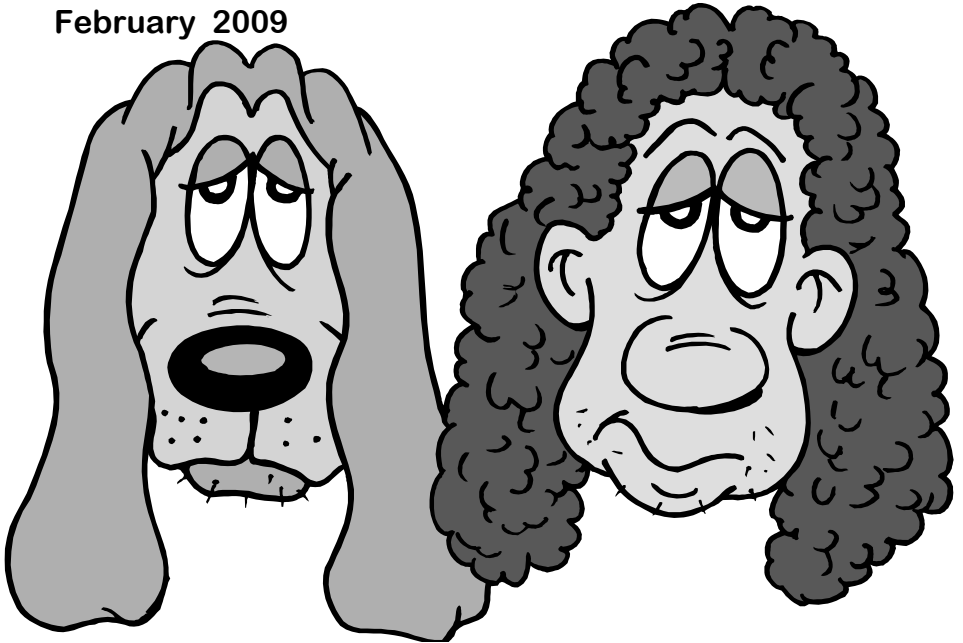


Sudbrooke News

No: 369

February 2009



**WHO'S BEEN A
NAUGHTY BOY
THEN.....?**

PAGE 9.....

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Welcome to
February's
Sudbrooke
News.

A question I have been asked over recent weeks, "Why am I standing down as Editor?" Although time is a major factor, a minimum of six hours per month, I have an increasing sense of *déjà vous* as I put finger to keyboard every month. As people who know me will know, I have the attention span of a one year old (one year olds, please don't take that personally) and I long for the arrival of thought provoking letters or articles to liven up our pages.

Without making this editorial a sob story, the Editor is a lonely man.....I get little feedback or input and often wonder if the contents, format or frequency of this magazine are what people REALLY want?.

In the meantime if anyone wants to have a "test-drive" at being Editor, please let me know. Sorry for the ramble.

Nick

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VICAR'S LETTER

The Vicarage, Langworth

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The Lenten Season will soon be upon us, with Ash Wednesday being the 25th February. It is a season of reflection leading up to Easter.

St. Paul in his second letter to the Christians in Corinth (2 Corinthians 3:18) wrote :- “Because the veil has been taken from our faces, we all reflect the Lord’s glory like a mirror, and we are being transfigured to be ever more like him, from glory to glory, through the Lord who is Spirit.”

What do you get when you look in the mirror each morning? More likely than not, an unwelcome shock! Yet, where would we be without mirrors? Try shaving, combing our hair or cleaning our teeth without one and we’ll soon realise how important they are to us. It’s not, however, only glass that can reflect things; there’s water, metal and plastic – and people too. We talk about actions reflecting well or badly on somebody, and we also recognise that the things we say and do may be taken as a reflection on others, whether parents, family, friends or associates.

It was very much this latter idea that Paul had in mind when writing to the Corinthians. We, he said, reflect Christ’s glory! Is that true of us? Do people glimpse anything of Christ in our lives, let alone see his glory reflected in us? The trouble is that mir-

rors don’t always do their job. They mist over, crack, even distort an image, so that what we see in them is not our true reflection.

Too easily, the same is true in our lives – the picture of Jesus we present to the world is unrecognisable from the Lord we are meant to be serving. So, next time we look in the mirror, as well as considering our own reflection, think also about how far our life is reflecting something of Jesus to those around us. Something to ponder in Lent.

Then, how about going the ‘extra mile’? Jesus in St. Matthew’s Gospel (5:40-41) said in his Sermon on the Mount “whoever forces you to go one mile, go with them a second also.” He would have had in mind that a Roman Soldier legally had the right to compel any subject person to carry his armour for one mile – no more or less. He used it to teach that we should not just do what was required to help someone but to do that bit extra – to put oneself out for the benefit of others. St. Luke (10:30-35) records Jesus telling the parable of the Good Samaritan in which he seeks to make a similar point (v.35 “take care of him and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back”). Are we ready to go that extra mile? Giving without counting the cost? Something else to ponder in Lent,

Yours in Christ,

Robert Spaight

CHURCH DIARY

	FEBRUARY 2009	
Sunday 8	3 Before Lent / Septuagesima	
	9.00 BCP Communion	St.Edward Sudbrooke
	10.30 Family Service	St.Edward Sudbrooke
	6.00 Communion	St.Hugh Langworth
Monday 9	7.30 Home Group	2 Chestnut Close
Tuesday 10	10.30 Barlings Prayer Hour	Old Vicarage
	7.30 Stainton PCC	Stainton Manor
	7.30 Deanery Synod	Fillingham Church
Thursday 12	7.45 Family Service Planning	50 Scothern Lane
Sunday 15	2 before Lent / Sexagesima	
	10.30 Communion	St.Edward Sudbrooke
	6.00 Evening Prayer	St.Hugh Langworth
Monday 16	7.30 Home Group	36 Scothern Lane
Saturday 21	1.00 Wedding	St.John Stainton
Sunday 22	Next before Lent / Quinquagesima	
	9.00 Communion	St.Edward Barlings
	10.30 Communion	St.Edward Sudbrooke
	6.00 Communion	St.Hugh Langworth
Tuesday 24	10.30 Sudbrooke Prayer Hour	2 Chestnut Close
	7.30 Home Group Pancake Party	The Vicarage
Wednesday 25	Ash Wednesday	
	7.30 a.m. Communion	St.Edward Sudbrooke

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF SUDBROOKE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 4TH DECEMBER 2008 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, SUDBROOKE

PRESENT: Councillors M Dickie, Mrs L Etheridge, S Curtis, B Bartram, Miss R Dobbs, N James, P Rignall, I Russell, County Councillor R Hiscox, Mrs C Myers (Clerk), Mrs B Solly (Treasurer), 3 members of the public

101 PARISHIONERS ITEMS

A resident asked if any lighting could be provided around the car park of the shop. As this is private land it was agreed to refer the matter to the owner of the premises.

A resident stated that many owners of properties on Scothern Lane had filled the dykes in fronting their properties. The Clerk was asked to refer the matter to Witham Third Drainage Board for their comments.

The Clerk was asked to request that the area of footpath between Holme Drive and Manor Drive on Scothern Lane, be re-surfaced due to cracking up.

102 POLICE MATTERS – Nothing to report

103 COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

County Councillor Hiscox agreed to refer the matter to Highways Department that the gullies on Sudbrooke Lane needed re-defining as surface water was collecting across

the road in some places.

Apologies given for meeting on 8th January 2009.

104 DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

DC Curtis was asked to find out the cost to the District Council of fly tipping over the year.

DC Curtis clarified that green bins would only be free for over 65's with effect from next April.

DC Curtis stated that there was at present no scheme for West Lindsey District Council for the issue of compost bags at waste sites throughout the District.

The Clerk expressed her concern and showed the meeting 6, colour, A3 size posters advertising some of the services of WLDC that Clerks to each Parish Council in the District had received from the Communications Manager at WLDC, at a postage cost of £1.15 each envelope.

She stated that many Clerks were amazed that there had been no consultation about how many were required for parishes and certainly the display of this amount of posters was not possible within the notice boards. DC Curtis agreed to take the matter up with the Communications Manager.

105 NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6TH NOVEMBER 2008 – These were signed as a correct record.

106 REPORTS ON MATTERS

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES cont'd.....

OUTSTANDING

a) Litter Pick – 15th November 2008

– Cllr Bernard Bartram reported that this had been highly successful with 25 bags of rubbish having been collected by 30 volunteers.

b) Christmas Tree Event – The Chairman reported as follows:-

The Christmas Tree light-up was back on track again this year after the bad weather of 2007. The Beever Band played from 4pm until 4.30pm when the count-down began for the tree light to go on. Carols were sung and mince pie's and free mulled wine for the over 18's were served in the marquee with all the proceeds helping to eventually make the annual event self financing.

The day starts at 9.30am with the collection of the two marquees and then its to the tree to erect both of them. One for the band, the other for the sale of the mince pies, and raffle tickets (winning number was strip 351 to 355).

Once the band had finished and all the villagers were refreshed enough, and the younger members were on their way down to the Village Hall for the Entertainment, Father Christmas and food, and the parents or guardians retiring to the Bar, the marquees are taken down. That's just one part of the operation.

The village hall has to be arranged by moving tables into the main hall and the preparation of the food and drinks. This year it was suggested we have a few craft tables in the Bramham Lounge paying £5.00 a

table, and the feed-back was positive from the stall holders so we hope to do it again next year.

At the end of a successful day the tables have to be put back so business could resume on Monday as usual.

Next Year we would like some helpers to assist with all the various jobs so the same people don't end up with all the tasks, so please let us know if you could help at some stage during the day's events.

Thanks have to go to all the Council members and their respective better halves for their assistance, to Sally, Claire, and their helpers for sorting out the entertainment and food, to Kate for the 250 home baked Mince pies.

Lastly but by no means least to Roger and Patrick for putting the lights on the tree again this year. It looks splendid.

We do hope the village enjoy the annual event and we are always prepared to listen to comments be it positive or negative as long as its constructive. Thank you for your attendance. See you next Year!

It was agreed that 'Donation to Beever Band' be included on the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting.

c) Wood Carving Project - standing orders were suspended whilst Helen Link gave an update and showed photos of the carvings and stressed how well the project was progressing.

Helen also outlined suggestions for seat carving after completion of the

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES cont'd.....

posts and asked that consideration be given for funding.

d) Proposed seat in memory of Ryan Hides – a suitable site had been agreed between Ryan's family and Councillors. The Clerk had communicated with Knights of Langworth who had confirmed that they would carry out full installation. Cllr Bernard Bartram had offered to liaise with Knights when the seat was ready to be sited.

e) Parish Plan update – the next meeting of the Parish Plan group would be 13th January 2009.

f) Christmas tree planting – Following in-depth discussion a unanimous vote was taken that Christmas trees be not planted, but purchased each year.

107 SPORTSFIELD REPORT

a) Playground items requiring attention – The Playground Inspector had been asked to carry out necessary repairs. The Clerk was awaiting a quotation for welding on the slide and was given authorisation to instruct the work to be carried out at an amount not exceeding £150.00.

108 PURCHASE OF FIRST AID BOX

Following the First Aid Training of all Councillors it was agreed that a First Aid Box be purchased to be available at Parish Council events. The Clerk was given authority to purchase a first aid box at a cost not exceeding £25.00.

109 USE OF BRAMHAM LOUNGE

FOR FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Following the three month trial of using the Bramham Lounge for Parish Council meetings members felt that the Main Hall was more suitable, therefore future Parish Council meetings will be held there.

110 SUDBROOKE NEWS – Nothing to report

111 FINANCE

a) Precept 2009/10 - Estimated expenditure

Administration	£10,922.71
Insurance	£1,000.00
Membership	
Subscriptions	£400.00
Training Courses	£50.00
Computer Cartridges	£80.00
Audit Fees	£155.00
Parish Council Elections	£500.00
Misc (General Repairs, Litter Bins, Notice boards)	£250.00
Football Pitch Rent	£25.00
Conservation General	£50.00
Village Hall Grounds Works	£1,000.00
Hire of Village Hall	£150.00
Grass Cutting	£2,800.00
Sudbrooke News	£2,000.00
Play Equipment	£2,500.00
Playground Inspection Service	£150.00
Christmas Tree	£250.00
Sports Day	£250.00
Parish Plan	£150.00
Wood Carving Project	£500.00
Capital Project - Millennium Stone Lighting	£2,000.00
Maintenance Listed Buildings	£250.00
Reserves to be kept in Account	£800.00

Request from VH for Security Lighting £500.00

comment on an application for development of the site.'

Total Budget £26,732.71

Note: Councillor S Curtis declared an interest in the above application as a member of the Planning Committee for West Lindsey District Council.

It was Resolved to Precept West Lindsey District Council the sum of £14,000 for the financial year 2009/10.

Note: Councillors Miss R Dobbs, S Curtis, and P Rignall declared interests in Village Hall items as members of the Village Hall Committee.

d) Income – Grant for play equipment re-surfacing = £4,000
Christmas Tree event – cash taken at event = £425.29

3 Holme Drive – 123196 – Erect a single storey side extension – comments made – ‘The western wall of the proposed extension would be built up to actual boundary of 1 Holme Drive possibly restricting the right of light to existing windows, therefore neighbours comments must be taken into consideration when determining this application.’

e) Bank balances as at 30.11.08

b) Permission – 8 Maple Drive – Erect conservatory to rear – 122823.

Current account = £500.00
Instant Account = £3297.72
14 day account = £5016.31
Sports field account = £2692.19
12 month Bond = £25,000.00
Northfield Park Account = £5625.76
Fox Covert account = £2127.78

c) TPO – A copy of the TPO 2008 had been received but the Clerk informed the members that there were discrepancies in it and she had been advised that it required revising.

Total = £44,259.76

112 PLANNING

113 CHAIRMANS COMMENTS

a) Applications

The Chairman brought the grass cutting schedule to the attention of all Councillors and it was agreed as correct. All members were also issued with a copy of the areas of grass which the contractors cut on behalf of the Parish Council.

16 Scothern Lane – 122916 – Reserved matters – erect 3 dwellings – Comments passed to District Council – ‘Until assurances are given by the Planning Department that the road is the required width it is not possible to

114 CORRESPONDENCE – Nothing further.

115 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Thursday 8th January 2009.

**March 2009 print deadline ...
20 February 2009...thanks**

LETTERS

Dear Editor

May I use the pages of the Sudbrooke News to express my sincere thanks to all the distributors of our local magazine? They turn out in all weathers in their own time to deliver the local parish news to your door. Many, many thanks to you all, and I wish every one of you a happy and healthy New Year. Residents of our Village can reward the distributors by keeping our magazine alive with letters and contributions; for without your support there is no 'Sudbrooke News'.

Also I would like to say thanks to all

the people who came to the New Year Bash at the Village Hall. It really was a great night and the generosity of all who came made it a great success. There was food a plenty and everyone took part in the dancing with gusto. My wife and I are especially grateful for the way everyone entered into the raffle helping to raise £167.00. Thank you all; it is this sort of spirit that will help to keep our Village Hall going. Let us hope, even though hard times are ahead, that we all have a Happy 2009.

Brian Gardner

Dear Editor

We would like to thank everyone who made the New Year's Eve party in the Village Hall so enjoyable. The help before, during and after the event was much appreciated. We would also like to thank those people and groups who donated raffle prizes. Ann and Brian raised £167 from the raffle. This and

profits from ticket sales will go to Village Hall funds.

Thanks also to those who supported us by buying tickets. We hope to repeat the event this year and build on the success.

Gill and Paul Rignall

Dear Editor

Could you put a note in Sudbrooke News to remind some dog owners that there has been a noticeable increase in dog mess being left on the verges recently.

The area between the Millenium Stone and the Village Hall on Scothern Lane is particularly bad.

Remind owners that it is an offence and it will result in a hefty fine if caught. Also remind the responsible owners (**and there are loads of them**) to report any offenders to me or our WLDC street warden Nigel Perriam (01427 676623) giving names and time

if possible.

It is just a serious offence to pick up the mess and throw the plastic bag in the hedge bottom. This is doubly bad as it is the litter pickers who have to clear this away.

If any parishioners want some special WLDC doggy bags to carry around with them please contact me on 01522 754798 and I can get some.

We want to get to the finals of the Best Kept Village competition this year so we want a special effort from parishioners to help the Parish Council try and achieve this aim.

Bernard Bartram (Councillor)

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

REPORT OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 8TH JANUARY 2009

Full Council were present, 3 members of the public and PC Mark Lassmans.

POLICE MATTERS – There had been several burglaries in the village prior to Christmas.

The Parish Council were asked to support the Police in their purchase of speed monitoring devices for the area. This was agreed by the Council in principal and further information is to be supplied.

BUS STOPLIGHTING – Despite the County Council Lighting Department stating that they would have lighting at the bus stop on Wragby Road by this winter it still has not been done and bus users are reportedly having to flash

torches at the bus to get it to stop in hours of darkness. This obviously is not satisfactory as it is sometimes not obvious whether it is a bus or a lorry approaching. County Councillor Roger Hiscox has been asked to pursue this again.

PRECEPT – The Parish Precept this year is to be £14,000 - £2,000 less than last year.

DONATION TO THE BEEVOR BAND – The Council donated £50 to the Band as recognition for them playing at the Christmas Tree event. (Next years event 29th November!)

DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – Thursday 5th February 2009 – residents welcome to attend.

Graham Parker



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REFUSE COLLECTION

There have been reports recently that refuse has not always been picked up by the Refuse Collectors when it has been left by bins. On making enquiries with West Lindsey District Council Environmental Department they have given the following reply:-

‘Side waste is not routinely collected by the waste collection guys unless a specific request is made through to our customer services staff, even then there are limitations to what will be picked up free of charge and when it is picked up, this is to prevent all manner of waste being left out next to bins leading to possible health and safety issues. Only waste which is contained in the wheelie bins with the lids closed will be taken.’

Residents who have additional items for disposal should ring 01427 676676 to arrange collection.

CHRISTIAN PRAYER GROUP

We would like to invite you to come to our informal Christian Prayer group who are praying regularly for our villages and over issues that affect our everyday life. We meet fortnightly for an hour on Tuesday mornings. We will be meeting on the following dates and at the addresses shown for the months of February and March and would welcome all who would like to come:-

10th February at The Old Vicarage, Barlings	24th February at 2 Chestnut Close, Sudbrooke
10th March at The Old Vicarage, Barlings	31st March at 2 Chestnut Close, Sudbrooke

We meet at 10:30 am and finish at 11.30 am followed by coffee and a friendly chat for those who can stay on a bit longer. Contact Helen or Tony on 01522 595802 for further information or just turn up at a meeting.

If you are unable to come, but would like the group to pray for you or for an issue that concerns you, then please complete the following and deliver to 36 Southern Lane, Sudbrooke or either of the above addresses or if you prefer email your prayer request to tonyandhelenlink@tiscali.co.uk.

Please pray for

Name (optional) and address (if you wish to give it)

In memory of.....

Each Easter, at Sudbrooke Church, people donate towards the cost of the Easter flowers in memory of loved ones who have died.

Names of the loved ones are written in a card and read out during the Easter Sunday services. The card then stands on the altar for as long as the flowers last – approx. 3 weeks.

You are most welcome to join in this memorial. If you would like to be involved, please could you let me have your donation and the name(s) you would like writing in the card by Palm Sunday (5th April) at the latest. Thank you.

Eleanor Clarke, 2, Chestnut Close.

SUDBROOKE GARDENING CLUB

Next meeting is Monday 9th March in the village hall at 7-30pm.

Mr. Stephen Lovell, a professional horticulturalist, will talk about 'perennials for every season'. More details next month but the meeting is open to everyone.

A day out at Belton House, near Grantham on Wednesday 8th July 2009.

The date is fixed as above but members are being consulted on the content of the day. A possible programme could include:

- Car sharing Sudbrooke to Belton House
- Tea or coffee on arrival

- Short guided tour of the gardens entitled 'Garden Tasters' with the Head Gardener.
- Lunch in the restaurant
- Tour of Belton House.
- Free time to wander around the Italian Garden, the Orangery or the extensive parkland.

We are happy to make this day out open to non members of the gardening club.

If you would like to join us or require more information please contact Mike Halliday on tel. 754686.

**Mike Halliday.
(Secretary)**

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—oo000oo—

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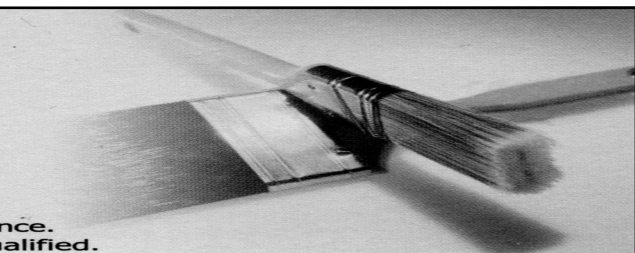
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SUDBROOKE PARISH PLAN

On 13th January 2009 the Group reviewed the Parish Plan that many parishioners had contributed to in early 2007.

At the launch of the plan there were 35 items requiring action, these included:

- Quality and sufficiency of our police services.
- Permanent doctors surgery required in Sudbrooke.
- Provide recreational facilities and make more use of the village hall.
- Increase access to Sudbrooke Park and improve as an amenity area.
- Achieve cold weather gritting when required.

- Publicise bus timetables and increase services.
- More litter bins required.

As a group we have been meeting regularly and working closely with the Parish Council as well as other agencies such as the County Council, West Lindsey District Council and our Primary Care Trust aiming to meet the objectives set out in the plan.

We are pleased to report that we have moved forward on a number of items that have achieved improvements including:

- Increased recreational facilities such as a walking group, a pilates class and a tennis club.
- An increase in litter bins and regular 'litter picks' around the village.

- A satisfactory police service.
- Improved communication of Parish Council meetings, minutes and other activities.

The group has also been working towards some aims that have unfortunately now been removed from the plan as all options to proceed further have been exhausted. These include:

- Busy time traffic lights needed at the junction of Scothern Lane with Wragby Road.
- Permanent doctors surgery required in Sudbrooke.
- Prescription pick-up point required in Sudbrooke.

It is still relatively early days in our ten year plan and there is much work still in progress including:

- Introduce a footpath/cycleway between Sudbrooke and Nettleham on Sudbrooke Lane.
- The landscape and wildlife in the Parish are very important to us and should be safeguarded/protected.

As times and the population of



Sudbrooke changes, we will need to continually keep our plan up to date and would welcome suggestions of items to consider. We would also welcome new members joining the group. It isn't a huge commitment of time and gives people the opportunity to contribute to improving our Parish. We have made the plan and current actions available on line without any response so far from parishioners. If you wish to see this information please e mail Vicki Wells at vicki.wells@homecall.co.uk Even if you cannot attend meetings, your comments would be most welcome and by e mail if you prefer. If you would like to know more about the group or meetings please contact any group member.

Social gatherings

One of the items in the plan was for more social gatherings to be held in the village hall. We would like to move forward with this one but need some assurance of commitment from people. If you are interested in supporting us in planning some social events please contact Vicki Wells on tel.753925 or e mail as above.

The next Group meeting is on Tuesday, 21st April at 7-30pm in the village hall.

Mike Halliday

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January walk.

The first walk of the year was done in perfect sunny weather with good conditions underfoot. The route took in the villages of Boothby Graffoe, Navenby and Coleby. Long stretches of the Viking Way provided spectacular views across the Trent valley to the west, whereas the Ermine Road provided striking views to the east.

Interesting to see how the villages differ in character and size.

Next walk Saturday 7th February. Meet at 9-30am at village hall.

A local walk is planned provided the ground is not waterlogged. The route is through Sudbrooke Park, onto Scothern and then Dobbs Wood before returning to Scothern and Sudbrooke; a distance of about 7 miles.

If the weather is very wet, please meet at the village hall for car sharing as a short journey may be required to another location.

Walkers are advised to wear suitable footwear, take a waterproof coat, a small snack and a drink

Everyone is welcome to join in this free and healthy activity.

Future walks.

Saturday 7th March is the next planned walk. Location to be arranged. Walkers should meet at the village hall at 9-30am.

The pace of all of the walks is a steady one with the aim of returning to the village hall around 1-00pm which leaves the rest of the day for other interests

Mike Halliday

Chairman, Parish Plan Group. Tel 754686.

The Sudbrooke wood carving project

After a well earned break over Christmas, to my delight the carvers returned! Over the holiday period, some carvers had taken their posts back with them to continue carving. What dedication! On return the completed posts, looking splendid, took their place alongside the growing number of other completed posts. Seeing the posts lined up and taking shape is very rewarding to all who are taking part. It is becoming possible now, to think of them in our minds eye in situ around the Millennium stone. There are still a few more images to start but having 12 posts and 2 images being

carved on each post, we feel that we are now on the home straight.

Another person from the village has dropped along to see what is happening, enjoyed a tryout session and is coming back, great! There is still room on the Monday morning session so if you would like to see what the project is about and to try your hand, if you wish, do still come.

The sessions are Sunday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:30 pm and Monday mornings 10 am to 12 noon at 36 Scothern Lane. To contact phone 01522 595802. Hope to see you.

Helen



February is a funny month, Christmas has now been forgotten we still have dark nights, frosts, rain, wind but to name a few but at the

DUNHOLME CAMERA CLUB

Camera Club we see images that are taken in all sorts of weather and every month of the year so just because it's February and you are waiting for better weather that doesn't mean that you can't wrap up well and go out with the camera and still get some cracking pictures. You may be a minority out there taking the pictures but you will have some images that no one else has so come on just because it's a little cold don't let the weather put you off get out there and get some use out of that new camera you got for Christmas.

We have 2 meetings in February the first being on 5th Feb when we will have George Fiddler giving us a talk on "Safari in Kenya" this will be a digital slide show and will be a delight to see so if you want to go on safari and want a taste of what it will be like come along on the night.

Our second meeting on February 19th will be the first club member's competition of the year, this will be an open competition so all entries will be accepted, if you would like to see the quality of the images that the members of the camera club produce come along for 7.30 on the 19th at The Old School Dunholme to get a feel what you could be doing if you joined.

If you require further information about the Camera Club you can contact me on 01673 860469 or duholme.camera.club@homecall.co.uk

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SUDBROOKE PRE-SCHOOL GROUP

Sudbrooke Pre-School Group Committee SPSG had a very busy end to the year and making the most of every opportunity to make the end of last term festive and fun we kicked off with a Christmas outing to Sundown Adventure Land. It was cold but dry and the children loved seeing Santa and going on the sleigh ride through the winter wonderland.

We had a lovely final week during last half term, marking the end of 2008. Santa even came to visit! The children played host and put on the Nativity play, which was really successful. The children did themselves, their families and teachers proud, donning their costumes and acting out their parts nicely! After this we had the Seasonal Bake Sale. This again proved very popular and was a fantastic fundraising opportunity raising in excess of £150.00! Thank you to everyone who bought, baked or helped to clear up for your support.

Olwen Edwards designed and produced SPSG's 2009 calendar which has so far raised £175. Huge thanks go to Olwen for all her efforts.

We have had a very busy start to the

new year half term with the preparation of a recipe and hints and tips book which will be on sale by Easter.

Since January we have started a new session on a Monday afternoon especially for children due to start school in September 2009. Take up has been good and all the children seem to be enjoying it. Unfortunately we have recently been forced to reduce our session times on Tues, Weds and Thurs by 15 minutes each due to funding difficulties (sessions now end at 11.45). We hope to be able to increase session times again in the future.

We are planning to host a "Psychic Evening" in the Spring which we hope will come to fruition as a fundraising event open to everyone in the village. We have not yet been able to fix a date but watch this space.

Lastly, we are always looking for people to help with the running of pre-school. If you feel that you could give a few hours a month and offer your skills to the committee then please contact
Karen Grace.

**Sudbrooke Pre-School Group
Committee**

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



WELTON & DISTRICT ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The next meeting of Welton and District Branch of the Royal British Legion will be held at 'The Falconer', Hackthorn Road, Welton, on Thursday, 12th February 2009, starting at 7pm.

The Chairman and Committee look forward to welcoming all members to our first meeting of 2009.

If you should be interested in joining the Royal British Legion, please contact the Chairman, Tony Davis, on 01673-860363, or the Secretary, Rex Gregson, on 01673-861197.

SUDBROOKE LADIES CLUB



We held our AGM in January. The committee was reappointed. Jean, our president, expressed thanks to the committee for their support during 2008. The

President's and Treasurer's reports were received.

£103-21 was raised for charity last year. It was decided to continue fund raising during 2009 and present the money to a charity to be decided upon. Members nominated various charities and the committee will decide which will be our charity for 2008/9.

Cheese and wine was served. Members expressed their thanks to the committee for their hard work.

Forthcoming Events:

Thursday 19th February 2009 at

7.30pm: Michael Wintin – Adoption.

Thursday 19th March 2009 at

7.30pm: The Reverend M Whalley – 'A Child of the Raj'.

Thursday 2nd April 2009 visit to Lincoln Theatre Royal to see 'The Producers'.

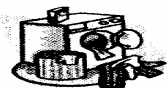
We have a bring and buy table at meetings in addition to the book stall and our used stamp and small coin collections.

We meet on the third Thursday of the month in Sudbrooke Village Hall.

Guests are always welcome and are asked to contribute £2.

Further information: 01522-595736

Gill Rignall.



Larry Jackson

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COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S CORNER

Taxing Times

Consultations on the next county council budget and precept are well advanced, with the controlling group's proposals centring on a 2.5 % rise in council tax. There has been a variety of views expressed on what this rise, if any, should be during these discussions, given the worsening global financial situation. I thought it might be topical to run through some

of the arguments in a non partisan way.

Perhaps I should first reiterate a point I have made before, namely that whilst all council services are financed through taxation, the council tax is only one quarter of the money most of us pay for our council delivered services. For example, VAT and income tax are received by central government and paid into the 'General

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S CORNER Cont'd

Fund'. The money that government provides to every council from this 'General Fund,' is money we have all been charged in one way or another, but it is money collected by means that is less controversial than the council tax itself. The size of this central award is obviously a major factor in determining the amount that has to be collected locally.

The next point to make is that the overall demand for services from the council is rising, independent of the national financial situation. Our population is aging on average, and this itself gives rise to an increased demand. The overall population is also rising as more people move into the county, though this rise has slowed to trickle in recent months. And then the present crisis is likely to give rise to a further demand.

The County Council is in a relatively fortunate position financially. Over recent history, it has suffered from a low central government grant settlement compared to similar authorities. This anomaly is in the process of being rectified by an increase in Government financial contribution, phased in over a few years. Since it historically had to manage with less, this increase enables local services to be improved at a time when other councils are cutting back. This improvement is, of course, only now bringing services into line with what other, historically better funded councils, have been providing for some time.

Much of this is invisible to most people in the county, because they are not receiving the benefit directly.

Social care, waste disposal, trading standards, the fire and rescue service and many other activities are, for example, things you only usually encounter when there is a problem. They are all services that are vital if you need them, but for most people most of the time, they are 'backroom activities'. All of these have benefited or are about to benefit from more resources.

So should the council charge any increase at all? Or, given the demand for help, should it ask those who can pay, to pay more to help those in trouble? Your view will likely be influenced by your own experience. If you know someone close to you who has benefited, you are more likely to take a more tolerant approach than someone who is just a net contributor to services received by someone else. Nearly all taxation is, to some extent, redistributive. We do not pay just the cost of providing our own services, or even the insurance premium for our own risk of needing services. Instead, we all pay taxes of various sorts to fund the total cost of services to everyone entitled to receive them, and we pay by various mechanisms we may or may not think are fair. It is a fair bet that the Council Tax would figure high on most people's list of unfair taxes. But local councils do not have the luxury of deciding the methods open to them to raise taxes, they have to use the one Parliament has said they should use. It is not an easy decision, and it has not yet been taken, but it won't go away.

Till next Month

Roger Hiscox

B



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 Sudbrooke Seniors – 750852
 Ladies' Club 595736

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 Out of hours 01427 613960

Sudbrooke Parish Council

Clerk to the Council Mrs C M Myers
 12 Ash Tree Avenue, Nettleham,
 LN2 2TQ 823802
 Chairman, Martin Dickie, 754342
 Vice Chairperson, Rose Dobbs, 753060
 Bernard Bartram 754798

Environment Agency

Floodline 0845 9881188
 Incident Hotline 0800 807060

Stuart Curtis 751874
 Lyn Etheridge 750905

Lincolnshire County Council

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 Emergency Planning 01522 582220

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Doctors

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 Welton Health Centre 01522 773072

District Councillor
 Stuart Curtis 751874
 County Councillor,
 Roger Hiscox 01673 860047

Schools

Ellison Boulters 01673 862392
 William Farr 01673 866900

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 Abbie Mullen 750198
 Sophie Rothwell 754028
 Beka Smith 753598
 Katrina Sutcliffe 595538
 Jenny Truscott 752911
 India Ward 752021

What's on in Sudbrooke

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 Mah-Jong 595157
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 752936
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