787 227529
Fleece Jazz, Stoke by Nayland Hotel - <a href="http://www.fleecejazz.org.uk">www.fleecejazz.org.uk</a>	Stoke by Nayland	01787 211865
Horticultural Society	Bryn Hurren	01787 210854
Leavenheath Cinema	Lesley or Ken	01206 262505/ 01206 263266
Member of Parliament ( <a href="mailto:james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk">james.cartlidge.mp@parliament.uk</a> )	James Cartlidge	020 7219 4875
Parish Council	Simon Thorogood	01787 227400
<a href="mailto:bronwenstacey@btinternet.com">bronwenstacey@btinternet.com</a>	Bronwen Stacey	01787 210354
<a href="mailto:john@moorsfarm.com">john@moorsfarm.com</a>	John Symons	01787 211534
<a href="mailto:rosemarysymonds42@gmail.com">rosemarysymonds42@gmail.com</a>	Rose Symonds	01787 229100
<a href="mailto:helen.wallace12@btinternet.com">helen.wallace12@btinternet.com</a>	Helen Wallace	01787 211162
<a href="mailto:i.jordan741@btinternet.com">i.jordan741@btinternet.com</a>	Ian Jordan	
<a href="mailto:andrewpeterhill@hotmail.com">andrewpeterhill@hotmail.com</a>	Andrew Hill	
Parish Council - Clerk, ( <a href="mailto:assingtonpc@yahoo.com">assingtonpc@yahoo.com</a> )	Jane Hatton	01787 468634
Polstead Films – <a href="http://www.http://polstead.onesuffolk.net/films">www.http://polstead.onesuffolk.net/films</a>	Sue Wigglesworth	01787 210029
Pub – The Shoulder of Mutton	Gavin & Aaron	01787 210334
Vicar ( <a href="mailto:steve.morley@btinternet.com">steve.morley@btinternet.com</a> )	Steve Morley	01787 227407
Village Hall – Bookings ( <a href="mailto:louisa@moorsfarm.com">louisa@moorsfarm.com</a> )	Louisa Symons	01787 211534
Village Hall - Caretaker	Paul Battle	07473 933320
Womens Institute, Boxford ( <a href="mailto:annie-phillips@hotmail.co.uk">annie-phillips@hotmail.co.uk</a> )	Annie Phillips	01787 211729

## The ASSINGTON NEWS

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Auditor	Ian Clark, 01787 211133



## THE LONG-AWAITED OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEW PLAYGROUND took place at 10.am on Saturday 7 March

Chair of the Village Charity, Stephen King delivered the welcome speech to the gathered crowd of local residents, children and representatives from many of the organisations which had contributed to the fund-raising in order to achieve the goal of the new play equipment and area for the children.

Particular thanks go to Nigel Finch for getting the plans going in 2018, with some help from Helen Lightfoot and Sally Fox. Their children started with ideas and the parents did the initial leg work in choosing a design and getting quotes from different builders.

With an initial budget of £30,000, they settled on Action Play and Leisure Ltd, a Norfolk company with 25 years' experience of building playgrounds. The equipment design was strengthened by the choices (which were displayed on the fence) made by children at a Neighbourhood Plan Open Day in May last year, with invaluable suggestions from Zoe Laughton, the mother of Evelyn and Fred, who has recently moved into the village.

**GRATEFUL THANKS** to all the following, who helped to make the vision a reality through their generous donations:

The Assington Group of Artists  
Assington Autos  
Assington Parish Council  
BDC Assington Section 106 money  
BDC Community Fund Grant  
The Ryes College  
The Happy Sounds Community Choir  
and  
Several Generous Anonymous Donors.

In addition the proceeds from two village Recycling Banks helped to swell the funds.

Construction work was completed on 24 January, since when the new play area has been enjoyed by the village children.

Rosa and Braydon Finch cut the Ribbon!



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# THINGS TO DO

## WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN BELL RINGING?

Hello Assington

We are your near neighbours in Little Cornard and share with you the Benefice of Bures with Assington and Little Cornard Churches.

Some of you will have read about the Church bells restoration project at Little Cornard Church completed very recently after a remarkable achievement of fund raising over a 3-year period by a dedicated committee.

After that remarkable feat of raising £130,000 the works were completed and the bells rung for the first time in 150 years on 11/11/2018 for Remembrance Sunday.

We then of course needed bell ringers as we had none! We recruited and have been training since November 2018 and now have a band of 9 ringers who practice every Wednesday evening from 7.30pm to 9pm. We also go to other Towers to ring and practise and have many visitors from all over the country to our Church.

We are members of the Suffolk Guild of Bell ringers and are anxious to recruit more members so are happy to extend a welcome to all in Assington who may like the opportunity to try to learn to ring. We have an excellent teacher and training facility and you will, I assure you, be made welcome. We enjoy social chat, tea and cakes after practice and the Ringing World is a very sociable arena to meet new friends with a common interest.

The forthcoming May Flower Festival weekend at Little Cornard, coincides with the 75<sup>th</sup> celebration of VE day that is on the 8<sup>th</sup> May. Our flower festival is on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of May. The Suffolk Guild has asked us to arrange celebratory ringing over that weekend for VE day and also to try to run some events to recruit new bell ringers. We intend combining the two and are arranging a middle of the day session of ringing for both days followed by a session where people have a short lesson to see if we can recruit a few more ringers.

Do come along to see us and 'have a go' at ringing – you might enjoy it!

If you are interested in learning more please contact me on :  
**01787 227259. Gerald Bird**

## EVER THOUGHT ABOUT PLAYING BOWLS?

### BOXFORD BOWLS CLUB

are holding free coaching sessions every Saturday for both men and women over the age of 18 years

#### Starting Saturday 16 May from 10.00am

at the clubhouse behind The Fleece pub in Boxford  
or

if you prefer you can come & join the members from

#### Monday 18th May at 10.00am - 12.00

for a game of social bowls when coaching will also be given.

The Bowls Club is a very friendly club, and the clubhouse has changing rooms, kitchen and a bar.

**For further information please contact  
Malcolm 01206 263301 Steve 01787 211153**

## ASSINGTON COMMUNITY EVENTS

### - get involved!

Would you like to see some new, exciting events in the village for all the family? Easter egg hunts perhaps, a music festival, street parties, dances, craft fairs, markets, a Christmas grotto? Christmas lights up in the village? If the answer to this is YES and you'd like to get involved in helping Assington become a more vibrant place to be, then please come along to a meeting at :

**The Shoulder of Mutton  
on  
Weds 15th April at 7.30pm**

where we can put our heads together and come up with some great new ideas.

**Contact David Wiles for more info -  
[david.wiles@live.co.uk](mailto:david.wiles@live.co.uk)  
- hope to see you there!**

**The ACE Team**

## ASSINGTON ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION GROW YOUR OWN!

There is a vacant allotment behind Meadow Way waiting for you to grow your own organic fruit and veg.

Please apply in writing to the Secretary,  
Claire Osborne at

[claire.l.osborne@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:claire.l.osborne@hotmail.co.uk)

or

The Old Bakery, 19b The Street, Assington



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## DAVID WILLER:

### His Pioneering Research Is Leading to Fish Fingers with a Difference.....



Many of you will already know David, and be aware that he is currently studying for his PhD at the University of Cambridge. For those of you who were not aware, David of Assington Hall, has studied at Cambridge University for a number of years, and has already achieved a 1st class degree in Natural Sciences, in addition to a number of other prestigious academic awards. His research during a 7-year period includes studies in specific biological and environmental sciences.

For his PhD project David is carrying out pioneering research for the University of Cambridge, in collaboration with Cambridge Conservation Initiative and Cambridge Global Food Security, which aims to facilitate changes in food production and consumption from meat to sustainable fish and shellfish, with wide-reaching benefits to food security and human health.

David, in conjunction with Dr David Aldridge, is on a mission to work out how to look after the planet and people's health at the same time, by demonstrating that bivalve shellfish - oysters, scallops, mussels and clams - can be a source of affordable, sustainable and nutritious food.

This is about providing people with food that is environmentally sustainable but also nutrient dense: meat and fish have a greater environmental impact than plant-based foods. However, the environmental footprint of bivalve aquaculture is even lower than any arable crops in terms of greenhouse gases.

Bivalves, are filter feeders, sitting right at the bottom of the food chain. In contrast, Salmon farming takes five kilos of wild fish for every kilo of salmon produced. Therefore, if just 25% of such fish farming was replaced with an equivalent quantity of protein from bivalve aquaculture, 16.3 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions could be saved every year. This is equivalent to half the annual emissions of New Zealand!

In addition, bivalves offer other environmental benefits to the marine ecosystems:

farming them provides nursery habitats for fish, their cultivation helps coastal protection and they help to clean up waterways by filtering algae.

Around the world there is an estimated 1,500,000 square kilometres of coastline which is suitable for growing bivalve shellfish. Even if only 1% of this were to be used in this way it could produce sufficient bivalves to fulfil the protein requirements of one billion people.

Bivalves have a higher protein content than beef, and are high in many key nutrients including Vitamin A, iodine and zinc and omega-3 fatty acids. A small quantity eaten regularly is a more efficient way of obtaining the required levels of these nutrients than by eating the corresponding amount of plants crops, which of course require land and resources to produce.

#### HERE COMES THE SCIENCE.....

One of the reasons why people don't eat mussels, oysters, clams etc is fear of food poisoning, as oysters in particular are eaten raw, so harmful bacteria/viruses are not killed before they are eaten.

Willer and Aldridge's solution is to change the diet fed to bivalves, and so they have developed a specially formulated 'microencapsulated Biobullet' diet, to be grown on a commercial scale and then powdered down and sterilised. Not only does this prevent the introduction of diseases into hatcheries, it is also 100 times more efficient in terms of energy use, carbon emissions and cost.

As other nutrients can be added to the Biobullet, this can add nutritional value and palatability to the shellfish, and therefore ultimately the dietary benefit of human consumers, as it remains within the bivalve when harvested. Following some product testing the results were most encouraging as, in addition to the cost benefits, mussels fed on Biobullets were deemed to be as tasty and attractive as mussels produced by conventional methods.

#### HOWEVER ....

There is a final challenge: bivalves are not actually a favourite food of many people. Diets have changed a lot since the 19th century when oysters in Britain were cheap and a staple diet of the masses. Rather than trying to convert the mainstream populace, the scientists are looking at novel ways to make bivalves more palatable, essentially by disguising them. So the concept of modifying familiar-looking food items is the best way to achieve the goal of feeding the world.

"Bivalve fishfinger, anyone?"

We wish David and Dr Aldridge every success with their scientific project.

## ADVERTS

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We currently have a few spaces available which we would like to fill.

#### Our rates per annum are:

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**£35** for a 1/4 size page  
**£60** for a 1/2 size page

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or

Bronwen Stacey on 01787 210354  
if you would like further information.



HM Government



## **CORONAVIRUS: PUBLIC INFORMATION**

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus.

You can help too.

Germs can live on some surfaces for hours. To protect yourself and others:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue and, to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.

This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

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# NATURE WATCH

## Hazel (*Corylus avellana*)

Hazel is one of the most useful trees, and has a long tradition of being held in close affection by country folk and rural communities.

Hazel is often coppiced, but when left to grow, trees can reach a height of 12 m and can live up to 80 years. Trees which are coppiced can live for several hundred years. It has a smooth grey-brown bark which peels with age, and flexible, hairy stems. The leaves, which are one of the earliest to emerge in Spring, are oval and soft to the touch, having downy hairs on the underside.



Come the Autumn, the leaves, which by now are large and blunt, turn a glorious yellow, before falling.

Hazel is monoecious, meaning that both male and female flowers are found on the same tree. The easily-recognisable yellow male catkins appear before the leaves and hang in clusters from mid-February; the female flowers are tiny and bud-like with red styles. However, hazel flowers must be pollinated by pollen from other hazel trees.



Once pollinated by wind, the female flowers develop into oval fruits which hang in groups of up to four. They mature into a nut with a woody shell surrounded by a cup of leafy bracts.



Hazel is valuable to wildlife in many ways: Its leaves provide food for the caterpillars of moths, including those of the large emerald, small white wave, barred umber and nut-tree tussock. In

managed woodland where hazel is coppiced the open, wildflower-rich habitat supports species of fritillaries. Coppiced hazel also provides shelter for ground-nesting birds such as nightingale, nightjar, yellowhammer and willow warbler. Hazel has also long been associated with the dormouse. Not only are hazelnuts eaten by dormice to fatten up for hibernation, but in Spring the leaves are a good source of caterpillars which dormice also eat. Hazelnuts are also eaten by squirrels, woodpeckers, nuthatches, tits, wood pigeons, jays and small mammals. Hazel flowers provide early pollen as a food for bees. although bees do find it difficult to collect and can only gather it in small quantities, as the pollen of wind-pollinated hazel is not sticky and each pollen grain repels against another.

The tree trunks are often covered in mosses, liverworts and lichens and the fiery milkspore fungus grows in the soil beneath.

Hazel also has many uses for people: it can be twisted or knotted and as such historically has been used for thatching spars, net stakes, water divining sticks, hurdles and furniture. Today, hazel coppicing is an important management strategy in the conservation of woodland habitats for wildlife, while the resulting timber can be used as garden pea sticks and bean poles.

Until the early 1900s Hazel was grown in the UK for the large-scale production of nuts; cultivated varieties, known as cob nuts are still grown commercially in Kent, but the majority of our hazel/cob nuts are now imported.

# ROMAN ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEWTON ON THE GREEN

In Issue No 3 of the Assington News magazine of March 1975 (a lovely faded copy of which I have unearthed), there is the following report:

“Roundabout

*Well, Well*

*Some time before Christmas Mr. F. D. Salter of Newton Green Antiques, allowed me a privileged glimpse at his newly discovered Roman well, which he came across by accident - and very nearly a nasty one! - while exploring his old shop premises, formerly the grocery stores and post office. Mr Frank Rowland has now written a thought-provoking article about this discovery in “Suffolk Free Press”. The well is 30 ft. deep, almost as big as the one at Colchester Keep. The bottom is brick built and the top section of flint. The special cement that the Romans used remains as strong today as ever it was. Now the Colchester Roman Society is speculating on whether a Roman villa, inn or watering station lies under Newton Green. They would just love to do a dig under Mr Salter’s shop but, after all the painstaking work of restoration he has done - and is still doing - he is unlikely to agree to this.”*

\*\*\*\*\*

## ....and there is a Roman Road too!...

A little flimsy research on my part has led me also to the following information on local Roman archaeology:

A length of Roman road (Margary 322) runs across (beneath!) the Newton Green Golf Course.

Apparently The Margary 322 is the Roman road from Colchester to Long Melford, detailed by Ivan Margary.

I expect many of us were already aware that a Roman road ran northwards from Colchester, its route as follows:

- Colchester
- Mile End
- Great Horkesley
- Leavenheath (Newton Green)
- Sudbury
- Long Melford

The name of this road is the **Pye Road**, which is a Roman road running from the capital of the Iceni at Venta Icenorum (Caistor St Edmund near Norwich) to the original Roman provincial capital and legionary base at Camulodunum (Colchester), partly sharing a route with the A140 road. The road was later extended, connecting it to the new provincial capital north of the

bridge over the Thames at Londinium (London), although that part of the route is also known by the name the **Great Road**.

Between Colchester and London, the path of the former gravel road is not as certain, but it is believed to follow Ilford’s High Street, Romford Road (A118), a now unpaved route through the present Olympic Park, and then the line of Whitechapel Road to Aldgate in the northeast corner of the City of London.



## Nick Peasland

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# PARISH CHURCH NEWS

## *Letter from the Revd Mary Cantacuzene*

Dear Friends

This cheerful "welcome" notice was spotted outside a church in London:

"We extend a welcome at St Edmund's to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, gender fluid, rich, poor or penniless. We welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers. We welcome those who sing like Adele and those who just growl quietly to themselves. We welcome those who are just browsing, have just woken up or have just been released from prison.

We welcome those who attend church more than the Archbishop of Canterbury and those who have not darkened the doors of a church since they were on the way home from that Christmas party ten years ago. We welcome those who are over 60 but haven't quite grown up and to teenagers who seem to be growing up too fast. We welcome those who are in recovery or who are still addicted.

We welcome those who are having problems, down in the dumps, angry with God or who don't like 'organised religion'. We're not that struck on it either. We welcome those who work too hard, those who don't work, can't work, can't spell, feel they aren't very good at stuff or are here because their mother is visiting for the weekend and it's more than their lives are worth not to go to church with her and look as though they're enjoying themselves.

We welcome those who are inked, pierced or both. We welcome those who could use a prayer right now, who have screwed up monumentally or who'd like to light a candle but don't quite know why. We welcome those who find the whole idea of God a bit odd, who've been damaged by religion, were force-fed religion as children and those who've wound up here by mistake. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, migrants, asylum seekers, neighbours, explorers, doubters and those who prefer to travel rather than to arrive. God - however you perceive him, her or it - welcomes you and we at St Edmund's will try our level best to do the same."

So ... we welcome YOU ... whoever you are!

With love in Him, **Mary**



## Schedule of services at Assington Church

- 5 April 10.30 Palm Sunday Holy Communion
- 9 April 7.30pm Maunday Supper **at Bures**
- 10 April 2pm Good Friday Service of Contemplation
- 12 April 10.30 Easter Family Communion
- 19 April 10.30 Family Service
- 26 April 10.30 Morning Worship

Vicar: Rev Steve Morley 227407  
Reader: Dr John Symons 211534  
Associate  
Priest: Rev Simon White 07572 418555  
Organist: Bronwen Stacey 210354  
Sec: Emily Cartlidge 07976 724266  
Treasurer: Ian Clark 211133  
Churchwardens:  
Roger Britcher 211021  
Bronwen Stacey 210354

## The Catholic Church of Our Lady and St John, Sudbury

(on The Croft off Gregory Street).

Parish Priest: Father Peter Brett,  
Tel: 01787 372703  
Services: Saturday 5pm, Sunday 9.15am,  
Tuesday 9.30am, Thursday 9.30am,  
Confession: Saturday 10.30am and on request.

## Bures Baptist Church

High Street, Bures, CO8 5JG  
10.30am every Sunday  
Youth Club on most Fridays during term time

## Sudbury Quaker Meeting

Friars Street, Sudbury, 01787 371303  
Meetings: 10.30 – 11.30 on Sundays  
Park at the Quay Theatre or the Leisure Centre

# EXCERPTS FROM A PRIVATE AUTOBIOGRAPHY of MAJOR HENRY O TOMKINS

(1894 - ?1980) of Assington and The Kings Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.....continued



## From Bob Cowlin

*Henry lived in the village as a child between about 1895 and 1908, when he joined the army at the age of 14.*

**Excerpts from his accounts began in the February edition and will continue to be printed over future months:**

### PART THREE

Sometimes we would earn a bit of pocket money by doing odd jobs. One of the fields owned by Mr Dyer of Hill Farm was full of stones which were churned up by the plough. They were a nuisance particularly at harvest time. He would employ kids to pick these stones for the magnificent sum of sixpence per bushel (8 gallons or 36 litres capacity Ed.) If anyone of you who read this should feel desirous of doing a bit of slave labour, I advise you not to go in for stone picking. It is back and heart breaking and a bushel of stones is an awful lot. We would take a couple of buckets or some other large tins, go down to the field and stake out our claim. Then we would fill the buckets, walk about 500 yards to the farmyard where a bushel skip would be standing. I think we had to fill our buckets at least 20 times before the skip was full. However sixpence was a lot of money and the job kept us out of mischief. One Saturday morning I went up to Hill Farm and asked whether I might pick some stones. My request was granted. After about two and a half hours I had had enough so I clocked off having received my threepence for half a bushel. I did not tell the others because they would have wanted a share. Naturally I spent the money and thoroughly enjoyed the fruits of my labour: sweets and woodbines.

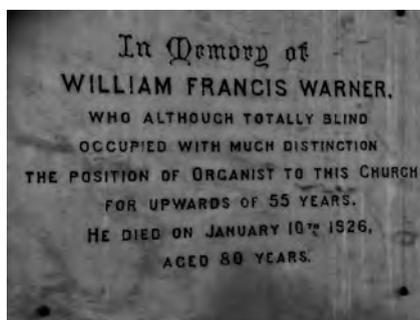
It so happened at about this time three pennies were missing from the top of the dresser in the kitchen and no one would own up to having taken them. My conscience was clear and I strongly denied being guilty. Now Dad had a slogan which he often said:

***'He that takes what isn't His'n  
Shall be copped and sent to prison'***

Although no one gave me away, the fact that I had recently bought sweets became known. A day or so afterwards, Arthur came to me in the Street and said Dad wanted me at once. When I arrived, I found the village Bobby present, PC Gooch. I admitted buying sweets and told them where I had got the money. They didn't believe me. I stuck to my guns so Dad told Jack to put the pony in the trap and I was taken under escort with the Bobby to Boxford Police Station. In the meantime Dad walked up to Hill Farm and confirmed my story with Mr Dyer. When I returned, Dad apologised for not accepting my story and gave me threepence to spend. It all put the fear of God into me but it was a wonderful lesson. Of course the real thief was then found to be my younger sister Winnie. She had watched me go through merry hell when all the time she had the threepence tucked in her stocking. All she got was her backside smacked and I don't think I ever forgave her for that.

I do not think I have given a description of the village and what it contained. On turning the corner from the Church one passed Hill Farm and the next house on the left hand side was The Hollies. The Coach house and the Stables came next and then the Pub, the Shoulder of Mutton. Then more houses up to the Shop and Post Office. (now Nos 19/20 The Street, Ed) After that came the Wheelwright and Saw Pits owned by the Bells. Then over a green to Jane Gentry's. More houses and then the Blacksmith's Forge. Then a few more houses and across a field to the Barracks. (? now called Partridge Row in Barracks Road Ed.) These were not military establishments but two rows of cottages built, it was said, by the contractor who had built the barracks in Colchester. The bricks and other materials were diverted and dumped in Assington, for the benefit of the said contractor. Coming back through the village, up The Street, one passed the Co-Operative Farm (or Society Farm, now Willow Tree Farm, Ed) and then several rows of cottages until one came to the Paddock, opposite the Hollies, then the School, a few more houses, until one came to Mr Wheal's House, (now The Old Vicarage, Ed) opposite Hill Farm. So there was the Pub, the Post Office and shop, another small shop which sold a few groceries, tobacco and cigarettes. And then of course Jane Gentry's, who sold sweets. Now Jane was the prototype of Old Mother Riley with her little old bonnet and shawl. I can remember the boxes of sweets piled up just inside the door. Sometimes they were crawling with flies and wasps but that did not matter as we got more sweets from her than we did from the Shop. The fellow who kept the small cigarette shop was known as Blow Rice. He had a son, known as Freddie Blow and we used to give him our pennies to buy a packet of Woodbines for us when we used to go up to the wood and have a good smoke. I cannot tell why it was, but we were never found out.

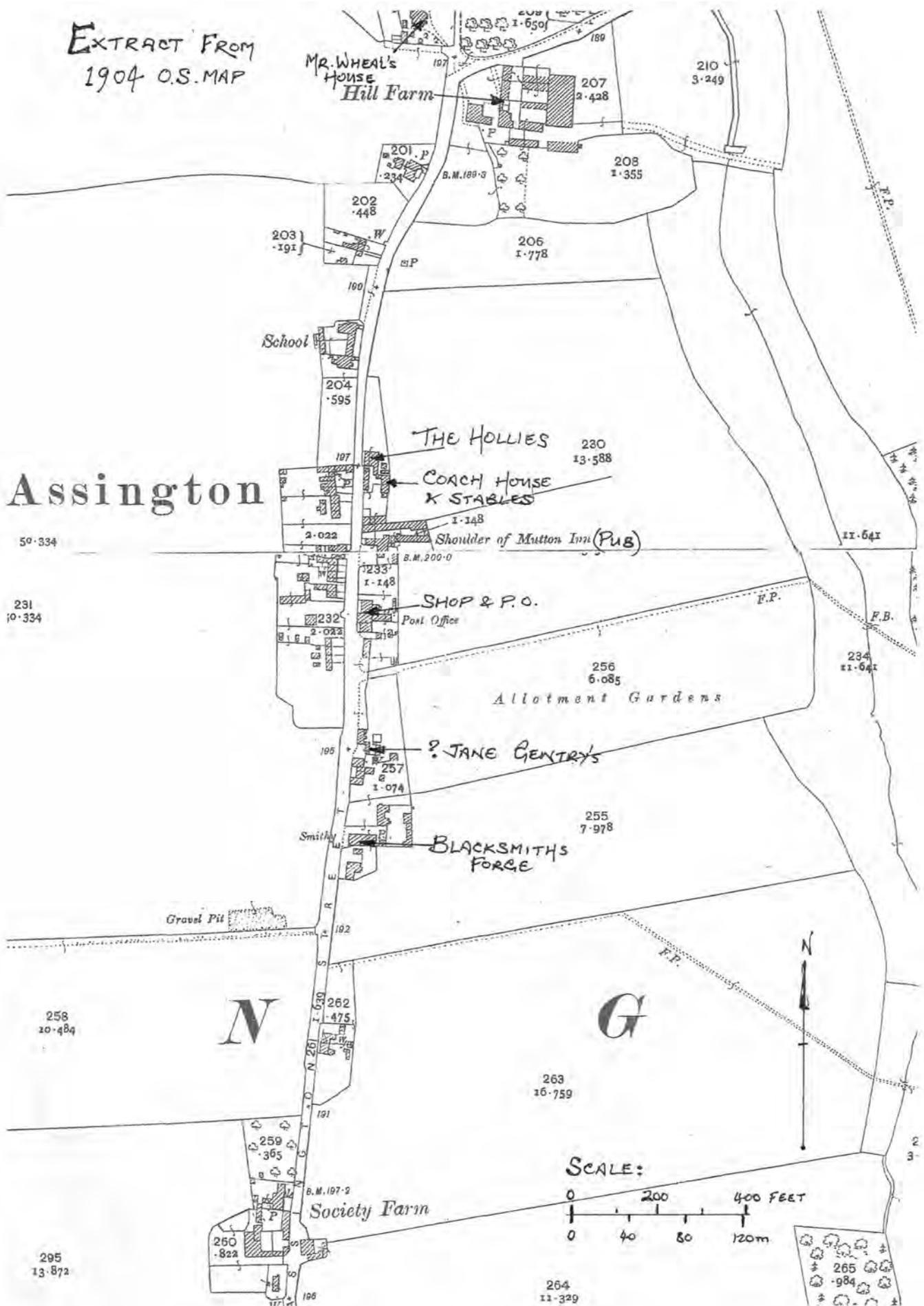
Jane Gentry really was a character. She had living with her a blind man – a Mr Warner – always known to us as Blind Warner. With what degree of intimacy they lived is not known. Although blind from birth, Blind Warner was a gifted musician and for many many years was the Church organist. Twice on Sundays we would see Jane leading him arm-in-arm to the Church. She would work the bellows. Always when we had little sing songs round the piano at home, Blind Warner would be there. At every function where a pianist was needed he would operate. Dad would take him to smoking concerts where he could earn a little sum although I believe that he had a certain income from somewhere. Laundry to Mother was always a bit of a problem with a household of nine so old Lou Smith from Further Street would turn up every Monday and get on with the job. On Tuesdays, Blind Warner would roll up to turn the mangle, after which he would sit in the kitchen with a pint of beer and talk to us. He lived to a right old age, was buried in Assington Churchyard and a plaque hangs to his memory in the Chancel of the Church.



The vicar was Dr H H Banham, and if ever there was a Christian Gentleman, he was it. I believe he was comparatively

wealthy and was the kindest man I have ever known. The Church was packed every Sunday morning and evening. In the summer time we all had to attend both main services as well as Sunday School. In fact, Sunday was quite a gala day. More often than not, Dad would attend both services, in the morning, he would be togged out in his morning coat and top hat, and in the evening in a lounge suit. All the elite of the village wore top hats. We had our own pew which was fourth from the pulpit. The folk from the Hall had their pews in the Chancel and any strangers who came in would have to stand, unless some of the regulars were absent. What a pity there are no more like Dr Banham. His wonderful personality gained him the respect of everyone and they all showed it by their attendance at Church..

Bob Cowlin has identified some of the places mentioned in the Henry Tomkins article, but if you can add any further details (or corrections?), please do let us know. Does anybody know the exact location of Jane Gentry's former residence?



# PALESTINE PILGRIMAGE

By RBW

At this time of year it is usual for holiday companies and church groups to organise tours to the Holy Land; Holy Days they are in the most literal sense, and in the Middle Ages pilgrims dared the most appalling dangers to attempt journeys to the holy places and thus gain themselves eternal Christian merit. Even in 1480, near the end of the Mediaeval period the journey was not without tribulations and dangers.

My own pilgrimage was neither as expensive as the current ones nor as dangerous as those of the Middle Ages, in fact I was paid to make my journey and I had no say in the basic arrangements. As you may have already guessed I was sent to Palestine in the course of my service in the RAF during the Second World War, - to a Transit Centre in Jerusalem of all places.

Looking back I feel that I must have failed to take full advantage of the marvellous opportunities presented to me during my stay in the Holy Land, - but then again I probably reacted quite normally for a twenty-three year old serviceman in wartime and in a country where travelling was not easy and in fact, was often restricted by the efforts of anti-British terrorist attacks from the Stern Gang and other proscribed Jewish military organisations.

My colleagues and I had travelled from a disembarkation camp at Port Fouad which was little more than a number of tents pitched on sandy soil, or soiled sand. I joined the train to Jerusalem at El Kantare on the Suez Canal. The train travelled north through Gaza to Lydda where it left the main south-north

line and turned east for the climb to Jerusalem. I seem to remember being more impressed by Lydda than by Gaza or any of the other towns and villages we travelled through but that was probably due to its association with St George, who is buried there. The train laboured

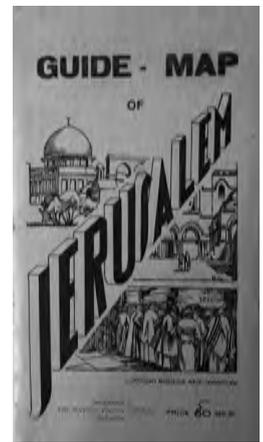
had often to be made to avoid the roadblocks set up in terrorist attacks on Palestine Police posts and barracks.

Buying a map of Jerusalem for 50 mils (reduced from 60 mils) from the Matson Photo Service I systematically visited the 'Places of Interest' noted therein, more in the manner of a tourist than a pilgrim, I regret to say. The first place on the list was the church of the Holy Sepulchre and this was, in retrospect, understandably, a disappointment to me. My ideas and expectations rejected the shabby splendour of the furnishings of the church, the many candles, lamps and

ikons and other items, (now familiar to people who frequently travel abroad to Greece and other countries where the Greek Orthodox Church is the central faith). Likewise I found it difficult to reconcile the short distance between the sites of Calvary ( the Green Hill far away, outside the city walls) and the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. Since that time I have read about the archaeological history of those sites and I can now understand and accept more readily the position than I was able to then, in my 'youth'. However, I must have been sufficiently impressed by the authenticity of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre to have obtained a Certificate of Pilgrimage signed by the Guardian of the Church, the Very Reverend Archimenterite Kyriakos .

That visit was rounded off by my first taste of Turkish coffee in a shop quite near the entrance to the courtyard in front of the Church. Although I was not converted to the Turkish manner of drinking coffee, sipping alternately from a small cup of the strong brew and then from a small cup of hot water, I enjoyed sitting in the shop, conversing with my friends and the shop keeper and watching the haggling which was obviously an integral part of Eastern salesmanship.

I wandered at different times through the Old City streets - sometimes open to the sky and sometimes roofed over with



up the winding climb up into the bare Judean hills, the Arab children running alongside the railway track, asking for baksheesh.

In Jerusalem we were despatched to our quarters in the Italian, German and English Hospitals, which were not, despite their names, hospitals, but hospices. These were all situated in the Street of the Prophets north west of the old walled city, and in fact had rather bare inhospitable interiors.

Conditions in Jerusalem and Palestine generally at that time were on a guerrilla style footing: in the city the sounds of explosions, small arms firing and shrieking car tyres sometimes shattered the evening quiet and in the countryside detours



arches, but always narrow and crowded. I could easily imagine dark deeds being perpetrated there and I was not a little frightened at times when I let my imagination run riot... but the worst sight which I saw there - despite the national unrest - was the meat laid out for sale: it was always covered in flies and revolted my senses so much that I would have turned vegetarian there and then if I had been responsible for providing my own food!

Almost every visit to the Old City was connected with some part of the Old Testament story: one day I visited the wailing wall to see the remaining base of the wall of



sale there of souvenir Freemason Gavels made from the remaining stone.

Soloman's Temple - against which the Orthodox Jews were performing their mournful devotions - and on another day I visited King Solomon's quarries from which the stones for the Temple were said to have been hewn. The entrance to these Quarries was outside the city walls, between Herod's Gate and the Damascus Gate, and the Quarries burrowed through large caverns for great distances under the Old City; it seemed an anti-climax to find the



The Nablus Road leads northwards from the Damascus Gate of the Old City.

Approximately 100 yards up that road I came across a typically English place of interest named The Garden Tomb. This consisted of a cliff face, the hill top above it and a piece of level ground in front of it, thought by The English Society who owned it, to be the true place of Christ's Sepulchre and possibly, I believe, the place of crucifixion, on the hill above. Rock tombs were cut in the cliff face and one of them was pointed out by the very English retired Oxford Don who was the Guardian of the place, as the one owned by Joseph of Arimathea. He also suggested to us that the geographical aspect of the whole hillside could easily have been the reason for naming it Golgotha in the time of Christ. Apparently General Gordon was one of the first people to believe in this identity of the place, and I must admit that, after the learned and very convincing explanation which the Guardian gave us, I found it more credible that this was the site of the cross at Calvary, and of the Tomb where Christ's body was laid.

\*\*\*\*\*

## JERUSALEM A Historical Sketch

The beginning of Jerusalem lies back in the haze of prehistoric times: The first time it appears in the light of recorded history is in about 2100BC when king Melchisedek met with Abraham in the Valley of the Kings and offered his sacrifice to the 'Most High God'. In the Egyptian and Babylonian literature it occurs under the name of Urusalimu. During the time of Joshua it was called Jebus. In c1000BC King David took it from the Jebusites and made it his capital. Solomon, his son, built a magnificent Temple by the help of Phoenician architects. But in 587 BC city and temple were burnt down by Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. The people were carried into captivity. 50 years afterwards Cyrus, king of Persia, having conquered the Babylonian empire, allowed the Jews to return home. They rebuilt the temple and city in a more modern style. In 332 Alexander the Great took Jerusalem.

The Romans entered the city under their general Pompey in 63 BC. In the days of Herod the Great Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem. Herod the Great renovated both the city and the temple magnificently. After Herod's death Roman procurators were appointed. One of them was Pontius Pilate, who condemned Jesus Christ to death.

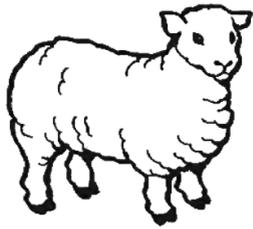
City and temple were stormed under Titus in 70 AD. After a new revolt in 132 under Bar Kochba the name Jerusalem was changed to Aelia Capitolina after the name of the emperor Aurelius Hadrianus. He rebuilt the city in the Roman style in 135 AD and erected pagan temples on the sites of Golgotha and the Temple. The Emperor Constantine, with the help of his pious mother Helena, constructed in 335 a magnificent basilica over Golgotha and the Holy Sepulchre. In 614 AD the Persians devastated Palestine, captured Jerusalem, demolished all sanctuaries and massacred nearly 60,000 people.

In 637 AD Jerusalem surrendered to the Arabs, who for some centuries were tolerably merciful towards the Christians. In the 11th century, however, the caliph Hakim destroyed all Christian places and persecuted the followers of Christ. This led to the Crusades: Godfrey de Bouillon captured the city in July 1099. A short-lived Latin Kingdom was established. Owing to lack of unity between the Christian rulers, the Crusaders suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of Saladin in 1187 AD. In 1244 the Tatars heaped ruin upon ruin. Later the Marmelukes of Egypt ruled the country until 1516, when the Turks under Selim I took possession of it.

In the mid-nineteenth century with the decline of the Ottoman empire, and as a result of its significance to Judaism, Christianity and Islam, the population of Jerusalem was divided into four major communities: Jewish, Christian, Muslim and Armenian. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre was meticulously partitioned between the Greek Orthodox, Catholic, Armenian, Coptic and Ethiopian churches. Tensions between the groups ran so deep that the keys to the shrine and its doors were safeguarded by a pair of 'neutral' Muslim families.

The British were victorious over the Ottomans in the Middle East during World War I and victory in Palestine was a step towards dismemberment of that empire. In December 1917, General Allenby, Commander-in-chief of the British forces, entered the Holy City. However, British rule marked a period of growing unrest. Arab resentment at British rule and the influx of Jewish immigrants boiled over into anti-Jewish riots, to which the Jewish community organised self-defence forces, carrying out bombings and attacks against the British.

In November 1947 The UN General Assembly approved a plan to partition the British Mandate of Palestine into two states: one Jewish and one Arab. Each state would be composed of three major sections. Expanded Jerusalem would fall under international control as a *Corpus Separatum*. \*\*\*



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## NEWS FROM SESAW

There was just enough warmth in the March sunshine for a hardworking cat to enjoy a nap until the garden was filled with chatter and laughter. A happy group of volunteers including Mother (she should know better) disturbed my slumber as they posed for a group photo. Actually they had good reason to celebrate having received a cheque for £3251 from Support Adoption for Pets, the charitable arm of Pets at Home. This was raised at the Colchester shop during the Santa Paws event last Christmas. The store has also chosen SESAW as its Charity of the Year for 2020.

If you have visited our website recently you will know our fundraising is currently on hold due to the Coronavirus outbreak. Consequently we can only accept donated goods by prior arrangement via email or phone. We have some very pretty cats awaiting new homes but please consider my fellow felines that are black or black and white. Most of them are very affectionate, not "superior", as Kenneth the Chihuahua describes me, just because I recline in high places. He doesn't realise I look out for buzzards circling overhead but none of us saw a sparrow hawk until it swooped recently. That's the third dove it's taken this year.

As dusk approaches Kenneth makes his way cautiously indoors, not in his usual confident, I'm fireproof, manner. He may be annoying but the little chap will be alright if he sticks with me, Ollie (the Black) Cat.

Suffolk & Essex Small Animal Welfare, Reg. Charity  
 No.1124029, Stoke Road,  
 Leavenheath, CO6 4PP.  
 Tel: 01787  
 210888, [www.sesaw.co.uk](http://www.sesaw.co.uk).  
 Please check opening hours  
 before visiting.



## BOXFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

### By Callie Bradbury

Our new year is passing by very quickly with lots of exciting news to tell you. Before half term we had a bake sale and we raised £146 for our school.

We have had World Book Day with some very amazing costumes for all pupils and staff from the school. The staff all dressed up as people from Charlie and The Chocolate Factory:

- Mrs Hammersley (reception teacher) was VIOLET
- Miss Sweeting (year three teacher) was an OOMPA LOOMPA
- Mrs Cook (year six teacher) was also an OOMPA LOOMPA
- Mr Hood (year two teacher) was WILLY WONKA
- Mr Griffiths (year one teacher) was GRANDPA
- Mrs Bull (year five teacher) was a CHOCOLATE BAR
  - Miss Hyde (other year three teacher) was MIKE TEAVEE
  - Mrs Flockhart (year six assistant teacher) was VERUCA SALT

As it was Sport Relief our school dressed up in sport clothes to raise money. We also were doing sport events so we could take part in Sport Relief as most schools did too. It was a very good day for raising money and hopefully we helped some lives and did what we could.



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THE CINEMA NIGHTS  
ARE TEMPORARILY  
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To book an appointment call **07484 648932** or send an email to [nailsbygrace@btinternet.com](mailto:nailsbygrace@btinternet.com)

I look forward to hearing from you.

# ASSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING UPDATES:

■ Application Reference: **DC/19/04391**

Erection of up to 19 No. Dwellings.  
Land East Of The Barn At Assington  
Babergh District Council as Local Planning Authority, hereby give notice that **OUTLINE PLANNING PERMISSION HAS BEEN REFUSED** for the following reasons:

1. The proposed development, by virtue of its scale, density and location, would adversely impact the character and appearance of the area, including the landscape qualities of the Special Landscape Area, contrary to Saved Policy CR04 of the Babergh Local Plan 2006, Policies CS11 and CS15 of the Babergh Core Strategy 2014 and the National Planning Policy Framework 2019 in particular paragraphs 8 and 170.

2. The proposed development would be outside of the Built Up Area Boundary of Assington and it has not been adequately demonstrated that there is an identified local need for the proposal. As such the development is contrary to Policy CS11 of the Babergh Core Strategy 2014.

**SUMMARY OF POLICIES WHICH ARE RELEVANT TO THE DECISION:**

- CR04 - Special Landscape Areas**
- CN01 - Design Standards**
- TP15 - Parking Standards - New Development**
- CS01 - Applying the presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development in Babergh CS02 - Settlement Pattern Policy**
- CS11 - Core and Hinterland Villages**
- CS15 - Implementing Sustainable Development**
- CS18 - Mix and Types of Dwellings**
- CS19 - Affordable Homes**
- NPPF - National Planning Policy Framework**

■ Application Reference: **DC/19/05831**

The Case Restaurant, Further Street, Assington, Sudbury Suffolk CO10 5LD  
Planning Application. Change of use, external works and conversion of existing restaurant/ancillary residential unit and outbuilding which currently provides 7 x no bed and breakfast rooms to provide 5 x no dwellings with a new vehicular access (Existing access to be retained)  
Babergh District Council as Local Planning Authority, hereby give notice that **PLANNING PERMISSION HAS BEEN REFUSED** for the development proposed in the application in accordance with the particulars and plans listed in section A for the following reasons:

1. The proposal fails to accord with the developments permitted within the countryside, contrary to Policy CS2 of the Babergh Core Strategy (2014). The Policy states that development in the countryside will only be permitted in the countryside in exceptional circumstances, where a justifiable need is proven. No sufficient justifiable need has been provided. Furthermore, the development fails to comply with the requirements of paragraph 8 of the NPPF, with the proposed development not considered to form sustainable development, with particular with regards to the poor access to services and sustainable transport links. Due to these failings, it is necessary to assess the application under Policy CS11.

CS11 states that development in Hinterland Villages will be approved where proposals are able to demonstrate a close functional relationship to the existing settlement. The proposal is not considered to accord with this Policy because it does not form a close functional relationship with any main village. There are no basic services within a safe walking distance as there are no footpaths linking to Assington or Newton. Development is sporadic and there is no definitive pattern of development leading to the main

village.

The proposed development is situated on land outside of any settlement boundary remote from services and would lead to reliance on private car use which would not promote healthy living or sustainable transport, contrary to policy CS15 of the Babergh Core Strategy (2014) and paragraphs 8, 91, 103, 117 and 122 of the NPPF.

As such the proposal is not acceptable in principle, being contrary to paragraphs 8, 91, 103, 117 and 122 of the NPPF (2019) and Policies CS2, CS11 and CS15 of the Core Strategy (2014).

2. The proposal is contrary to Policy EM24 of the Babergh Local Plan. Although a marketing campaign was undertaken, this was not agreed with BMSDC and therefore does not accord with the Policy, and it has not been demonstrated how the premises is unsuitable or not viable for full employment use in this area.

**3. SUMMARY OF POLICIES WHICH ARE RELEVANT TO THE DECISION: CN01 - Design Standards**

- CN06 - Listed Buildings - Alteration/Ext/COU**
- CS01 - Applying the presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development in Babergh CS02 - Settlement Pattern Policy**
- CS11 - Core and Hinterland Villages**
- CS15 - Implementing Sustainable Development**
- TP15 - Parking Standards - New Development**
- EM24 - Retention of Existing Employment Sites**
- NPPF - National Planning Policy Framework**

■ Application Reference: **DC/19/05808**

The submission of 'Reserved' details relating to the Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale for up to 7 dwellings at Land At Assington Barns,  
Babergh District Council as Local Planning Authority, hereby give notice that these **RESERVED MATTERS HAVE BEEN APPROVED** in accordance with the application particulars and plans listed in section A subject to notified conditions.

## ASSINGTON RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURES

Bill Milner and Bob Cowlin

**2016 TOTAL 599.5**  
**2017 TOTAL 571**  
**2018 TOTAL 559**  
**2019 TOTAL 597**

\*\*\*\*\*

2018	mm	max	min
JAN	60.5	11°C	-3°C
FEB	41	9°C	-8°C
MAR	74	14°C	-5°C
APR	49.5	26.5°C	+1°C

\*\*\*\*\*

2019	mm	max	min
JAN	23.5	9°C	-8°C
FEB	19.5	16°C	-5°C
MAR	44	19°C	-3°C
APR	18.5	24°C	-3°C
MAY	54	26°C	+1°C
JUNE	94.5	29°C	5°C
JULY	36.5	34.5°C	6.5°C
AUG	31.5	31°C	7°C
SEP	37.5	24°C	2°C
OCT	90	18 °C	-2°C
NOV	69.5	12 °C	-5°C
DEC	78	10 °C	-5°C

\*\*\*\*\*

2020	mm	max	min
JAN	33.5	10 C	-5°C
FEB	56	11°C	-3°C

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If your child already receives SCC funded travel you still need to opt-in every year.

If your child is starting secondary school in September 2020 and they are eligible for SCC funded school travel you will be contacted by the 30 March 2020. You will need to opt-in if you would like your child to use this service.

If your child is starting primary school in September 2020 and they are eligible for SCC funded school travel you will be contacted by the 15 May. You will need to opt in if you would like your child to use this service.

For more information on the SCC school travel policy and getting your child to school please visit;

[www.suffolkonboard.com/optin](http://www.suffolkonboard.com/optin)

## **Guide to Suffolk County Council's (SCC's) funded school travel policy:**

### **Who does it apply to?**

SCC's funded school travel policy provides children aged 5-16 years old with funded school travel to their nearest suitable school with an available place. This applies to children starting a new school from September 2020 or moving home. To be eligible for SCC funded school travel children would have to be.

- Under 8 years old and living over 2 miles from their nearest suitable school with an available place.
- Between 8 – 16 years old and living over 3 miles from their nearest suitable school which an available place. SCC's policy on school transport changed in September 2019. From this date there are no Transport Priority Areas (areas where children would receive funded school travel to a particular school over and above the statutory minimum distance).

### **Safe route to walk to school**

SCC will also provide funded school travel where there is no safe route to walk to school:

- SCC funded school travel will be provided for children attending their nearest suitable school, which is less than the statutory walking distance, if it is considered unsafe for the child, accompanied as necessary, to walk to school.
- This entitlement will continue as long as the route remains unsafe. **Low income extended rights**  
Children will qualify for SCC funded school travel if their parents are in receipt of the maximum Working Tax Credit or the child is entitled to Free School Meals due to low income, if:
  - Aged 8 to 10 and the school is at least 2 miles away.
  - The school is between 2 and 6 miles (if aged 11-16 and there are not three or more suitable nearer schools).
  - Children are entitled to SCC funded school travel however far they live from their school if they cannot reasonably be expected to walk to school or their education setting, accompanied as necessary, because of their SEN, a disability or mobility problem.

- The entitlement for children with special educational needs and disabilities or mobility difficulties is assessed against the statutory School Travel Policy except where a child's Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) expressly states that travel should be provided.

### **•Measuring nearest suitable school**

- We include Public Rights of Way when measuring the distance from home to school for eligibility purposes.

- Public Rights of Way are usually available all year round; but if they are not accessible, parents can appeal.

- Distances are measured by the shortest available route along which a child, accompanied as necessary, may walk with reasonable safety.

- Distances are measured from the point of the network that is closest to the address point of the child's home to the gate or access to the school or college.

- Routes are calculated using a network comprised of the Ordnance Survey Mastermap Highways Network which includes all roads and urban paths, plus Public Rights of Way.

### **Opting in for SCC funded school travel**

All parents whose children are eligible for SCC funded school travel must opt in by the **31 May each year** for transport to be provided in the following school year. This will not be provided automatically.

This is because some families, although eligible for SCC funded school travel, do not use their seat(s) which means is paying for unused seats. Therefore, we are asking families to opt-in.

### **New pupils:**

For those starting at secondary/upper schools in September 2020 parents will be informed if their child is eligible by 30 March 2020.

For those starting at primary/middle schools in September 2020, parents will be informed if their child is eligible for SCC funded travel by 15 May 2020.

If their child is eligible parents must opt-in by **31 May 2020** for SCC funded school travel to ensure it is in place for September 2020.

### **Returning pupils:**

Pupils that have used SCC funded school travel before must opt-in every year by 31 May if they wish to continue to use it in September 2020. If they have moved house or changed schools they will be re-assessed under the 2020/2021 school travel policy.

### **Spare Seats**

SCC will offer 'spare seats' on school buses for students to buy on a first come, first served basis. Spare seats can be applied for from **1 July 2020**.

The cost of a spare seat for the year will be £780 in September 2020 with phased in

•increases of £30 per term (£90 per year). This is to reduce the public subsidy Suffolk County Council provides.

### **•Post-16**

•SCC will provide Post-16 travel to those students who are attending their nearest school sixth form or Post-16 centre, irrespective of the county boundary, and:

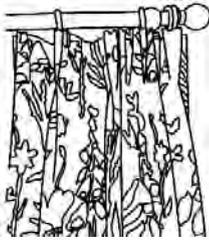
- are full-time learners aged 16-18, or aged 19 and over and continuing to attend the same course started before they were 19; or relevant adult learners with Education, Health and Care Plans aged 19-25
- are undertaking an approved full-time course of further education study
- are normally resident in Suffolk
- live at least three miles away from either their nearest school sixth form or Post-16 centre

For students wishing to study more specialist subjects or courses which are not available at their nearest school sixth form or nearest Post-16 centre, applications will be considered on an individual exceptional basis. Applications will be offered only to the nearest centre offering this programme where this is needed to enable the student to progress.

**The policy does not apply to young people who are planning to take part in a traineeship, an apprenticeship or a supported internship.**

The cost of travel for 2020/2021 for post 16 students will be £840 for mainstream students and £720 for a student with special educational needs.

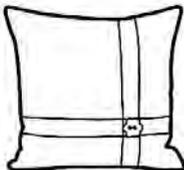
# Little House Designs



Based at Cootes Cottage, Assington, I specialise in machine embroidery and design. With 40 years experience working in textiles I can help you refresh your home with new curtains, blinds and personalised items including cushions & framed embroidery.



I can visit you in your home to discuss your requirements or you are very welcome to come to see me at the cottage. I can show you examples of my work, fabric books and colour options, talk through different ideas and give you a quote without obligation.



If you have any ideas you would like to discuss, or want some help to create the look you are after, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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## BOOK REVIEW:

## “MEN AND FIELDS”

*By Adrian Bell*



The writer Adrian Bell 1901-1980 was apprenticed in his youth to a Suffolk farmer at Bradfield St George and later lived for many years in an ancient farmhouse called Creems at Wissington. He was also the first compiler of The Times Crossword.

In *Men and the Fields* (1939) he describes in some detail the area named Spouse's Grove on the Assington/ Bures border. The first time Bell visits the wooded area he is greatly enamoured of the tall Oak trees forming a 'cathedral' over his head and the Springtime wild flowers: Violets and Primroses, carpeting the ground. On his second visit he finds that the Oaks have been brutally felled and the wild flowers smothered by the debris. An old man whom he says lives in a nearby cottage (possibly at Tiger Hill) is gathering firewood and carting it home on his back.

For anyone who loves the countryside of the Stour Valley I recommend reading Adrian Bell. His books for the most part describe a lost world or a world on the point of being lost. But take a walk this Spring in Spouse's Grove (or Vale as it

is now called) and you will find that the Oaks once more sway above you and the Primroses and Bluebells grow in profusion beside the Assington brook.

*From Ellie Mead*

# VILLAGE DIARY 2020

One Saturday per month	Mobile Library in Assington	The Shoulder of Mutton pub, 16.15 – 16.35
Wednesdays	Paper Kite Yoga	Village Hall, 7.30pm-9pm <i>Sophia Howard 313662 or 07968 165185</i>
Thursdays	Happy Sounds Community Choir	Village Hall, 6.00-7.45pm <i>Nettie Osman 07957 395780</i>
Mon & Wed	Art Classes	Village Hall, 10 - 3 <i>Belinda King – 210932, to go on the waiting list.</i>

## April

*Current advice would be to check prior to attending some events:*

1	'Village Night' in the pub, Neighbourhood Plan spin off	Shoulder of Mutton
4 - 19	10am-6pm Easter Adventure Quest @ Audley End	Audley End House & Garden
5	10.30 Palm Sunday Holy Communion Service	Assington, St Edmund's Church
9	7.30pm Maunday Supper	Bures St Marys Church
10	2pm Good Friday Service of Contemplation	Assington, St Edmund's Church
10 - 13	11.00am-5.00pm Easter at Kentwell	Kentwell Hall, Long Melford
11	9.30am - 1pm Long Melford's Farmers Market	Village Hall Long Melford
12	<b>10.30am Easter Sunday Family Communion</b>	<b>Assington, St Edmund's Church</b>
12-13	11am - 5pm Easter Steam Up @ Suffolk Light Railway	Brockford Station Wetheringsett
12-13	10am - 5pm Easter Country Show	Elvedon Estate, Thetford.
15	<b>7.30pm Meeting of Assington Community Events Team</b>	<b>The Shoulder of Mutton</b>
19	<b>10.30am Family Service</b>	<b>Assington, St Edmund's Church</b>
23	<b>9.30am - 11am Baby and Toddler Group</b>	<b>Village Hall</b>
24	9.30am - 2pm Sudbury's Farmers Market	St Peter's Church Sudbury
26	10.30am Morning Worship	Assington, St Edmund's Church
26	10am - 1.30pm Lavenham's Farmers Market	Lavenham Village Hall

The Assington News is a community magazine funded primarily through the adverts placed in it and **donations**, for which we are always most grateful, *thank you so much* : **Bank Account no 01345159, sort code 30 98 31** or **Cheques** can be payable to The Assington Association, c/o Bob Cowlin at Mill Farm, Bures Road, Assington, CO10 5LZ.

**Editor: Bronwen Stacey, 01787 210354. Email: [bronwenstacey@btinternet.com](mailto:bronwenstacey@btinternet.com)**

All contributions are welcomed, whether stories, poems or personal news e.g. weddings or birth, though we reserve editorial discretion as to their acceptability for publication

**Advertisements**, personal or commercial, are accepted at rates which may be obtained from the treasurer, **Bob Cowlin, tel: 229955**, but we do not accept responsibility for any of the goods or services they may offer.

**DEADLINE for COPY: 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the month you wish your submission to be printed**

The Crown Stoke by Nayland, is our privately owned village Inn with a reputation for making everyone feel welcome. We simply have a passion for good service, food, wine and real ale.



That's enough of what we say this is what our critics say:

"Traditional dishes with a modern twist.....fresh, contemporary feel inside, this is a classy modern-day inn set in a pretty village within easy reach of Constable country" *The Good Food Guide*

"the food at the crown is delectable.....and the wine list is dreamy"  
*London Evening Standard*

"Old world character combined with modern brasserie style dining in lovely Stoke-by-Nayland...the wine list is excellent value for money"  
*Fiona Duncan, Sunday Telegraph*

We look forward to welcoming you to Stoke-By-Nayland

TELEPHONE 01206 262001 WEB [www.crowninn.net](http://www.crowninn.net)  
EMAIL [info@crowninn.net](mailto:info@crowninn.net)



2 Rosette Restaurant

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THE CROWN

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STOKE BY NAYLAND



3 Star Hotel