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# GREAT RINGSTEAD NEWS AND VIEWS

## RINGSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL - Chairperson, Bill Jacob

At the April Parish Council meeting Carol Nelson announced her decision to stand down as Chair of the Council and as a Councillor. The people of Ringstead owe a very great debt of gratitude to Carol, who has served on the Council for many years. At various times she acted as Clerk as well as Chair and has ably steered us along and ensured that the Council was well run to serve the village.

I, to my surprise, was elected as Chair at the May meeting, with Debbie Rice continuing as Vice-Chair. If you have any matters you wish to raise about the village, don't hesitate to contact Debbie or me.



Ringstead Making Space began in March for villagers and visitors to meet and chat with tea, coffee and cake. It has proved popular and provides a focal point for different interests.

Recently historical maps were shared with villagers dating back several hundred years to understand the history of the village and allowed those attending to explore their current property and its relationship to the development of the village over the years.

Everyone is welcome and we hope you will be able to join us soon.

## GO TO TOWN - West Norfolk Community Bus Service

The 21 bus service from Kings Lynn to Hunstanton and return to Kings Lynn via Ringstead offers a friendly and alternative transport option for villagers. The bus stops opposite the Gin Trap to collect and drop off passengers.

Anyone eligible for a bus pass can use the pass on this service.

The full timetable is available on the General Store notice board and on the Village Hall notice board or [www.gtt-online.co.uk](http://www.gtt-online.co.uk)

We have obtained a grant of £6,000 from Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council which with a generous private donation, allows the roundabout on the Playing Field to be replaced with a Climbing Frame. We have also secured grants from Norfolk County Council and from Ringstead Allotment Charity to place a 'Gateway' sign on the approach to the village on the Burnham Road to encourage traffic to slow down there.

Debbie Rice and Sue Little, supported by Pauline Atkinson did a splendid job in arranging our Platinum Jubilee celebration, which, despite the weather, was a tremendous success. Over seventy people joined in at various stages in the Village Hall as shown in the photographs on page 8. Thanks are also due to Tracey and Stephen Stafford for organising games that included everyone. Many people generously contributed large quantities of much appreciated cakes.

We have vacancies for a Councillor and a Parish Clerk, as James Howard, who has been our able Clerk for the past few years is standing down. If you would like to investigate contributing to the well-being of Ringstead in either of these roles please see details in the advertisements for these roles on page 10.

## WHATS ON / DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Parish Council Meetings**  
Every second Monday of the month except August

**Monday and Thursday**  
Outdoor Bowls - Village Hall Bowling Green 7pm

**Tuesday**  
Table Tennis - Village Hall 7.30 to 9.30pm Check for summer sessions

**Thursday**  
Ringstead Making Space - Village Hall  
Every first and third Thursday 10 am to 12 noon.

Ringstead Art Group - Village Hall  
Every Thursday 2pm to 4pm Check for summer sessions

## CANCELLED

Saturday 25 June - Guided Walk, Ringstead Grade 2 listed buildings.

**RESCHEDULED to 24 SEPTEMBER**

## RINGSTEAD CARPET BOWLS - Brief history

The carpet bowls group was started in 2006 by Bridget Crowfoot hiring equipment from Kings Lynn Borough Council. It proved popular and Roger Partridge from the Sports Development Unit suggested we applied for a grant to buy our own equipment.

As Liz Witley was then secretary for the village hall committee she undertook this and applied for a grant from the Big Lottery Fund in 2007 with the help of Roger Partridge and Bridget.

We were successful and were awarded a grant in 2008 of £2882 with which we bought all our equipment. Bridget then asked Liz if she would take over running the group which she did until fairly recently.

Mo Covell then took over running the group.



## BOWLS CLUB – Roger Pincott

By the time you read this the bowls club will have had their AGM and officer's will be in place for the start of the new season which commenced on 5 May.

We are still working on the green trying to remove moss and to get the playing surface in order. We will be holding a number of roll up days before the season starts so if you are interested in playing bowls then watch the village hall notice board for information and dates.

Roger Pincott. 525522  
rogerpincott@btinternet.com

## RINGSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN -

### Bill Jacob

Work is continuing, slowly, on preparing the Neighbourhood Development Plan for Ringstead. In preparation for looking at the future needs of the village, we have had a useful meeting with representatives of the trustees of the Le Strange Estate about possible sites for perhaps three social housing units, to diversify the population profile of the village. We have secured grants from Locality, the national Government-funded membership-network supporting local community organisations, for professional support, via AECOM, for preparing a Housing Needs Assessment, and a Parish Design Statement. We have had useful meetings, via Zoom and on site on these matters, and await drafts. The Parish Council has also applied for a second grant from Locality to fund working with our consultant, Collective Community Planning, in preparing the Plan. All being well, during the autumn, we may be able to set up a further community consultation on the first draft for the Plan.

For more information about the Plan and its development, contact Bill Jacob at [wmjacob20@gmail.com](mailto:wmjacob20@gmail.com), or phone 01485 525394

## RINGSTEAD VILLAGE HALL - Chairperson, Debbie Rice

The Village Hall is now being used on a regular basis by the various clubs details of which are listed in the 'Whats On and dates for the Diary' section of this Newsletter.

In addition it was used for the Lunches and Teas at the successful Open Gardens Event, plus the Jubilee Celebrations which were held there rather than the Playing Field because of the inclement weather. The event was enjoyed by all who attended and Sue and I would like to thank all those who helped by baking cakes, and/or turned up on the day to help as well. And a big thank you to Tracey and Steve Stafford for organising the 'Ringstead Jubilee Olympics' which were enjoyed by all!

Hopefully the work to replace the old pipework should start within the next few weeks.

If anyone would like to hire the Hall, please contact our booking Secretary, Mr Roger Pincott on 525522. Ringstead residents are charged £6 per hour or £35 per day, non residents or commercial hiring £8 per hour.

Please note that a defibrillator is fitted on the corner wall of the Village Hall (facing the High Street). If needed please dial 999 and you will be provided with an access code once you have quoted the postcode which is shown on the casing. At the same time an ambulance will be dispatched.

Tel 525505 or 07789 902575  
Email debbierice55@btinternet.com



**Nathan & Leah welcome you to The General Store. Open everyday Sun-Tues 8-1 & Wed to Sat 8-5.**

Home of The Norfolk Ale Shop— A huge selection of Craft beers, local ales, cider, wines & spirits from the local area

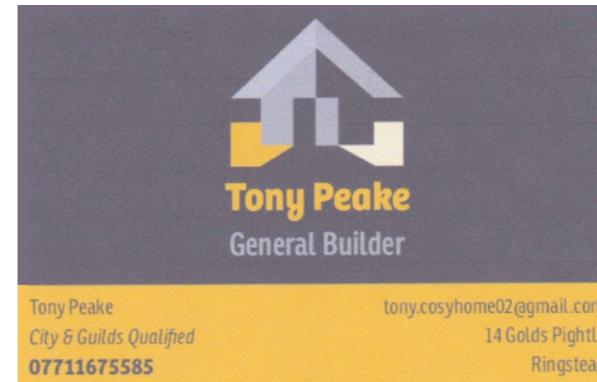
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Hidden Treasures — Local Pop up shops for You, The Home & Garden



## PARISH COUNCIL

### VACANCY FOR A PARISH CLERK

We need someone with administrative and financial experience to be Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to work with the seven Councillors.

The Clerk is the Council's administrative officer responsible for arranging and minuting monthly evening meetings, and ensuring decisions are acted on.

The position is flexible and home-based for forty hours per month. A laptop and printer are provided. Salary will be within the scale £11.97 - £12.95 per hour, depending on qualifications and experience.

The Clerk needs good organisational and communication skills and to be self-motivated, and able to work independently and appropriately manage their workload in line with Council deadlines.

**A full hand over with the current clerk is available along with ongoing training as required.**

For further information on the Council and a job description see the website or contact the Clerk, via email, [greatringsteadpc@outlook.com](mailto:greatringsteadpc@outlook.com)

## WANTED

### PARISH COUNCILLOR

Would you like to contribute something to Ringstead?

Our seven-strong Parish Council has a vacancy for one member

The Parish Council represents the village, comments on planning matters, prepares a Neighbourhood Development Plan, oversees maintenance of open spaces, receives crime and crime prevention reports, and monitors services and facilities.

It requires committing a few hours each month to attend meetings and be involved in the Council's work.

If you are interested contact the Clerk [greatringsteadpc@outlook.com](mailto:greatringsteadpc@outlook.com)

**Autumn Newsletter Issue deadline Friday 2 September 2022  
to [atk\\_hornbeams@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:atk_hornbeams@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Please note:** All the views expressed in this newsletter are of the contributors and not necessarily the views and opinions of the Editorial Team. The team reserve the right to edit articles as appropriate.

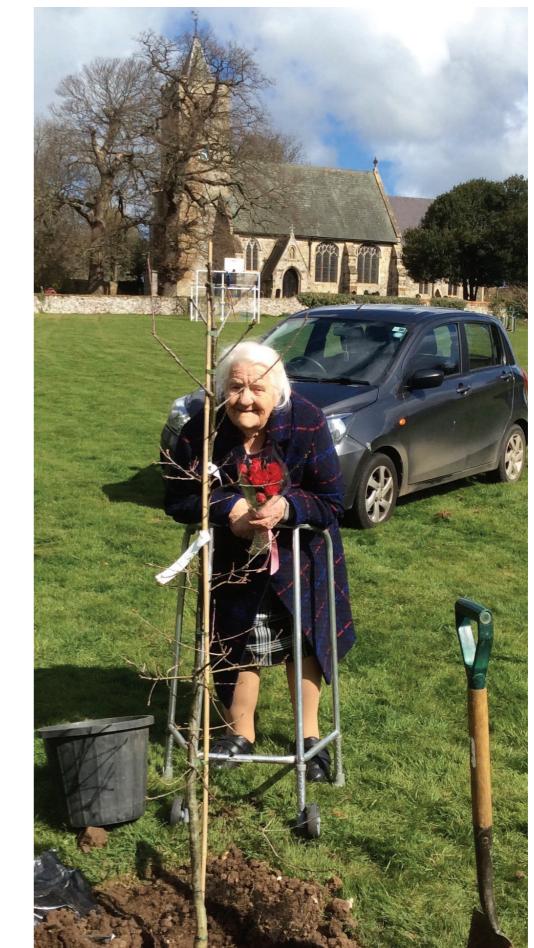
## Ringstead History Group - Bill Jacob

Members of the History Group have been busy formalising the Group, with a constitution and a bank account, so that we can seek funding to better equip us to understand the village's past and so to contribute to its future. Group membership will enable us to access websites containing digitised versions of parish registers, censuses, resources from the National Archives, etc. We will be able to acquire our own display boards, and build a state-of-the-art website to make the results of our research widely accessible.

We had a stand at Docking History Fair in May, and had displays recording gravestones in the Churchyard, linked with the parish registers, the 1841 Census and the 1842 Tithe Map and Apportionment, to begin to develop a picture of who lived here in the 1840s, who owned and occupied land and properties, occupations, and all sorts of other details, gleaned from, for example, the British Newspaper Archive. We also had topical displays, about Ringstead's celebration of past royal events and jubilees, and the centenary of the Village Hall. We also had a conducted walk in Hunstanton Park, the history of which, and the Hall, is very significant for Ringstead.

Unfortunately, on 25 June the conducted walk of Ringstead's Listed Buildings, has now been postponed until 24 September.

We will be organising a series of activities for the autumn and winter. For more information contact Helen Stanley (Secretary) [knhbasketcases@gmail.com](mailto:knhbasketcases@gmail.com) or Bill Jacob (Chair)



## Gwen Gyton (1924 - 2022) - Bridget Crowfoot

Gwen Gyton and her family have always been involved with village life, helping to raise funds at whist drives and bingo evenings which were held regularly to support the upkeep of the Village Hall and the Playing Field.

Gwen was a loyal member of the Village Club, supporting the bus trips and the competitions which were organised from time to time.

Completing the crossword was part of her daily routine later in life and she was always in much demand by team leaders when a general knowledge quiz was held.

She became an honorary member of the Village Club on her 90th birthday,

Bringing up a family in the village when water was from a well, must have been quite a challenge but Gwen, like so many other mothers accepted it with a smile.

Gwen came to the village from Kent after her marriage. She was buried on the anniversary of her late husband's 100th birthday, Wednesday 22 June, this year.

She was a much loved and cherished member of the village and will be sadly missed, but always remembered.

Gwen Gyton after planting one of the seven Platinum Jubilee trees on the village Playing Field , 2 April 2022

**THE GENERAL STORE - Nathan, Leah, Joshua, Lottie, Dottie (The Cat) & Mabel (The pooch).**

During very tough times for local independent businesses, we are pleased to say that spring brought a fantastic Half Term, Platinum Jubilee and Open gardens with lots of visitors to The General Store! As always it was a pleasure to support Open Gardens by providing the many eggs that went into the amazing village bakes and for the second year running someone from the village won our Gift Voucher that we donated to the raffle!

Have you popped in to see what's new lately?

As we continue our journey there is a new area to the store named..... The Design Den. This area of the shop has some amazing bespoke hand-crafted oak handbags created by a village resident alongside some quality beach themed items and fabulous homeware.

New lines in store include Pooch's, Norfolk hand made dog treats, Humpty Dumpty Brewery and Leith House Orchards Honey from Burnham Overy to name but a few. You will have hopefully seen that our own label products have been increasing in numbers too, all made in Norfolk supporting Norfolk!

As we said at the start, very tough times for local businesses as costs continue to climb and we have no alternative on most occasions but to pass these on. Shopping habits are continuing to change and Newspapers and Tobacco provide little return to shopkeepers nowadays. We remain confident though that we are fairly priced for our everyday items, convenience and our Norfolk sourced products are cheaper than most others so please we ask for your continued support whenever you can.

What will be new at The General Store in the next edition? Hopefully some re-decoration, more additions and improvements to our Hidden Treasures/Home section and a few alterations within the shop.

Thank you as always for your kindness, friendship and custom.

**RINGSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - Les Everett**

Anyone interested in setting up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme should contact Les Everett 07933 954584

**REVEREND RACHAEL DINES**

As the summer is now properly here it is a great joy to be able to conduct weddings in our Benefice. On the whole people come to a celebration looking their very best and hoping for a joyous occasion. Weddings are full of hope and anticipation for the future of the newly married couple. If you, a family member or friend is getting married this summer I do hope that it is a glorious day and one that you can look back on with a smile.

If you are planning your wedding, why not come and talk to us about getting married in one of our eight beautiful churches. There are many ways in which we can make your day a special one.

For many of us each year has its sadder times too. A loved one gone too soon, a tragic end to a beautiful life or the pain of seeing a special person in pain as they near the end. We will all lose people we care for at some point and that is part of our life but one that is often more difficult to cope with emotionally. Saying goodbye to a loved one is tough and we all need people around us who we can talk to and 'be real' with in those moments.

Are you struggling with grief and need a friendly ear? We are here to listen and help you. Why not come along to one of our 'Making Space' coffee and cake mornings in Hunstanton or Ringstead? We are here to help.

Another wonderful celebration in the church is when children, or adults, are baptised (often called christening). This event is a great time of happiness in both the church and with family and friends. We love to welcome children and adults for baptism and if you are thinking about that in your family then do get in touch.

In our Benefice of Hunstanton and Saxon Shore we are blessed with two full time paid clergy, Rev Kirsty Allan and myself as well as Rev James Monro who is self-supporting. We also have a number of retired clergy who work with us and help this Benefice to function well. We are grateful for all who serve God in this place and we want to be here for all who need us.

Over the past few weeks we have been looking, with our Bishop Jane Steen, at how we could work within our churches in a way that gives each of the licensed clergy more time to concentrate on specific churches and communities. Myself, Kirsty and James will have Primary Pastoral Responsibility for specific areas. This will not stop anyone contacting any of us if you need us. Kirsty will concentrate on Deepdale, Brancaster, Thornham and Holme. James will concentrate on Titchwell and I will concentrate on Old Hunstanton, Ringstead and Hunstanton. This is not to say that you won't see each of us in different places. We are hoping that we can spend less time travelling and more time concentrating on the pastoral needs of those in the Benefice and sharing the love of Jesus along our coast.

Please remember that we are here for you in the happy and the sad times, the times when you want to share your joys and the times when you need a shoulder to cry on. All our churches are open daily for quiet private prayer and we would be delighted to see you at any of the services or activities. The clergy are also just a phone call away. If you are considering one of our churches for your wedding or baptism then do get in touch, we'd love to hear from you.

With prayers for a peaceful summer where the joys outnumber the sadnesses,

PS: Keep your eyes open for all of the events across the Benefice this summer!

**ALLDOGS MEADOW RINGSTEAD - Jane, Laura and James**

Things have been going well over at AllDogs Meadow with a crazy busy first month. This has now settled down to steady / regular bookings.

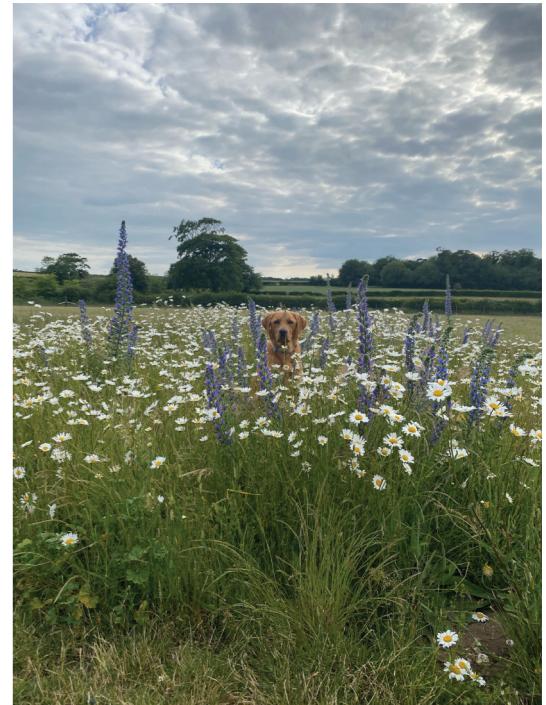
We recommend booking early if you want weekend slots as we are always full, for midweek there is generally more availability.

We have opened up 1/2 hour slots that are only bookable 24 hrs in advance, where there is still availability.

As a way of a thank you for the support from the residents we would like to give you all 25% off your next booking.

This code is valid for one booking per household until the 31st August, 2022.

Just use the code RING25V when booking. Book at <https://www.alldogsmeadow.co.uk/>



## THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATION

### RINGSTEAD VILLAGE HALL

5 JUNE 2022



### RINGSTEAD IN BLOOM - Bridget Crowfoot

The group has met regularly on Tuesdays at 10am, weather permitting, and undertaken a range of garden / green space maintenance and tree planting activities around the village.

Have you noticed how good the Docking Road path looks now and how well Jason is keeping the area on behalf of the Parish Council.

In March the group prepared seven holes into which the seven Platinum Jubilee trees were planted on the village Playing Field. Gwen Gyton was invited to plant the seventh tree as the oldest resident in Ringstead.

The group will recommence later this year. If you would like to join us please telephone 01485 525295



### Group members from left to right:-

Peter Gyton, Anne Lockhart, Mo Covell, Janet Mason, Pauline Atkinson and Bridget Crowfoot.

### RINGSTEAD ART GROUP - Group member, Anne Bunyan

The Art Group first met in the Village Hall in Ringstead in January 2015.

Liz Witley advertised the new group and recruited its first members. Bryan Harford, an excellent local artist who lived in the Village ran it, helped by his wife Sarah. There were originally two groups held weekly on a Thursday, which were later combined to one a week. It consisted mainly of beginners, amateur and more experienced artists and Bryan taught us all we needed to know to develop our artistic skills.

Bryan used to bring along all the materials - acrylic paints, brushes, paper etc - and would often set up a still life piece which we all attempted to paint. We also painted portraits and, when the weather was kind, what we could see outside. He helped us develop our own styles and encouraged us to produce works of art that were worthy of putting in our yearly exhibition in the Village Hall.

Bryan and Sarah moved to Yorkshire in 2018 but the Art Group carried on! Liz Witley continued to run it and we had demonstrations and workshops from visiting artists and were able to continue sharing ideas with each other and to develop our own styles in our mediums of choice.

We are still going in 2022. The group is now run by Lois Carrick and Pauline Atkinson. Members of the group have come and gone but we still have a regular number who meet once a week to share ideas, enjoy demonstrations from visiting artists and produce works of art which hopefully are worth exhibiting. New members are always welcome.

Contact Lois Carrick [loiscarrick21@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:loiscarrick21@hotmail.co.uk). Pauline Atkinson [atk\\_hornbeams@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:atk_hornbeams@yahoo.co.uk)

**SEASONAL RECIPE****Blackcurrant Ice cream - Jenny Martin Smith**

1lb fresh or frozen blackcurrants (defrosted)  
6oz (175g) sugar  
10fl oz (275ml) double cream

Put the blackcurrants in a sieve over a mixing bowl and mash with a wooden spoon until all the pulp is extracted and only stalks, pips and skins are left in the sieve.

Place the sugar and 5fl oz (150ml) water in a saucepan over a medium heat, stir until all the sugar crystals have dissolved. Bring to the boil and boil for 3 minutes exactly.

Remove from heat and stir the syrup into the fruit pulp. Whip the cream until it just begins to thicken - floppy not thick.

Fold the cream into the fruit mixture until thoroughly blended. Pour it into a polythene box and freeze.

As soon as the mixture begins to set (after about 3 hours) turn it out into a bowl and beat thoroughly.

Then return it to the freezer (in the box) until set - about another 3 hours.

Remove to the main part of the fridge about an hour before serving.



Blackcurrant ice cream

**THE GIN TRAP INN - Director, David Lamyman**

I hope everyone is well and enjoying the sunshine.

As most people are aware, we've been making some changes at The Gin Trap. Ever since I've owned the pub I've made no secret of my intention to make sure that the pub is one of the best places to eat & drink in the county. Only when we have this reputation will the pub be financially successful all year round, not just the busy summer months.

Whilst the children's play area is no longer, we are still a pub that welcomes families and well behaved dogs. And rest assured we are still a pub in the true sense of the word, i.e. 'a building open to the public'. We want nothing more in our public bars and garden to serve locals their favourite drinks, whilst they enjoy a well cooked and friendly priced pub snack or meal. Then in the dining room our guests will hopefully enjoy a truly memorable meal.

I'm aware that the rumour mill has been in overdrive. All I can confirm at this stage is that I haven't sold the pub and Heston Blumenthal is in no way involved!

Like every other business & household, we're facing unprecedented times with huge price rises for all our food ingredients and drinks and energy costs. We can't find enough staff and therefore there is wage inflation. Unfortunately this might mean that our prices have to increase slightly just to break even.

We look forward to serving the village whenever you want to visit us.

**Summer 2022****RINGSTEAD OPEN GARDENS - Jane Whiteford, ROG Publicity**

Ringstead Open Gardens on the 29th May proved a record breaking event - not only with the number of gardens reaching 14 but also the amount of money raised for St Andrews Church - a phenomenal £7,030!

The day started off with early rain and grey skies but, just as the gardens opened officially at 11.00am, the sun came out and the rain held off - our prayers were answered! This event, which has been happening for nearly 50 years, is certainly going from strength to strength with visitors from near and far returning year on year to explore the wonderful gardens on display and feast on the delicious homemade lunches, teas and cakes on offer. A big thank you to all the garden hosts, some new to the event, who worked tirelessly and took pride in ensuring their gardens looked their best. Positive comments came thick and fast on the day from visitors who enjoyed not only the varied mix of gardens but Bridget's wonderful Plant Stall, products stalls, art displays, a guided walk at Courtyard Farm, Tony's allotment and the wonderful Flower Festival in St Andrews Church celebrating the Queen's 70 years on the throne. This is a big team effort which really brings the village together so thank you to all involved in so many ways behind the scenes and on the day. Extra special thanks must go to Melanie Hutchinson for her team leadership and Sara Stocks for her culinary inspiration. The Revs Rachael Dines and Kirsty Allen offered their thanks too, delivering the most delicious homemade shortbread biscuits to all garden hosts.

