

# GREAT RINGSTEAD NEWS & VIEWS



Ringstead village from flower meadow. Photo by Hanneke Robson.

## PARISH COUNCIL - Chairperson, Carol Nelson

The typical British summer time is upon us again. Shorts and T-shirt one minute, wellingtons and umbrella the next but England would not be England if the weather wasn't so changeable.

Writing this, I hope the weather holds for the village Open Gardens event and it is a huge success this year, having been cancelled last year and missed by many.

The Parish Council held its first, non-zoom meeting this year, in the village hall on June 14<sup>th</sup>. There was a full councillor turn out but as always, no representation from County/Borough Councillors or the police. Neither were any members of the public present.

The meeting was swift as there were few items on the agenda. The Parish Council are having difficulties getting the old roundabout removed so please bear with us until the area is cleared.

The Parish Council are looking into the possibility of increasing the hard surfaced parking area at the playing field. It was noted at the meeting, that there have been one or two 'why's' from the village.

This is why: In previous years parking along the High Street has been exasperated by folk visiting the Gin Trap to the point one year when there was only room for one car to travel, in any direction along a large proportion of the High Street. Last year the estate and Village Hall Committee allowed overspill parking in the Village Hall car park (the hall was not in use most of the year due to Covid).

This year, the Gin Trap had requested the same arrangement. The terms of the lease with LeStrange does not give the Village Hall Committee the ability to enter into sub leasing of the car park on a permanent or semi-permanent basis. Also, as the hall is open again for hire, it is believed that patrons of the pub will fill the car park leaving no room for venue hirers. Ways of policing this problem have been investigated without a successful outcome.

The terms of the lease for the playing field allow for parking along the fence boundary of the shop garden, the church uses this when a greater area is needed for its attendance. LeStrange have agreed for the Parish Council to investigate the cost of increasing the hard surfaced area along the length of the shop boundary. The existing fence would be adjusted to encompass it. Roughly the area taken would accommodate a line of cars parked along the fence with room to drive along and pull into a parking space.

This would, hopefully, alleviate any future parking problems along the High Street. Please note that the Parish Council has previously objected to building work at the Gin Trap on the basis that it would cause an increase in parking problems. Unfortunately, the planning dept at BCKL&WN decided that no parking problems would occur and passed all relevant planning applications. Gin Trap staff are using the playing field car park already to help alleviate the problem.

No work has been agreed on as it is all based on quotes obtained. Please contact the Parish Council if you have any views on this proposed car park extension or any other matter in the village.

Have a great summer.

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**GREAT RINGSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL - Website and contact details**

Summer 2021

Parish website <https://greatringsteadpc.wixsite.com/ringsteadpc>

James Howard (Parish Clerk) 07979 987384 [greatringsteadpc@outlook.com](mailto:greatringsteadpc@outlook.com)

**RINGSTEAD NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN - Ringstead Parish Council, Bill Jacob**

The Parish Council have been awarded a grant by Locality to fund the fees to work with Collective Community Planning to support us in developing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the village. Our Working Group have had a first meeting with Collective Community Planning to discuss a draft Evidence Base for the Plan, and to identify possible opportunities for development and green spaces. In the course of the summer we hope to circulate a questionnaire to all occupants and owners of properties seeking people's views in preparation for drafting a plan. It will be delivered to every property in the village, so please keep an eye open for it. It will be possible to respond either electronically or on paper.

If you have any questions, or would like more information, please contact me on 01485 525394 or [wmjacob20@gmail.com](mailto:wmjacob20@gmail.com)

**RINGSTEAD VILLAGE HALL - Chairperson, Debbie Rice**

The Village Hall is once again open and available for hire! The Table Tennis Club has resumed already, and the Parish Council will hold its June meeting there, obviously adhering to the current government guidelines as regards Covid-19. Hopefully, as confidence grows, other clubs will resume, and others will want to hire our Hall. If you know of anyone who may be interested in starting a club or group, please make them aware that our Hall is available at an hourly rate of £6 per hour for Ringstead residents, or £8 per hour for non residents or commercial ventures. Sanitiser is provided, and there is a NHS QR poster that can be scanned by those who have the NHS COVID 19 App on their phones, or alternatively contact details can be left on a list in the entrance Hallway. Masks must be worn, unless one is exempt on medical grounds, and until the current restrictions are removed, hopefully on 19 July, social distancing will need to be adhered to.

Since the Spring Newsletter I can confirm that the wall next to the Bowling Green has been repaired, and the flat roof should be redone next month. The Village Hall Committee are also hoping to be able to proceed with re-cladding the main roof of the Hall, which will mean that the Hall should be a lot warmer during the chillier months. I should also point out that the new air source heating that was installed June 2020 can also provide cool air during the warmer weather! The Committee is hoping to organise a Fund Raising Race Night this October. This event has proved popular in the past, and raises lots of funds for the upkeep and maintenance of the Hall. If anyone can suggest any more fundraising ideas, please feel free to contact me, or any member of the Committee.

If anyone would like to hire the Village 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.

|                     |           |                  |                          |
|---------------------|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Table Tennis</b> | Tuesday   | 7.30pm to 9.30pm | Richard Hendricks 525366 |
| <b>Carpet Bowls</b> | Wednesday | 2pm to 4pm       | Liz Witley 525341        |
| <b>Art Group</b>    | Thursday  | 10am to 12noon   | Liz Witley 525341        |

*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 mobile 07789 902575 Email [debbierice55@btinternet.com](mailto:debbierice55@btinternet.com)



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**Great Ringstead News and Views**

**Autumn Newsletter**

to [atk\\_hornbeams@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:atk_hornbeams@yahoo.co.uk)  
by Friday 17th September 2021



**THE CREATION OF PEDDARS MEADOW: A Walk on the Wild Side - Hanneke Robson** Summer 2021

Well, we all know where May went – it washed down the lanes and puddled the land as we switched on our heating with hibernation not far from our thoughts.

But the wettest day in the wettest May brought something else; two experts from the Norfolk Wildlife Trust to offer us much needed guidance about how to proceed with Peddars Meadow. A shot in the arm for our group that didn't begin with C.



*Gemma Walker, Norfolk Wildlife and Community Officer and Helen Baczkowska, Norfolk Wildlife Conservation Officer, offer guidance on the development of wild meadows on one of the wettest days of the year!*

Beneath skies a darker shade of grey our bedraggled but determined group gazed out at our meadow `to be. ' I tried to follow the words of optimism spoken by our mentors though the drumming rain on my hood with valuable words torn away by the wind. Sprigs of this and that received a name. There was talk of communal green hay laying and of scything with perhaps a flagon something. Or was I drifting into `Cider with Rosie' territory?

Brome was mentioned. The red rosettes we had pondered over in April were now invading our pitch at an alarming rate. Brome and Cox-foot don't mind the drought we experienced last spring/summer and had emerged dominant. The blanket of Bugloss and fumitory we were so pleased to see last year had vanished beneath a sea of Black Medic; a fact that pleased our farmer as these plants attracted bugs which would patrol his adjacent field and rid his crop of pest.

There was interest in our Acre per Village initiative, and we were pleased to hear that our actions so far had been correct. Now it was time to move forward and make this meadow happen and for that we needed knowledge. Two villagers attended a volunteers course and, a few days after the visit, I received a call from the NWT to say author and wildflower expert and ornithologist, Simon Harrap, had agreed to lead a plant identification walk on July 23<sup>rd</sup> of Peddars Meadow and beyond. The walk is free with limited places available and bookable through me. Updates on the above can be read in Town and Around.

Meanwhile, the Garage Studio Art Gallery, which financially funds the meadow, continues to flourish, with much appreciated support from 20 wonderful Norfolk artists.

Telephone 01485 525715 [www.thegaragestudionorfolk.co.uk](http://www.thegaragestudionorfolk.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.

The Editorial Team welcome articles and advertisements. The deadline for the Autumn edition is Friday 17 September 2021. Contact [atk\\_hornbeams@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:atk_hornbeams@yahoo.co.uk) for details.

We would welcome requests for emailed copies of the newsletter from anyone who would prefer this method of delivery.

This may be of interest to the second home owners in the village who will therefore receive a copy in advance of their next visit.



**BOWLS CLUB - Roger Pincott** Summer 2021

Our bowling rink is looking a picture. We have started playing league bowls again. Unfortunately we came second in each of the two matches we have played. The league is really depleted this year with only five teams in our league. To give us more games to play our club captain is running a club pairs league, with luck that will keep us out of mischief.

**VILLAGE CLUB - Elaine Pincott**

Unfortunately due to an amendment to Government restriction on the lifting of current restrictions that no more than six people (or two household) can meet indoors we will be unable to hold the proposed meeting on 1st July as planned. We could try to get together on Thursday 22 July instead. I will wait until nearer this date to ensure there are no further delays or restrictions in place. Keep an eye on the notice board in the hall car park. I will put a notice to confirm the date of 22 July for a get together with tea and cakes or cancellation if necessary.

**RINGSTEAD OPEN GARDENS SUNDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**

**PLEASE COME! - Cherry Green**

It will be wonderful to have a village occasion and to see everyone again.

We have lots of lovely gardens open, fantastic lunch and teas, plant stall, tombola, cake stall and a flower display in the Church with an organist playing.

On top of all that, we have live music to put us in the party spirit!

Please call 525223 to book a table for lunch!



*St Andrew's Church, Ringstead*

**RINGSTEAD IN BLOOM - Bridget Crowfoot**

The first meeting of the year will be on Tuesday 14th September 10am at the Village Sign.

If you would like to join us please telephone 01485 525295 for further information.



*Great Ringstead Village Sign taken as it was before Ringstead in Bloom began work to enhance the area.*



## JULY / AUGUST OIL PAINTINGS EXHIBITION - Eddie Goodridge

Summer 2021



We are really pleased to be exhibiting once again at Ringstead Village Hall.

Eddie Goodridge is a Full Member of the Institute of East Anglian Artists and paints everything from pets to portraits.

We have been busy getting our new collection ready and look forward to seeing you, even if it's just to browse, it will be lovely to meet you.

[www.eddiegoodridgeart.co.uk](http://www.eddiegoodridgeart.co.uk)

## RECTOR'S MAGAZINE ARTICLE - Rev. Rachael Dines

As I write the temperature seems to be warmer and it feels as if Summer is here. How wonderful it is to see people out and about enjoying the delights our area has to offer. Little things like the improved weather and the ability to meet with friends seem to lift the spirits don't they? We have perhaps, come to realise how important the 'little things' are over the last year and a bit.

I got into conversation with one of our ladies at church about using up some excess fabrics and wool, to make little pincushions. We spoke of the joy of one child receiving one of these little cushions with an image of a particular sheep, that she loves, on the front. The enjoyment that making that little gift and the delight of the recipient was lovely to hear of. Then spoke of my own enjoyment at being part of a world wide group of women who are part of a 'pincushion swap' group on social media.

I seemed to stumble upon this group whose main aim and sense of fun is gained from making pincushions for people we don't know, but get to know over time. Each month we are paired up with another maker and we make each other one of these little beauties and post it off, usually with a few extra 'goodies' of a sewing nature. I have such a great time connecting with women from different places as we share our stories and photos from our home towns and villages. There seems to be an openness and generosity in this group that is more than about receiving a package in the post from Canada, America or Norway. This is not about extravagance in gifts but it is about generosity in small things. We each try to bless another person in a small but personal way. I have also received from people in this Benefice wool and buttons. If you go to one of our floral events in the Benefice you may be able to pick up a little knitted floral gift too!

This kindness in small things is a wonderful way to bless others we may not know. You don't have to belong to a very niche group like my pincushion ladies to show love and generosity to others. As those who live in our area or pass through on holiday, we can all be generous to strangers in the little things. When we give to charity perhaps with money, time or items to sell we are more often than not being generous to strangers. I am always very moved by those who run marathons for charities and any sort of giving whilst being generous can also be costly at times. As a Christian I believe that the greatest gift I have received is the gift of forgiveness because of Jesus' work on the cross. That gift was costly but life changing and is offered to all...not because in some kind of 'cosmic swap' we give back to God. No. The gift of life is given purely because of love. We are loved by God. That is better than anything anyone could send in the post!

May you all be blessed during your times in the sunshine and rain this Summer and may you offer and receive little kindnesses. You are always welcome to one of our services so do check out our website.

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Summer 2021

## Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180 C
2. Grease an oven proof dish (approx 8x8 inch in diameter) with softened butter.
3. Roughly cut or tear the croissants into small pieces and put them into the greased oven dish.
4. Scatter the raspberries all over the croissants tucking some underneath too.
5. Put the cream and the milk in a pan and heat gently for a few minutes until just coming to the boil and then set aside to cool.
6. In a bowl, beat the eggs, egg yolk and vanilla essence until combined.
7. Pour the warm milk and cream slowly into the bowl with the egg mixture, stirring continuously. Then pour the combined mixture over the croissants and raspberries and leave it to stand for 10 minutes to soak into the croissants.
8. Sprinkle the sugar over the top of the croissants and eggy raspberry mixture.
9. Place the dish on a baking tray and put it in the oven for 20-25 minutes until golden.

Serve warm with a cold vanilla custard or creme fraîche.

Alternatives: Use almond croissants for a Bakewell vibe or chocolate croissants to be extra indulgent! You could also use brioche bread instead. Try it with different seasonal fruits too!

Enjoy!

## THE VILLAGE STORE - Time flies when you are having fun! A huge thank you from Nathan, Leah, Joshua and Lottie.



It has already been over 3 months since we started our new family journey in Ringstead. Joshua and Lottie are making great progress in their new schools and making lots of new friendships. For us, we just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone for your continued support, custom and for making us feel extremely welcome. We have received lots of compliments on the changes we have started to put in place.

Our initial plan to freshen the exterior has almost been completed before the busy summer holiday period. We have brought in lots of fantastic Norfolk products and started to find new food suppliers and traders for Hidden Treasures. We want to be able to offer some fantastic gifts both food and non-food, alongside providing the everyday essentials and we are working hard on this area now. You will already see quality local handmade gifts available now as we start to expand on this. We have some amazing new local traders with some great antiques too where you will find some unique one-off pieces.

We would not be here if it were not for you all supporting your local village store, a HUGE thank you again as we could not do it without you. Your feedback is always valued and welcome.

We are proud of what we have achieved in the first 3 months and are getting set for a huge summer whilst in the background we are already looking at Christmas preparations!!

Thank you again.

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## VILLAGE RESIDENT RECIPES - A MAIN COURSE AND DESSERT

### SALMON , POTATO AND MUSHROOM BAKE - Avril Bilham

This is a lovely fish bake, in which salmon is cooked with mushrooms and potatoes with a delicious hint of caraway to counteract the rich flavours.

The dish makes a hearty meal, served with just a salad, so it can be made in advance and baked when needed.

#### Ingredients

135 ml vegetable oil  
 4 baking potatoes (peeled and thinly sliced)  
 10 grams butter  
 300 grams mushrooms (thinly sliced)  
 1 large onion  
 1.5ml caraway seed (ground with pestle and mortar)  
 500 grams thin salmon fillets (bone and skin removed)  
 2 large eggs  
 300ml single cream  
 200 grams breadcrumbs  
 Salt and ground black pepper

#### Method

1. Pre heat oven to 180 C or 350 F or Gas 4.
2. Heat 5-6 tbsp oil in large non stick frying pan over a medium heat.
3. Add the potatoes a few at a time and cook until almost tender and lightly browned. Remove from the pan and set aside.
4. Add the butter to the pan, then add the mushrooms, sauté for 4 minutes.
5. Add the remaining oil to the pan and cook onion rings until soft.
6. Line a serving dish with most of the precooked potatoes in a solid layer, overlapping the slices a little.
7. Spoon over the mushrooms and then top with onion rings.
8. Sprinkle the ground caraway over the top.
9. Top with the salmon fillets, and finish with a layer of the remaining potatoes.
10. Combine the egg and cream, then pour over the bake. Sprinkle with breadcrumbs.

Bake in the preheated oven for 35 to 40 minutes or until golden brown.

Serve hot and enjoy!

### RASPBERRY BREAD AND BUTTER PUDDING - Louise Howell

A delicious dessert that can be adapted to the fruits in season.

#### Ingredients

6 all butter croissants  
 1x 350g bag of frozen raspberries  
 3 eggs  
 1 egg yolk  
 300ml milk  
 300ml double cream  
 1 teaspoon vanilla essence  
 2 tablespoons of Demerara sugar

## I CAME THAT THEY MAY HAVE LIFE, AND HAVE IT ABUNDANTLY' John 10:10 Rev Kirsty Allen

The girls in this photo stand behind large sacks of grains and pulses that a market stall holder is selling. There is an agreement between the stall holder and the girls, that any grains that are dropped on the floor, they may gather up. The small bag at the feet of the middle girl is what they have collected over several weeks. This is what they will sell, to make some money for their families. They live with their parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins in the shelters that are behind them. This is their life at ages 10, 12 and 16. They are lucky that they've not been sold for their dowry money. Selling them would mean one less mouth to feed and some cash for the family.

I took this photograph on my first trip to India. I'd gone to visit my dear friends at The Delhi Brotherhood what I describe as modern day Anglican monks, who through loving service, get grants from the Indian Government to employ over 420 people across Delhi to help the poorest of the poor. Their job has been made harder over the last few years as the Government have not given grants to faith groups that are not Hindu. Yet, most of the poor they help are of other faiths, Hindu or Muslim. In India, talking about your Christian faith would be classed as proselytising and can land you in prison. As such, the Delhi Brotherhood have a very gentle, kindly nature about them and don't outwardly talk about their faith, but show it. They genuinely love others, and I think the reason I get on with them so well and admire all that they do, is because they show us how Jesus loves. Love in its purest form. Love that conquered whether Jew, Gentile, Roman or Greek, rich or poor, slave or free. Love that won even over death in Jesus' resurrection and ascension. Love wins, despite colour of skin, religion, sexuality, gender, status or wealth, at least it should.

In India, I met people who are made to feel so ashamed of who they are, where they were born and the colour of their skin, and feel so unworthy of any love, that they only come out at night. But with the love and care that the Delhi Brotherhood projects show them, they literally come into the light, the light of day and a fuller life. The reason the girls in the photo hadn't been sold for their dowries is because the Delhi Brothers had befriended the family. They then offered to take the girls several afternoons a week and teach them basic Hindi, English and maths and sewing skills. Because these girls will be able to write their names and add up, they can eventually get better work. That is what education provides, even in its most basic form. Through the work of the Brothers and those they employ, these girls have witnessed first-hand God's love. A love that brings them hope, a better future, but that empowers them as individuals to be the people God intends them to be, free of being trapped in poverty, class or status.

As we slowly come out of lockdown and are all thinking that the virus is at a manageable level, let us all remember that Jesus came for ALL of us. Not just those of us that live in Britain, those of us that have had the vaccine, those of us who have had the privilege of education, those of us who have houses to live in and food on our tables, but for ALL. For me, that means sharing what we have be it time or money, with those who are living without hope. We have much to be very thankful for, and a way of showing our gratitude, is to be mindful of those that live without hope within our own communities and across the world.

*(The Benefice now has a Facebook page to follow what we're up to and keep in touch @HSSBCofE)*

### UPDATE FROM WALES - Cathy and Tim Roberts (formerly of the General Store)

We are settling into our retirement very well. We are surrounded by stunning scenery, and are making the most of being so near to family. We have not wasted any time in our house search and are very near to getting a date to exchange and complete on a property in Carmarthen. When we are in, we will let you know.

We miss you, the daily banter, and send our very best wishes.



## NORFOLK RIVERS TRUST - Conserving Norfolk's Ponds, Ursula Juta

"Norfolk holds more ponds than any other English county with an estimated 23,000 present. Most of these ponds are located in farmland, and have their origins as marl or clay pits and in some cases livestock-watering ponds dug in the 17th to 19th centuries."

"Ponds can provide vital clean freshwater environments and are vital habitats for aquatic biodiversity covering plants, invertebrates, amphibians, fishes, and mammals. Recent pond studies conducted by University College London also show high quality ponds to be important for farmland birds, likely through the provision of insect food. In short good ponds are likely to benefit a whole host of species in farmland landscapes. While the wildlife benefits of ponds are numerous, they remain threatened by land reclamation, widespread encroachment of trees and scrub, pollution and invasive species. Indeed, ponds in Norfolk have been greatly neglected over the last 50 years and many have become overgrown with trees or have been in-filled to create more agricultural or development land." (Norfolk Ponds Project)

With 71% decline in freshwater fish species in Europe, 40% decline in amphibians, and 83% decline globally in all freshwater wildlife, we know that something must be done to reverse these trends to avoid a biodiversity catastrophe. The UK is said to be one of the most Nature Depleted countries in the world. In Norfolk we still have the land and the power to do help reverse these declines, either by restoring and enhancing existing ponds or creating new ponds. If you want to know more, there are some excellent online guides by various wildlife organisations and Norfolk Ponds Project and Norfolk Rivers Trust are able to provide guidance.

Some key points for restoration or creation are as follows:

- Ponds can be all shapes and sizes; the most important factor is varying depths and lots of edge habitat.
- Ponds are best left to colonise naturally, so avoid adding plants or fish. This also reduces the risk of introducing invasive species from garden centres etc.
- Sunlight is essential for aquatic plants so if you have a very shaded pond, think about opening up the canopy to allow light in.
- Mosaic habitats are best for wildlife, so a series of ponds and scrapes, with hedgerows and trees and long grass will support a whole ecosystem.
- Remember to leave a shallow graded bank and some logs for wildlife to escape from, should anything fall in.

To find out more you can download a useful guide here:

<https://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/documents/norfolk-ponds-project/npp-restoring-norfolk-s-ponds-guidance-booklet>.

<https://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/documents/nature-recovery-network/wildlife-advice/school/nwt-pond-creation>

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Rivers Trust Norfolk

## RINGSTEAD HISTORY PROJECT - Holidaying in Ringstead, Bill Jacob

Have you ever wondered how long people have been holidaying in Ringstead? The answer seems to be about 250 years ever since the prosperous middle classes began to take holidays in the 1770s and '80s. George III visiting Weymouth and the Prince Regent building a palatial pavilion at Brighton popularized sea-bathing, for health. Someone visiting a friend in Brancaster in September 1787 described a tour through Holt, to Wells, and Burnham Market to Brancaster, and then 'a very pleasant ride to Hunstanton Light House... all by the Sea Side'. Nicholas Styleman, son of the rector of Ringstead described regular sea-bathing from 1788. The first hint of a holiday home in Ringstead is an auctioneer's advertisement for a house with six acres of land 'well adapted for a family desirous of a summer residence, being near the sea, and in a genteel neighbourhood', in May 1811. Twenty years later in April 1831 another auctioneer advertised a 'Desirable Residence and small compact Farm at Ringstead, within a pleasant walk of the romantic village of Hunstanton, highly esteemed and much resorted to for the salubrity of its maritime situation and where machines are provided for the accommodation of Sea Bather's'. In August 1835 perhaps the same house and farm was advertised, noting the excellent communications 'This Property is a particularly desirable residence for a Small Family of respectability; the country around being unquestionably the most beautiful of any part of West Norfolk, with a genteel neighbourhood, and facility of communication with different parts of the Kingdom – the London Mail passing daily within two miles, on its way from Lynn to Wells'.

When Henry Styleman le Strange developed a new seaside resort facing west, across the sea, with a railway line connecting Hunstanton with London and the Midlands, the area attracted 'genteel' visitors. Grand hotels were built, notably, the Sandringham Hotel advertised in *The Field* (19 August 1882) as 'One of the best-appointed, comfortable Hotels in the kingdom', next to the station, overlooking the sea. To rival European spas, it featured nearby, 'the Ringstead Chalybeate Spring ( a supply of which is brought in every morning from June till October)'. Golf clubs were developed at Old Hunstanton in 1891 and Brancaster in 1892. Houses were advertised to let, including in the upmarket *Morning Post* in February 1899, 'To Let, Furnished, for the Summer months, Ringstead Rectory, Norfolk: four sitting rooms, 12 bedrooms, and one dressing room; stables for five horse: six miles from Brancaster golf links, two miles from Hunstanton golf links'.

The railway line broadened the range of visitors. The *Shoreditch Observer's* holiday correspondent featuring 'Norfolk Villages' on 30 August 1884 noted walking from Holme to Ringstead 'The only signs of life are those of harvesting in the fields, and an old windmill still used to grind the corn. ... we soon come to the village of Ringstead. This is a lovely spot, surrounded by fine trees, parks, farms, homesteads and some charming Downs, which are much visited by picnic parties and others. He then complained bitterly that the church was locked. The *Eastern Evening News* reported in July 1898 an outing by train from Hills & Underwood's Norwich vinegar works and distillery to Hunstanton, where they had 'a sail on the briny, a walk to Old Hunstanton along the cliffs, a stroll on the Beach, and a drive through the park and over Ringstead Downs'.

The holiday industry has been a long part of our history.

## HELPFUL HANDS SELLING SERVICES - eBay Shop offering Selling Services - Lauren Palmer

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