

Dennington News

Issue 28: April - June 2022

www.denningtonvillagehall.com



The Dennington Queen

As the days get longer & warmer our outside seating areas are a lovely place to while away a few hours. Either sipping a cocktail or a light lunch looking out over the duck pond, our garden terrace is a beautiful area when spring arrives with the buds & blossom flowering & the cheep cheep of new born ducklings! We are having some refurbishment works carried out both inside & outside over the next month or so which we can't wait to show off!

Whether it's meeting a friend for a drink, a ladies lunch, a cosy dinner or full on celebration, you'll always get a warm welcome from Jon, Lorna & the team. We currently open Tuesday to Saturday with food served 12pm-2pm & 5.30pm-8.30pm & Sundays 12pm until 4pm. **Call us on 01728 638241 for reservations.**

We will also be holding a barbeque with a bouncy castle, face painting, music etc for the jubilee on Saturday, 4th June. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Jon & Lorna Reeves



EDITOR'S INTRODUCTION

This edition of the Dennington News is filled with news about all the amazing events being planned to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on Sunday, 5th June. There are lots of competitions to enter and activities on the day - full details on page 6, and throughout the magazine - so we hope everybody will be able to join in. Keep your fingers crossed for lovely weather - though we will move into the village hall if necessary!

In addition to everything else, the Jubilee committee will be giving a free, specially designed Jubilee mug to all school-age children in the village, with the option for adults to buy one. We'll arrange distribution to everyone at the primary school but if you have a school-age child at another school, **let us know on denningtonnews@gmail.com by 15th April** so that we can order one for them too!

In addition to decorating your house frontage, baking a chocolate cake, dressing your children up, sending me your memories of the Queen, training for the Dennington Olympics and putting together your Jubilee picnic, I hope you find time to come along to some of our regular events such as a coffee morning, the Horticultural Club or the next PC meeting. Happy reading!

Jo Denton, Editor

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DENNINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Spring is in the air, and the change in weather is bringing the flowers into bloom and hopes for sunny days ahead. As for the village hall, we have a busy calendar with lots of bookings and of course the Jubilee celebrations to look forward to.

After two long years of waiting we finally took delivery of the new chair pads to replace the much loved and very worn pads. Following a tremendous effort by James Maberly and his swiftly assembled working party, I am delighted to say that all 120 chairs have now had their seats replaced and look super smart. Many, many thanks to those who undertook this momentous challenge. I



Chair pad replacers working hard!

hope you had the opportunity to have a little rest on one of the new seats!

So much of the news in recent weeks has been filled with events across the world, we are so blessed to live in a

peaceful and friendly village. Do you have a lonely neighbour, or would you like to try a new club or activity? Take a look at the wide range of activities and events on offer in our village hall and perhaps invite a friend or neighbour along to try something new.

As mentioned in previous editions, the hall Trustees take on their roles on a voluntary basis. Their commitment is always most gratefully received. We continue to look for additional members to join the committee – in particular a new Treasurer. If you feel you have a few hours to spare each week for this role, please do make contact – we would love to hear from you.

Jo Cartwright, Chair of the Trustees

JUBILEE EVENTS SUNDAY 5TH JUNE - SAVE THE DATE!



A full day of activities is planned for everyone in Dennington to get together and celebrate the Queen's Jubilee – so do please come along and join us!

During the week leading up to the 5th June everyone is encouraged to decorate their frontage along the street with bunting and flags; there will be a prize for the best decorated.

On Sunday there will be a Crown Trail round the village, where 20-25 houses have been selected to display a specially made Crown. There will be a prize draw of one lucky winner from all those who manage to find every Crown! Pick up a map for the route at the Neathouse in advance.

Other activities include:

- All week: Decorate your house frontage
- All day: Crown Trail around the village
- 11-11.30: Special church service for everyone - see page 16
- 11-12.30: Church open for displays of school artwork
- 12.00: Dedication of Jubilee tree on the village green
- 12.15: Village hall opens with special display of Jubilee memorabilia and old photos – see opposite page
- 12.30: BYO picnic lunch on sports field – see opposite page
- 12.30 on: Live music on the sports field
- 13.30 on: Dennington Olympics for all ages – see page 13
- 14.30: Chocolate cake judging in hall – see page 9
- 15.30: Prize giving
- 15.45: Cake and tea
- 16.30 on Happy Hour art studio trail – see page 21

Jubilee committee

QUEEN'S JUBILEE: PICNIC ON THE SPORTS FIELD

In the happy expectation that **Sunday, 5th June** will be a day full of glorious sunshine in honour of the Queen's Jubilee, we invite everyone to come along to the sports field from 12.15 on, bringing your own picnic lunch. The village hall bar will be open from 12.15, and there will be local musicians playing for everyone's enjoyment.

All children attending are encouraged to wear Royal-themed fancy dress, and there will be a prize for the best-dressed child.

After lunch there will be sporting activities for all ages - see page 13 for full details, but please do register in advance - with free ice cream on offer plus delicious chocolate cake and tea to finish the afternoon. Come along and join us!

Jo Denton



**DO YOU HAVE
OLD PHOTOS
OF
DENNINGTON?**

If so, we'd love to borrow them to display during the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in the

village hall. Please contact Jo Denton on denningtonnews.com to discuss what you might be able to let us have for this very special

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BAKE AN AWARD WINNING CHOCOLATE CAKE!

The Queen's favourite cake is chocolate, so to celebrate her Jubilee – and as tea for everyone coming along to our celebrations on the sports field – we are announcing the very first **Dennington Chocolate Cake Bake Off**. The recipe for the



Queen's favourite chocolate cake is unbelievably rich, containing 12 egg yolks, 4 whole eggs, 2lb of chocolate and 32 fluid oz. double cream, so we're not encouraging anyone to bake that! Instead make your own favourite chocolate sponge cake and bring it along to the village hall between 12.30 and 2.15pm when our professional judges will choose a winner.

Instead of a chocolate cake recipe, here is one for chocolate biscuit cake. This was served at William and Kate's wedding as an alternative to wedding cake; apparently the Queen enjoyed it so much it's now served to her for afternoon tea each day:

Ingredients

3oz/75g butter

1oz/25g caster sugar

1 tablespoon golden syrup

1oz/25g cocoa

8oz/250g half coated chocolate digestive biscuits, roughly crushed

3oz/ 75g raisins (optional – soak overnight in 3 tbls whisky, as served at the Royal wedding)

3oz/75g melted chocolate to coat the top – also optional

Method

Line a 7" square cake tin or dish with cling film or baking paper. Melt butter, sugar and syrup in a pan and stir in the cocoa, add broken biscuits and raisins and transfer to the prepared tin. Level the top then leave in the fridge until set, 2-3 hours. If wished, melt the chocolate, spread over the top and return to fridge to set. Cut into 12 squares. It keeps best covered with cling film in the fridge.

Catherine Blakeley

PLATINUM JUBILEE TRIVIA QUIZ

Neil Hannon has kindly provided us with a fiendishly difficult Royal quiz in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. Who can uncover the correct answers to all the following questions? Email your responses to denningtonnews@gmail.com to be in with a chance of winning a great prize:

1. Which servicemen do not have to swear an oath of allegiance to the Sovereign?
2. At the first investiture held by the Queen, who was awarded the Victoria Cross?
3. How many Christmas puddings does the Queen give to her staff each year?
4. What did the President of Cameroon give to the Queen to mark her Silver Jubilee?
5. Why did the Queen have to interrupt the overseas tour in 1974 and return to England?
6. Why was the Trooping of the Colour Ceremony cancelled in 1955?
7. Who made the official wedding cake for Princess Elizabeth and Philip Mountbatten?
8. Where did the silk for Princess Elizabeth's wedding dress originate from?
9. What is the name of the crown used in the Coronation service?
10. What is the name of the horse ridden by the Queen at the Trooping of the colour from 1969 to 1986?
11. Where is the Royal Philatelic Collection housed?
12. Where was the Queen educated?
13. Which of the Queen's horses won the Rous Memorial Stakes at Ascot in 1954?

Q10 - Trooping the Colour



14. In which month does Swan-Upping usually take place?
15. What are the blue velvet robes worn by the Knights of the Garter known as?
16. Which ceremony is the beginning of Holyrood Week?
17. On which ship did the Queen carry out the Coronation Review of the Fleet in 1953?
18. What was the young Princess Elizabeth called by her family?
19. What is the date of the Queen's actual birthday?
20. Which flag flies over Buckingham Palace when the Queen is at home?

Email your answers to denningtonnews@gmail.com **by Sunday, 29th May** and one lucky winner will be picked at random, results to be announced at the general prize giving on Sunday, 5th June.

Good luck!

Q7 - The Queen's wedding cake



Q8 - The Queen's wedding dress



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WIN MEDALS AT THE 2022 DENNINGTON OLYMPICS!

Dennington Sports Club are organising fun games on the sports field to take place on the afternoon of 5th June, with medals for first, second and third place in the races. Everyone is welcome to join in!



Events will be held in the following age bands:

Under 5s / 5-8 year olds / 9-12 year olds / 13-16 year olds
Adults under 40 /adults over 40

The races will include:
Three legged race
Egg and spoon race
Wheelbarrow race

Plus 5-a-side football and family rounders running through the afternoon.

PLEASE LET US KNOW WHICH RACES YOU ARE PLANNING TO ENTER so that we can make preparations: [email Mike Pearce on karenmikepearce@aol.com](mailto:karenmikepearce@aol.com) by 3rd June at the latest.

The Club's Tennis Court was repainted last year in its new blue and green colours and those wishing to join up to play should request a registration form from Charles Denton, contactable on charlesdenton@hotmail.com. The padlock combination for the gate will be provided on receipt of an online payment of the annual membership fee (£40 family; £30 couple; £15 individual).

Mike Pearce and Charles Denton, Dennington Sports Club

ST. MARY'S DENNINGTON

Our church in Dennington is the most impressive building in the village, but think how it must have stood out as it was being rebuilt in the 1300s when it was surrounded by tiny houses. I say rebuilt, because there was clearly an earlier church here and perhaps it has always been a “holy” place. Was it special to Denegifu, the Saxon lady after whom Dennington is named? She is one of the very few ladies to have a village named after her in Suffolk.

I also say “our” church because it is the church for everyone in Dennington. Peter Reeve opens and shuts the ancient door every day so that it is open for anyone to enter, to look round and admire its wonders, to say a prayer or just soak up its sense of peace.

It is wonderful that the school use the church for services which helps to make it familiar and available to local children. And the building is full of treasures: the unique sciapod sculpture which has been adopted by Dennington school as its emblem; The Bardolph tomb commemorating Lord Bardolph, born in Dennington as William Phelip, who fought at the battle of Agincourt and became Lord Chancellor with his wife Joan from whose family he inherited his title; the wonderful bench ends carved with fantastical creatures; the parclose screens and much more which you can discover from Roy Tricker’s excellent guide. Search for the green lady, the man sticking his tongue out and the two owls - all of these wonderful things have been made by local people and cared for by Dennington villagers for centuries.

Flying the Ukrainian flag...



It is a holy place where special moments in life have been celebrated by Dennington people alongside the regular services, but over the centuries the church nave has also been the village meeting place. At the back of the guidebook, the late John Ridgard from Dennington Place describes Church Ales, fundraising gatherings that would have taken place in the church, as well as providing the recipe for the ale! The village war memorial is in the chancel (at the East end) and the clock is another from after the second world war. So do please feel free to visit your church.

On the second Sunday of every month at 11.00am there is a less formal service lasting about 30 minutes, taken by the churchwardens and followed by tea and coffee. This has some singing and prayers for reflection but is also a time to meet and talk: everyone is welcome. There are more formal services on the first Sunday at 8.00am, and the fourth Sunday at 11.00, which are always open to everyone and are led by our Rector, the Reverend Martin Percival, who can be contacted on 07789 417050 or revmepercival@gmail.com.

A few years ago the bells were restored and rehung. The oldest bell dates from 1416 and so has been being rung by Dennington residents for 600 years. Just at the moment we are short of bellringers. Would anyone like to have a go? Particularly important in this Jubilee year. If you are interested, Duncan Horrocks is the tower captain and would love to hear from you: duncan_horrocks@yahoo.co.uk.

On the first Saturday of every month a team of people gather to clean the church. We have many compliments in the visitors' book about how well the church and churchyard are cared for; anyone wishing to join would be welcomed.

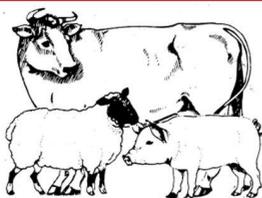
Jim Carpenter does an amazing job in keeping the churchyard tidy and would always appreciate some help.

There is also a rota for flower arranging both on regular Sundays and with volunteers having their allocated window to decorate for special occasions. If this sounds interesting, please contact Frances Boscawen on francesboscawen@gmail.com.

This is not meant to be a recruitment article, but as members of Dennington village there are tasks which it might be fun to be a part of. If you have queries about the church, would like to help in any way or just want to have a chat, the churchwardens are Veronica Maberly on vmaberly@keme.co.uk or Robert Rous on Robert@denningtonhall.co.uk. Our church is a truly amazing building and all of Dennington should be proud of it and able to appreciate and enjoy it.

Robert Rous

NB there is a special informal service on Sunday, 5th June to mark the Queen's Jubilee, everyone welcome. See page 6 for details.



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Dennington Horticultural Club

Our January meeting saw Adrian Neill give a fascinating overview of commercial potato growing in this country as well as providing some top tips for growing better potatoes in a garden or allotment; see his article on page 35. This was followed by the first ever AGM, when the current Officers of the Club were confirmed for a further year.

In March, we enjoyed an excellent discussion on wine growing round the world from Toby Evers of Naked Wines in Norwich, and compared some delicious wines from some of their independent wine makers: a Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand with one (a Sauvignon Blanc/Sèmillon mix) from Bordeaux, and a Shiraz from Australian with a Syrah (a different spelling for the same grape) from France.



The bulbs that have been planted on the green are now coming up, while during April the Club members will be adding in some red, white and blue wild flowers to complement them later in the year. Volunteers welcome!

The next meeting of the Club will take place on Wednesday, 18th May when we have kindly been invited to Dennington Hall to learn about a year in the life of a local farm, including conservation projects, crop rotations, woodland, wildlife and cattle.

Email jo.henry@hotmail.co.uk or penelopeevers@gmail.com for information about joining. Subs are £35 per year for a couple, or £20 per year for an individual.

Jo Denton, DHC Secretary



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We have had a busy and exciting Spring. The whole school took part in World Book Day at the beginning of March. It was particularly exciting to have BBC Radio Suffolk visit us and interview children and teachers live on their breakfast show! The children looked fantastic dressed up as a character from a book they love and we spent the day reading and listening to stories.

Chaffinches, our reception class, have just commenced their Spring dinosaur topic which is always very popular! It includes finding out about the dinosaurs that roamed our earth, looking at fossils and concludes with an exciting trip to the Dinosaur Park in Norwich. The Robins have been on a trip to Strangers' Hall in Norwich. We got to see some 17th century artefacts and hear from someone (an actor!) who was around at the time of The Great Fire of London. We are really looking forward to writing a diary entry from the point of view of a London citizen at that time.

As a school, we wanted to help raise money to support the people of Ukraine with a light-hearted fund raising event at what has been a worrying time for the families of the school. The children came in in non-uniform with jokes attached/written on their bodies, and we raised £132, which is going to the EMF Ukraine Emergency Appeal.

We are all looking forward to celebrating Easter together and will take part in a range of activities at the church to explore why Christians celebrate Easter. We will then finish our term with our much-anticipated annual Easter bonnet parade and egg hunt.

Jenny Turner, Teacher





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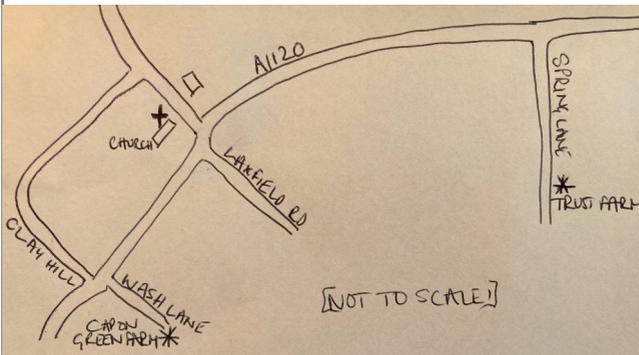
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DENNINGTON ART TRAIL, SUNDAY 5TH JUNE

Complete our celebratory Jubilee festivities by visiting two artists who will be opening their studios and offering refreshments for visitors between 4.30 and 6.30. Jillifar Amor at Capons Green Farm, Wash Lane, Capons Green, will be displaying her own work and that of a number of other local artists, including Steven Watkins, Rueben Pearce, Karen Pearce, Rosie MacKenzie and Jayne Stansfeld, while Lorette Roberts at Trust Farm, Spring Lane, is opening up her studio too - and visitors can also visit their gardens.



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VILLAGE PERSONALITY: KYRA WILSON



Born in Trimley St. Mary, near Felixstowe, where her father ran a tile shop, Kyra moved with her family to a large eight-bedroomed rented farmhouse on the Tollemarche estate in Framsdon, where she and her siblings lived an idyllic existence. They kept chickens, sheep and a horse and enjoyed an outdoor life devoid of computer distraction. Kyra

went to the lovely red brick Helmingham Primary with five pupils in her year group, all part of a homely, tight-knit community.

Going on to Debenham High aged eleven was quite a challenge, having to catch the early bus after first making sure that the animals were watered and fed. Kyra particularly enjoyed the practical subjects which the school then offered - art, textiles, domestic science – and her social group expanded; being able to cycle meant she could get around the countryside and see her new friends.

At 16, Kyra left school with ideas of qualifying in childcare, but a summer job at The Highwayman on the A140, first as a waitress, then helping in the kitchens, made her reconsider her future and the possibilities in hospitality and catering. She enrolled at Ipswich College two days a week and when not studying worked hard to pick up valuable practical experience, and with it a licensee certificate which enables her to run a public house.

The family moved to Barking, near Needham Market, with Kyra's father sadly being diagnosed with cancer and suffering from the necessary chemotherapy treatment he had to have. Kyra

continued to support the family by working at a number of restaurants, by chance meeting up again with Justin, an old friend she'd lost touch with, at a disco at the old school. Justin was a chef at the Kettleburgh Chequers, living in Brandeston, and they soon became 'an item'.

When her parents moved on to Wetherden, near Haughley, the young couple looked to set up together in their own property; an affordable house on Swainson's Way presented itself in 2004, and they have lived there ever since, extending the property to suit their requirements. They were married in Brandeston Church, with a reception in the Old Mill House at Saxtead Green, where Kyra was then working, and an evening function in Dennington Village Hall. Kian and Abbie were born in 2006 and 2008 respectively, and both attended Badingham pre-school where Kyra helped Michelle Cole, whilst at the same time cleaning at the Windmill Lodges in Saxtead. Kyra is very supportive of the proposed move by the Badingham play school to Dennington in the future. Both Kian and Abbie are now at Thomas Mills, actively representing school and local community sports teams.

Kyra appreciates the social stability of Dennington and its location, close to where both she and Justin now work, at the College in Framlingham. Through promotion, Kyra is the Matron of Kerrison House, a boarding house on College Road with sixty plus boys. She has proved very popular with students from a very wide variety of backgrounds and is flattered when they occasionally call her 'mum' by mistake: it speaks volumes for her relationship with many of the lads, so far from home. The position has, she thinks, made her more patient and generally understanding, and interacting with such a diverse range of characters has broadened her perspective.

Kyra enjoys the pool and sports facilities at the College and spends leisure time on the beaches and in the forests, particularly those towards the coast, with their dog. She took up running by taking

**DATE FOR THE
DIARY**

DENNINGTON FETE

2022

**SATURDAY
30 JULY**

12:00-16:00

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**MEETING
THURSDAY
5TH MAY 19:30
THE NEATHOUSE**

part in the five and ten kilometre park runs which take place every Saturday morning at hundreds of venues throughout the country, and she now trains with the Framlingham Flyers, who have over 100 runners out regularly on programmed sessions, both a physical and social activity. On her third attempt, Kyra has had her entry for the London Marathon in October accepted, where she will run in aid of cancer research. Catching covid and muscle injury has held training back, but she is already doing three or four runs a week of between 8 and 9 miles and will step up the plan come June as things become more serious! Justin offers support from the comfy saddle of a bike on occasion, and the dog is always up for increased pace and mileage!

Although the thought of going down to London still scares our home-grown athlete, everyone will want to wish her all the best as she continues to train for that most testing of events, running 26 miles to raise money for charity. If you would like to sponsor Kyra she would be delighted to receive donations for any amount via her 'Just Giving' page here: <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/kyras-london-marathon>. And do look out for her around the village as the spring and summer months unfold and salute her courageous bid to complete the most challenging of races.

As told to *Mark Kendall*

TELL US YOUR STORIES ABOUT THE QUEEN!

We'd love to hear about *your* personal memories of the Queen. Have you met her or seen her in person? Does someone in your family have a story about meeting her? Please send your memories of the Queen to denningtonnews@gmail.com by the end of May and we will publish them in the next issue.



Dennington Hall Farms

As those of you who walk around Severalls Road will have seen, we have Les Cotton's team carrying out some drainage work and so I thought that it might be interesting to explain what happens under the surface in all the fields that we farm.



The clay soils in our part of Suffolk would become almost impossible to farm without drainage. We only have to leave a hole for it to fill with water which is quite different to the sandy land east of the A12.

The most basic form of drainage is digging ditches to draw the water out of the surrounding soil, but this does not dry out very much land. For centuries clay tile pipes were used and when we carry out new drainage schemes, we usually cut through an assortment of ancient tile pipes. Before the 20th century these were dug in by hand and the trench was backfilled with bushes. This allowed the soil to dry out a little more quickly. During the 20th century drainage steadily became more sophisticated with trenching machines, then the conversion to plastic pipe in place of



tile and improved methods of backfilling the trench with stone. The main drains are usually 20 or 40 metres apart (actually a "chain" or 22 yards!) depending on the consistency of the clay and the degree of fall. We then pull a "mole" at right angles to the drain. The mole is a solid 3.5/4



inch bullet with an expanding ball behind which is pulled by one of our bigger tractors. This makes a tunnel in the clay which the water runs down until it meets the strip of stone which comes to 18 inches below the surface above the main drains.

The moles are renewed every 5-8 years and are 6 feet apart and two feet deep. Draining Severalls field is particularly expensive as it is very flat and has a lot of headland (the edge of the field).



When Teresa and I lived at the Lodge in the early 1980s we often pushed the pram down

Severalls lane and liked to see the hedges across the field. The field is called Severalls probably because it was owned by several people; part of the field is the Bell acre that provided funds for the Dennington Charity. Because of the history and the landscape, we did not remove the middle hedge which with the modern drainage methods would have been quite possible, but the consequence is a more expensive field to farm and because the headland requires “spurs” a more expensive one to drain.

Hopefully it will once again become a productive field and will not require further draining for another 100 years. It was last drained about 50 years ago but with less good machinery and materials, modern drainage machines have all the latest techniques for levels and accuracy.

Robert Rous

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

We would like to thank Ward Councillor Lydia Freeman for using the Enabling Communities Budget to allow us to purchase a second speed indicator sign for the village. This sign is smaller and more easily transported between sites in the village than our other sign. It also has solar panels to improve the battery life. The sign is currently located on Saxtead Road and seems to be having a noticeable impact on vehicle speeds already.



After many, many years on the Parish Council, Mary Mann stepped down as a councillor at the beginning of the year. We are sorry to see Mary go and would like to thank her for all of the hours she has given to this role.



**"Your Parish
Council Needs
YOU"**

We currently have two vacancies for councillors. **If you are passionate about your local area and interested in making a difference, then being a parish councillor could be the ideal position for you.**

Being an effective councillor requires both commitment and work. The Dennington Parish Council meets on alternate months on a Monday evening at the village hall and also holds Planning Meetings when required, with other communications mainly via email.

Becoming a councillor is both a rewarding and privileged form of public service. You will be in a position to make a difference to the quality of other people's daily lives and prospects, and to improve your community. You do not need any previous experience of being

a councillor, but you will need to be passionate about your local area and dedicated to working as part of a team for the benefit of residents.

The usual term of office for a councillor is 4 years. If during this time you are no longer able to fulfil the role then you have the option to resign. If you are co-opted/elected to fill the seat of a councillor who resigned, then your term of office will be shorter than 4 years.

To be a parish councillor you must:

- Be a British citizen or a citizen of the Commonwealth or European Union

- Be at least 18 years old

- Be registered to vote in the area, or have lived, worked or owned property there for at least 12 months before an election

- Have lived within 3 miles/4.8km of the parish for at least 12 months before an election

Parish Councils have a vast array of powers which give them the flexibility to deal with many of the matters affecting local people. The Parish Council considers and makes recommendations on planning applications affecting the area, supports village events and community buildings, and also provides assets which support the community (village signs, dog litter and waste bins, and benches). Local councils exist to serve the community, and how they achieve this is largely determined by the councillors that serve on the council and the nature of the local area.

Our next meeting is our Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 9th May. We would very much like to fill our councillor vacancies at this meeting. Please contact the clerk, chair or any parish councillor if you would like to discuss this further or are interested in being co-opted on to the council.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish is also on Monday 9th May,



Plan your next big adventure

These days, retirement is less about slowing down and more about regaining time – to enjoy the leisure pursuits and adventures you've been dreaming about for so long. But with the shift to financial self-reliance in retirement, making the right decisions requires advice that is personal to you.

That's where we come in. We offer a local, friendly service backed by the strength and security of FTSE 100 company, St. James's Place Wealth Management. Our advice can help you manage your income and lump-sum needs, whilst guiding you through the tax landscape.

So, if you're looking for security without compromising on your bucket list, let's talk about how we can make that happen.

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The Partner Practice is an Appointed Representative of and represents only St. James's Place Wealth Management plc (which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority) for the purpose of advising solely on the group's wealth management products and services, more details of which are set out on the group's website www.sipp.co.uk/products. The 'St. James's Place Partnership' and the titles 'Partner' and 'Partner Practice' are marketing terms used to describe St. James's Place representatives.

SJF1492192 (06/20)



starting at 7pm. We would welcome reports from clubs and organisations in the village, preferably via email to the clerk (denningtonpcclerk@gmail.com). All residents are most warmly invited to attend and hear what has been happening in the village over the year. The Parish Council meeting will follow shortly after this, in which our policies will be reviewed and representatives and trustees re-appointed. Agendas for the meetings will be on the village noticeboards and websites the week before the meeting.

Matt Lunn, Chair
Lydia Kirk, Clerk

DENNINGTON 100 CLUB

The 100 club, now organised by Pam Turner, is drawn at the Thursday coffee morning in the village hall each month and raises funds for the village hall.

It costs £12 per year to join, with a monthly draw that pays out £25 as first prize, £15 as second prize, £10 as third prize and £5 as fourth prize. **The new membership year starts on 1st May, so please pay your new subscription into the village hall bank account by that date: sort code 20-98-07, account number 30318663, noting your membership number if you can remember it!** For any queries please contact Pam on pstevensturner@gmail.com.

The latest results are as follows:

Place	January '22	February '22	March '22
1 st	John Jarvie	Roderick Roy	Henry Steward
2 nd	John Watterson	Mark Kendall	Linda Dunnett
3 rd	Adrian Neill	Frances Boscawen	Lorette Roberts
4 th	Lisa Lunn	Binkie Andrews	Pam Turner

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DENNINGTON WI

April will see the start of our new year. Dennington WI was formed in 1922 and will be celebrating its centenary with a tea party in August.

We have welcomed 8 new members this year so look forward to another varied programme of speakers with an increase in our attendance of ladies now restrictions have been relaxed.

Forthcoming meetings:

- 13th April: *China past and present* by David Prynne
11th May: Resolutions
8th June: *British sign language* by Michelle Attrill



Jenny Dyne

THE POISON GARDEN

Many of us have taken up gardening during recent years, but your flower bed may not be as innocent as it seems. Professional gardener and radio presenter, Matthew Tanton-Brown, unlocks the dark secrets of the plants we know and love. He will be talking in Bruisyard village hall on Saturday 2 April, starting at 7 for 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 (cash or card), which includes a glass of wine or soft drink, and will be available on the door. For further information please contact Albert Lain 01728 663567 or Miranda Campbell 01728 664042 or see www.bruisyard.com/whatson.

Disclaimer: Dennington Village Hall produces this newsletter in good faith from articles submitted by local organisations and individuals. Dennington Village Hall can accept no responsibility for any inaccuracies contained therein, which must be taken up with the relevant organisation or individual.

DENNINGTON ALLOTMENTS

The allotment is 'Springing' back to life - a little earlier than expected - and preparations are well under way for another productive year. The ground has been very wet this winter but is now drying out quickly – perfect conditions for preparing the soil.



Storm Eunice managed to 'flip' one of the sheds over the perimeter fence (with no damage to the fencing) and to rip the roof off a polytunnel greenhouse, but apart from a few compost bin lids and smaller items having to be retrieved from various parts of the allotment the damage was far less than expected. However, several small trees were felled along the perimeter pathway and our thanks to Robert Wardley and Mark Kendall for clearing the debris.

Once again we have a wonderful daffodil display in the middle of the plots, with more yet to open, and we are expecting a good display of blossom on the fruit trees very soon.

We are pleased to report that we currently have full occupancy on the allotment with two new members joining this spring. However, if you would like to be included on our waiting list please get in touch with me at pstevensturner@gmail.com.

Pamela Turner, Secretary

Please send all stories or items to be included in the next issue, which covers July-September 2022, to the Editor no later than 20th June. Send via email to denningtonnews@gmail.com , or via post to Spring Farm House, The Street, Dennington IP13 8JF. Please send pictures and advertisements as jpeg attachments.

THE GUIDE TO GROWING YOUR OWN POTATOES!

Growing potatoes is one of the easiest things to do, you can grow them in your garden or allotment, or in tall pots or tubs and grow bags on your drive or patio. They give you a good return for your investment too.

Always buy new certified seeds. Don't be tempted to save supermarket potatoes as these are grown in a different way and so can suffer from viruses which will stunt growth and make them susceptible to diseases like black leg.

Garden centres have a good range these days from first earlies to main crop types. I'm often asked what the best potato is, but to be honest it's all personal preference and there are hundreds to choose from. If I was only going to grow a few plants I would tend to go for salad varieties like Charlotte, Venezia, Maris Peer or Anya as these will give you a lot of small potatoes and will be a great compliment to your summer salads or BBQs. Dobbies and Marshalls have some very good catalogues for varieties.



You can get the potatoes to come earlier by chitting them in a container (like an eggbox) in full sunlight on a windowsill. A couple of weeks on a warm windowsill is worth a month in the ground, so you can start now. In Dennington soils there is not much benefit in planting until mid-April. This will also help you avoid the frosts.

Ideally you should have dug the plot in the autumn to allow it to break down during the frosts. You can dig and work the soil in the spring, just be careful not to allow fresh dug wet soil to dry out



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between working too much, as you may not be able to get the fine tilth you need to set up your beds. Try to make a raised ridge of soil to plant in so that the seed does not sit in the wet. It will also warm up quicker and speed up plant growth. You can make a shallow ridge to start with and then draw more soil up over the emerging plants about 3 weeks after planting. Plant east to west if possible to catch the sun, and aim to have seed about 5” deep. Plant earlies and salads 5” apart and main crop 10-12” apart along the ridge.

You can do the same thing in a grow bag. Make sure you have about 10” of soil in the bottom and plant the seed 3” deep. As the potato plant comes up, add more soil over the top until the bag is full. The plant will set more tubers this way. Protect emerging plants from frost either with a cloche, fleece, or even grass trimmings; the main damage is done when the sun burns the frost off. Remove any weeds that will compete with your plants both for light and water.

Water at the base of the plants every week for about 4 weeks to avoid common scab, then water sparingly to make them put down good roots. Potatoes can use a lot of water, so water regularly in hot weather, ideally at the base to keep the leaves dry and reduce the likelihood of getting potato blight.

Not all potatoes flower but a good guide is that your potatoes are ready to lift 2 weeks after the end of flowering for earlies and salads. For main crop let the plant grow as long as possible until the tops start to die back. Once the tops have died (senesced) by about 50% it is then a good time to dig a root to check size, and if ok cut all the tops off, to allow the skins to set.

Three weeks later you can then dig and store them until you’re ready to eat them. Happy growing!

Adrian Neill

SPRING: THE SEASON OF GROWTH FOR READERS

Suffolk Libraries, the charity which provides library services in Suffolk, was formed 10 years ago, and we recently celebrated Suffolk Libraries Day. Although most of our funding comes from the main contract with Suffolk County Council, we also have to raise a significant proportion of our funding from other contracts, grants and donations to continue to deliver and enhance the services we offer. At Framlingham Library we also benefit from the fabulous work of our Friends of Framlingham Library and our volunteers. We were delighted that our 'Alice in the Court House' day raised over £500. This was a positive opportunity for us to show off the completed Court Room, which is already hiring fast, and you may see yoga classes, Suffolk Coastal Leisure Learning Courses, Creation Station East Suffolk and others advertising the activities they are holding there.

Do you want to join or develop a book club? Come in and have a chat. There are several local book clubs, some kept going right through the pandemic and others have restarted. There is interest in creating some new groups too, so just let us know.

Watch our Social Media feeds and notice boards for information about special activities and events that we have planned, including Wild Reads, a project which aims to inspire a love and appreciation of nature through reading. We will be taking over The Kiosk on The Hill for this, and our first Gallery exhibition will be on the theme of 'Wild', with seven artists exhibiting their work in our Court Room Gallery alcoves.

Other activities include:

Regular craft, Lego and group activities

Citizens Advice: every Friday, 10.00-12.00

Charlie's Chapters: every Tuesday, 2.30-3.30pm, Charlie the dog will be on hand to listen to readers

Job Club: every other Tuesday, help and support with job finding, CV writing, applying for jobs online

Connected Communities: third Thursday in the month, advice and support for the over 65s

Dungeons and Dragons, Adult Sign Language and Baby Signing and Library Larks (for Rising 5s) and some interesting and spectacular speakers: details to be announced.

During May we will also be looking to recruit additional volunteers to help with the Summer Reading Challenge, people who will listen to children talk about the books they have read over the long summer holiday.

See you in the library!

Vivian Bamford, Library Manager, Framlingham Library

Dennington Village Hall Coffee mornings

Every other Thursday at 10.30am a friendly group meets in the village hall over coffee or tea and cake to chat, to laugh and to put the world to rights for an hour or so.

New faces as well as old are always welcome, so do come and join us.

The dates for the next few months are below. We look forward to seeing you soon!



*April 7 and 21
May 5 and 19
June 9 and 23*



CATS: CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Coastal Accessible Transport Service (CATS) is a demand responsive bus service that can connect people from Dennington to main hubs like Framlingham, Wickham Market, Saxmundham and Campsea Ashe train station, as well as other villages.



The service is wheelchair accessible, with the minibus being fitted with a tail lift to enable those who may have mobility issues to access the service. The service is flexible too, so if required we can pick up at an agreed point and not a bus stop.

We are keen to promote the service to all residents, especially those who think they have no access to bus services to do everyday tasks like shopping, attending medical appointments etc. If you are aware of individuals or groups of residents that you think may benefit from our service, we are more than happy to speak with them to explain more about what we offer.

To discuss the service or arrange a meeting, please call Lynn Butler on 01728 830516 or email cats.manager@cats-paws.co.uk.

Lynn Butler, CATS Manager

DENNINGTON QUEEN'S HEAD CRIBBAGE TEAM

The current season has just ended and has proved to be very problematical due to the sad loss of players and the pandemic restrictions. Hopefully the new season should start in September and we look forward to a more relaxed weekly competition. The team would welcome more members, be they novices or experienced players, so if you are interested, please contact **Allan Dyne on 01728 638166.**

GET YOUR WALKING BOOTS ON!

At this time of year, when the weather starts warming up and the mud disappears, you may be thinking about getting out for some more exercise or just to enjoy the beautiful spring countryside. Here are two services which offer interesting walks:

Walking in Suffolk has hundreds of walks to download and print for free, and it also has books of walks and details of all the walking groups in the county. Whether you want to walk on

John Harris's Walking in England

Walking in Suffolk

**Where would you like to walk?
Suffolk walks to download and print FREE!**

your own or with a group, there is lots of information about walks in the UK brought together in one place. Whether you are walking from home, or while away on holiday, you should be able to find something suitable. It covers walks from half a mile to twelve miles+ together with a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs. See www.walkingengland.co.uk/suffolk for more information or contact john@walkinginengland.co.uk.



Discover Suffolk has developed a free walking, cycling and riding mobile app to help people access the countryside with confidence and enjoy over a hundred walking, cycling, and riding routes throughout the county. The app condenses a comprehensive library of tried and tested walking, cycling

and riding trails along with high-quality Ordnance Survey mapping into a pocket-sized solution that you can take anywhere. Free to download and use, the Discover Suffolk App is available in the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. For more information go to <https://www.discoversuffolk.org.uk/>.

Tired of bad broadband?

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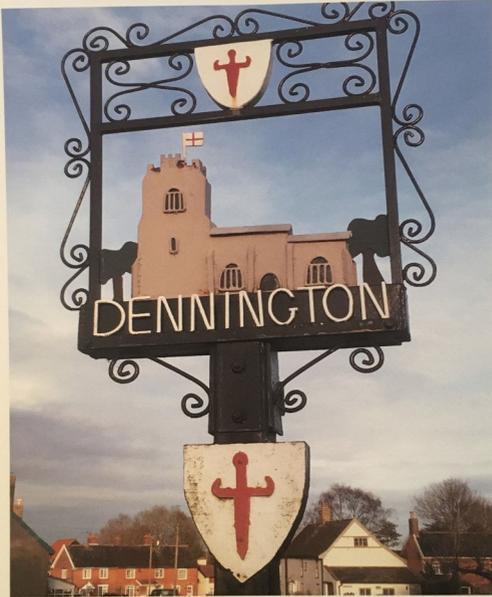
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Dennington Village
Calendar 2022

**2022 DENNINGTON
CALENDAR NOW HALF
PRICE!**

The final few copies of this year's village calendar are still available at half price from the Neathouse, so do please pop by and buy one - or even a second one to give to someone else.

Thank you!

Kate Viscardi

HATHA YOGA

AT DENNINGTON VILLAGE HALL



Mondays 1.30pm

Mondays 6pm

Thursdays 6.30pm

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DIARY OF EVENTS APRIL – JUNE 2022		
Date	Event	Location
2nd April	Poison Garden talk	Badingham village hall
7th April	Coffee morning	Village hall
8th April	End of term	
13th April	WI meeting	Village hall
21st April	Coffee morning	Village hall
25th April	Back to school	
26th April	Community lunch	Neathouse
2nd May	Half term starts	
5th May	Coffee morning	Village hall
9th May	PC meeting	Village hall
11th May	WI meeting	Village hall
18th May	Horticultural Club meeting	Dennington Hall Farm
19th May	Coffee morning	Village hall
29th May	Closing date for quiz answers	
31st May	Submit stories about the Queen	
3rd June	Entries for Dennington Olympics	
4th June	BBQ and bouncy castle	Dennington Queen
5th June	Special Jubilee service	Church
5th June	Queen's Jubilee celebrations	Sports field and hall
6th June	Back to school	
8th June	WI meeting	Village hall
9th June	Coffee morning	Village hall
20th June	Articles and advertisements for next Dennington News	
23rd June	Coffee morning	Village hall