



# Sedgeford Village News

November 2008

Edited and prepared for printing by:-  
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## WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP GROUP



At our October meeting Julie Bower gave us an interesting insight into The Women's Refuge that she runs at a secret location in Hunstanton. The 'Safe' six bed roomed house takes in women and their children that have suffered domestic abuse. The victims come from many nationalities and some are even fleeing from threatened 'honour killings.' Their stays range from a few months to two years before they are passed on to the next support network. The system is a national network funded by the government. Social Services, Special Victim's Police Unit, Health Visitors, Doctors and Schools all help with the victim's rehabilitation during their stay. The next meeting is Wed. 12th November, 7.30pm at the village hall. Menai will demonstrate Christmas Decorations. Please bring your own scissors, pliers etc. on the night Also, Menai would be grateful for any empty bottles (any colour), fir cones or crafty bits in advance, delivered to her doorstep in order that she can do spraying and preparation.

The Christmas party will be on Wed. 10th December at Heather's house. More details next meeting.

Offers of the use of anyone's kitchen (must be a large kitchen to accommodate all the ladies) for the January Cook-In would be gratefully accepted.

Maggie Burlton

## NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE HALL



It is disappointing that there has been no response to last month's news – I had hoped to open a debate in the Village, perhaps it will start, now that the evenings are drawing in and more "At home" entertainment becomes the order of the day. The various Committees who run the Hall are organizing an exciting array of events for the winter months so keep reading the news and support some if not all of them.

Various improvements to the Hall surrounds some of which can now be seen. Our grateful thanks to Cedric Hipkin & Ian Rix, for the removal of the soil heap by the Pavilion. Thank you to William Barber for allowing the soil to be heaped on his land. Plans are in train to cut back the long grass

on three sides of the Field, trim the hedges and the County Council have been asked to spray the Car Park. Considerable discussions are ongoing as to whether the Village Hall should be extended to provide for a larger kitchen and extra storage. It will come down to cost at the end of the day and in the current financial difficulties, it will probably mean that these plans will have to go on the back burner.

As always I welcome hearing from you, so please do ring me, if you want to raise any particular issues but only those concerning the Hall. George Eve Chairman

## VILLAGE HALL EVENTS

Post Office – usual hours

Table tennis Tues mornings 10-12 & Thurs evenings

7-9pm Contact Pat Dawson 570889

Carpet bowls Mon 7-9pm

Yoga – Tues 6.30-8pm & Weds Mornings 10-11.30

The village hall has had a kind donation of a pretty dinner service. Any one wishing to hire it please contact me – Lynda Moore 01485 579363

## Come and join us for a talk on 'The Ghost Trail of Norfolk'

by Mr Storey

on

Friday 5th December at Sedgeford Village Hall  
at 7.15pm

Tickets £8, to include a glass of mulled wine and  
mince pies

Tickets available from: Pat Dawson 01485-570889

Janet Frost 01485-571352

## SPEEDWATCH SCHEME FOR THE VILLAGE

There will be a meeting for those interested in receiving Operational Training in the Village Hall on Friday 28th November at 7pm – Do come and hear what it is all about?

Did you know there are 30 such schemes in Norfolk up & running, with another 30 planned to be operational by March 2009.

One for Sedgeford has the full support of your Parish Council!!  
George Eve Coordinator

Deadline for the **December Newsletter** is **5pm** on **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> Nov 2008**. Please don't miss it. The latest **Age Concern News** is now on the **Village Notice Board**  
The Eds.

## **70 YEARS AGO**

Our flashback from The Sedgefordian – the Sedgeford Council School magazine for 1938 – this month is a letter from Alan Garfitt. (Retired Judge) one of many old boys of Sedgeford School who looks upon the grounding they received here as the prelude to successful careers in law, business, the civil service etc. In it he paints a vivid picture of London and his new life there. We hope it will be enjoyed by all, including his old school friends, Alan himself had forgotten all about it until we sent him a copy. We are also sure that Mr. Editor would have printed his further recollections in the Sedgefordian of 1939 had not the onset of war unfortunately precluded its publication.

The Eds

### **LONDON**

8<sup>th</sup> November 1938

Dear Mr Editor,

You ask me what I think of life in London as compared with that in the village, and here you set me a difficult task, even though I have suffered the change so recently. I can never hope to give the true impression, but, nevertheless, I will do my best. The beginning must naturally be the journey from Sedgeford to London. Train journeys are much of a sameness, but one notices the rapid change from the green of the countryside to the general blackness of London. Then, over the roof tops to Liverpool Street Station, with its glass roof begrimed with soot, its scurrying crowd reminding one of Bank Holiday at its worst at Hunstanton station, but with more smoke about. Out of the train, and one is caught up in the mad, mad rush. This is the most noticeable difference of all in London life. From the drowsy, easy going 'catch the train someday' atmosphere of a country village to the 'if-I-don't-rush-and-tear-my-way-into-that-bus-somebody-else-will-get-there-before-me' attitude of the seasoned city dweller, is a very long hail, and even now I cannot get into that way of boarding a bus. To see these people trying to get into a bus is like watching a dozen big mongrels all fighting to get the one nice juicy bone. Even to walk, one must run, because the crowd sweep you along, and if you have been in Woolworth's at Lynn on a Tuesday or a Saturday afternoon, just imagine that crowd on a West End pavement and you will get the idea of what things are like. Yet with all this crush, an experienced hand can travel long distances in a surprisingly short time, and to travel three miles up here is like travelling from Heacham Old Mill Corner from Sedgeford, but also on

streets with houses, shops and (*more*) houses all along each side. It is the presence of these houses which makes the distance seem so short. They create too, in one used to the open landscape of the countryside, a feeling like that of being shut up in a maze made of boards, when you feel that if you could but find the right turning you would immediately come to wide open spaces; yet every turn you take seems to bring nothing but more passage ways.

Yet these spaces do exist in London, and when I first came up here almost every evening I would take a walk to Clapham Common, Wandsworth Common, or Battersea Park, the training ground of many world famous athletes. Even these however, do not bring back that presence of the native heath. But, they do give a marvellous resuscitating effect after the close atmosphere of the streets. The Londoner takes the greatest possible advantage of these open spaces, and at every available opportunity goes for his stroll. He loves his common or park, but if he hankers after more realistic country scenery, he can take a Green-Line Coach for in many cases a four penny ride, which is a long one up here, and find himself on the larger common lands with ample opportunity for taking the air. In half-an-hour, on a cycle, I can get to Richmond Park, which is one of the loveliest of the Royal Parks.

Then for the other things. The essence of the Londoners life - his pictures. He can have sixpen'orth up in the Gods at a theatre show, or sixpen'orth at the pictures, and can go to a different show each night of the week, since picture palaces are almost as common as sweet shops. Even the children can get their own show at the leading Cinema for the sum of one penny on a Saturday morning, and I would say, now, that children up here take life entirely different in many ways to children in of the village. They take annual events in a far, far different spirit. The difference of spirit is also noticeable in the enjoyment of the elders. In fact, Sedgeford and London are like extremes of the earth. In Sedgeford, London seems to be but a dream; whilst in London, Sedgeford seems but a dream, although perhaps a more real one. So, I could go on enlarging upon things, did time and space permit, perhaps one day I shall be allowed by Mr Editor to supplement this epistle. Till then I must say Goodbye.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Garfitt

### **REV. ANDREW BUTCHER**

The editors and the members of the Newsletter team would like to record our gratitude to the Rector for all his help in printing and delivering the Newsletter to Sedgeford each month, also for arranging for Matthew Todd to continue printing the Newsletter at Docking until a new Rector is appointed. We all wish him and Rose a long, healthy and happy retirement.

Sedgeford Village News Editors & Team