

Village Voice

September 2023

24th Great Year

Vol 24-06

3500 copies printed monthly.

Delivered FREE to homes in Belton, Browston, Burgh Castle, Fritton and St. Olaves.

Also FREE through outlets in Bradwell.

Find us at www.beltonandbrowston.com



'The Easterling' approaches Belton signal box, Station Road level crossing and Belton & Burgh railway station during July 1955. This passenger train originated from London Liverpool Street via the East Suffolk Line to Beccles where the train splits carriages with one portion going to Yarmouth Southtown and the other to Lowestoft Central.

The motive power is provided by Ipswich allocated Gresley Class B17/6 4-6-0 No. 61669 'BARNSELY'.

Photo Russell Walker (Colourised and tweaked).

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A word from the Editor Adrian Myers

It is with great pleasure and a degree of trepidation, that I take over the editorship of the Village Voice magazine. This fine periodical, serving and communicating with the residents of the 5 villages of Lothingland, has for many years supported and promoted a multitude of organisations and businesses. It is only able to do so because of the volunteers who give their time free to be on the Village Voice board, our wonderful deliverers, those who contribute articles and those who choose to advertise with us. The magazine has grown since its first inception and has changed quite preceivably since the first edition. It is my aim, along with the support of the board, to continue to grow the magazine in various ways providing interesting and informative articles which will make reading the Village Voice an even more enjoyable experience.

The magazine is a successful two dimensional communicational medium. Next year we would like to make it a three dimensional one. To this end we are starting to organise a Village Voice Community Fete, which will be held (hopefully) sometime in July 2024. The steering group has already met twice. We are setting up sub groups which will support the main steering group, so please watch out for a call to arms. The response so far has exceeded my most optimistic expectations and it is something that has created great enthusiasm within the group and those with whom we have contacted.

I would like to finish by offering my most heartfelt thanks to Regi Alexander who stepped into the breach as editor at one of the magazines most dire times over 7 years ago. It is no exaggeration to say, that without Regi stepping in as editor, the future of this magazine was in serious doubt.

It is the community spirit demonstrated by Regi and many of you who live in the villages that make up a vibrant, caring and inclusive community, and this magazine is proud to be part of that.

ROADWORKS

SEPTEMBER ROADWORKS IN BELTON

Between September 11th and the 29th the roads around the junction of The Green, Bracon Road, Station Road South and Beccles Road as far as the new barn conversions site, will be closed to enable a new gas main to be connected to the site. There will also be associated diversions for buses affecting a large part of the village.



Your Village Voice Contacts

EDITOR

Adrian Myers
beltonvveditor@gmail.com

Free Ads/Articles

Bill Richmond
01493 780822 / 07950 039455
beltonvvgraphic@gmail.com

ADVERTISING

Bryan Diggory
01493 663115 / 07307 858609
beltonvvadds@gmail.com

ADMIN & DELIVERY

Suzanne Craig - 07946 501774
beltonvvsect@gmail.com

FINANCE

Anneka Gearie
beltonvvacct@gmail.com

CHAIR OF VV BOARD

Adrian Myers
07824 313792

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YOUR VILLAGE VOICE

The closing date for all
Articles and Adverts
for the October 2023 edition is
15th September 2023

September 2023 268th Edition

Cover Picture:

Steam train passing through Belton
Station in 1955 from London

This Magazine is a Community Enterprise professionally printed - but written, edited and delivered free - entirely by volunteers. After printing costs, any profits from the Magazine are paid out in the form of grants to community organisations and groups in our circulation area. We welcome your news, views, letters and articles and photographs for publication. *No anonymous items will be accepted.* Complaints, please write to Adrian Myers, Chairman, Village Voice Board by post at 49 Heather Gardens, Belton NR31 9PP

In this issue . . .

A Word from the Editor	1	Writing Competition	8
Mobile Library/Roadworks	1	Writing Competition	10
Hazardous Wasrte	1	Writing Competition	11
PC Report - Belton/Browston	2	Scouts	11
PC Report - Burgh Castle	3	Rev Rosie Writes	12
Burgh Castle Tea Room	3	Ormiston Venture Academy	12
Sponsored Cycle Ride	3	New Road Events	14
Fritton Parish/St Olaves PC	4	Down the Garden Path	17
Fritton Bingo	4	Events at JGI	18
Overgrown Garden Hedges	5	ENTUA	19
Report a Problem	5-6	Free Ads	20
Pooch Corner	6-7	Diary Dates	20

MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

Locally the Norfolk Mobile Library rounds are as follows:-

Belton - Wednesdays, September 6th and October 4th and every 4 weeks
- Moorlands Primary Academy 3.20 - 3.50pm.
- Outside 7 Station Road South 3.55 - 4.10om
- Amhurst Gardens 4.15 - 4.35pm.
- St. Roberts way 4.40 - 4.55pm.

Fritton - **Now no service.**

St Olaves - Wednesdays, September 6th and October 4th and every 4 weeks stopping on Priory Close between 12.45 and 1.00pm.

Burgh Castle - **No service**

For any questions about mobile libraries, email the team at central.mobiles.lib@norfolk.gov.uk. Or call 01603 222303

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAYS



As usual Norfolk County Council are holding Hazardous Waste collection days at their Recycling Centres in September and October. The local event will be at the Caister Recycling Centre on Saturday/Sunday September 30th and October 1st. (9am-4pm).

Items accepted are Aerosols, Household chemicals and cleansers, Fire extinguishers, Garden pesticides and fertilisers, Paint, Wood preservatives, treatments and varnish And Photographic chemicals. *Please note that this is a FREE service to residents.*

The following are NOT accepted

Ammunition/explosives & marine flares, Asbestos, Commercial hazardous waste, Fireworks, Gas canisters (full or empty) And Petrol diesel or other fuels.

Full details on line at

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling-and-planning/rubbish-and-recycling/hazardous-waste>.

Your Parish Council Reports

Belton with Browston Parish Council

As previously announced, there was no meeting in August and the next meeting of the Parish Council has had to be redated and will take place at the New Road Centre on Tuesday September 19th (7.30pm), details are available from the Parish Clerk, Kate Ruddock on 01493 602960 or email beltonparish@yahoo.co.uk. There are currently also still vacancies on the council, full details on the co-option procedure from the Parish Clerk, as above.



Please register your support for the Village Voice

Community Fete

Venue and date to be decided for July 2023

Advertisers and Contributors are welcome to come and set up stalls Free of Charge.

For more details please contact Adrian Myers

07824 313792

adrianmyers247@gmail.com

BELTON POOR'S ALLOTMENT

An invitation to tender for: 9¼ acres of arable land, located on the A143 Beccles Road, in the Parish of Belton with Browston, NR31 9EU, National Grid Field No TG 4801 7851 for a fixed period of 5 years from 1st November 2023 to 31st October 2028. Rent to be paid annually. For use as arable farming only.

Offers are invited by closed sealed bid tender, to be received by 12 noon 2nd October 2023 to:
Secretary of the Trustees, Belton Poor's Allotment, 56 Victoria Road, Gorleston, Great Yarmouth, NR31 6EF

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Belton Bowmen Archery Club

We will be returning to Moorlands Primary Academy for the autumn/ winter season on Monday 11 September.

Family session 6-7pm
£3.50 per person
Adult club 7-9pm
£6.00 per person

Equipment provided or bring your own.
Come and have a go everyone welcome.

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Burgh Castle Parish Council



As usual the Council did not meet in August; the next meeting will be on Monday September 11th commencing at 7.30pm at the Village Hall on Church Road. For details contact Kate Ruddock, the Parish Clerk, on 07948705218, e-mail burghcastleclerk@gmail.com.

FURSEY PILGRIMAGE 2023

It is hoped that there will be a Fursey Pilgrimage at Burgh Castle Roman Fort on Saturday October 7th although details have not been confirmed, if you are interested in attending, please contact Maureen Grey Tel 01493 781747 e-mail maureengrey251@btinternet.com for details or see next month's Village Voice.

NORFOLK CHURCHES SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE 2023



Burgh Castle

The Norfolk churches Cycle Ride will take place on Saturday September 9th, Paul Nicholls will again be riding for Burgh Castle and he is currently visiting homes in the village seeking sponsorship, please support him if you can. Many local churches will be open on the day so that riders can 'sign in' for the event.

Maureen Grey, Parish co-ordinator, Cycle Ride

BURGH CASTLE PARISH BURIAL GROUND

Burgh Castle Parish Council would be interested in hearing from any gardening contractors who would like their names to be considered for inclusion on a tendering list to clean and re-model the two shrub beds at the Parish Burial Ground which is situated next to the churchyard on the lode going from the church towards the Roman Fort. If interested and you have suitable public liability insurance please e-mail the chairman, Brian Swan, at bcswan50@gmail.com with your contact details. It is expected that the work will be undertaken in late October/November 2023.

Burgh Castle Tea Room & Bargain Stall

(Village Hall, Church Road)

Thank you to everyone who supported us over Open Churches Week. Even the weather was kind to us! Back to our normal two days now and looking forward to seeing all our regulars for coffee, cake and company. We intend to start selling our Christmas Stock from the 1st week in September, come along for a real bargain, we have loads to choose from.

September 27th will see our MacMillan Coffee Morning again 10am - 2pm.

Anyone needing a lift or prepared to make a cake please get in touch. Kate will be doing her raffle as usual with lots of lovely prizes.

Please support this special occasion, cancer touches so many of our friends and relations and Macmillan do a great job in providing support.

We are always looking for stock to sell, your support helps to keep our church and hall open, you can drop off to us any Thursday or Friday or we can collect locally if you wish.

For more information

01493 780126

mgreenacre532@gmail.com

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M Greenacre **01493 780126**

or M Grey **01493 781747**

or email mgreenacre532@gmail.com



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Fritton with St. Olaves Parish Council

All nine Parish Councillors attended the 17th July meeting of Fritton with St. Olaves Parish Council along with the Parish Clerk and three members of the public, all both Borough Councillors and the County Council ward member were attending a Borough Council meeting at the Town Hall, Stannas Bellaby chaired the meeting.

It was reported that the appeal by developers of the Decoy Tavern site at Fritton triggered by the Borough Council failing to give a decision on the original planning application in the prescribed time was dismissed with the planning permission refused by the inspector.

The County Council have confirmed that they will be installing timber posts round the Fritton village sign and County Councillor Annon has confirmed that the A143 at the Herringfleet Road junction will now be resurfaced in October this year, the work was delayed due to the number of road closures in the area caused by the third river crossing. Other highways matters reported were vegetation needing cutting next to New Road (past Tinks Wood), a tree branch needs cutting at The Priory in St. Olaves, the New Road SAM2 unit was not working, some of the New Road reflectors are not visible and a request for some posts with reflectors to be placed on Marsh Road (Fritton) to aid visibility.

After a site meeting earlier that evening to discuss the possible siting of a jubilee bench at The Bell in St Olaves a number of reasons were put forward why this should not go ahead at this location and this decision as confirmed along with no other suitable locations having been found the outcome is that the project is now on hold.

In planning there were no objections to proposals for a self-build dwelling at Forestry Cottage, New Road, Fritton providing the driveway design still leaves space for emergency vehicle access to the area. The Borough Council had approved plans for a

single story extension at Priory Farm, St Olaves but have refused work to reduce the canopy of a tree by 30% at St Olaves Service Station (TPO No 5 of 2007 applies)

A query from Councillor Betts about a rope and private property signs being put across the road at the white house at the end of New Cut Haddiscoe (under the bridge) had been referred by the clerk, to Haddiscoe Parish Council, who have subsequently passed the issue on the Highways Department.

With future meetings now scheduled for the Thursday before the last one in the month (every other month) the next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday September 21st at Fritton Village Hall at 7.30pm. full details from Kate Ruddock, Parish Clerk on 07899 846148, e-mail fritton.stolaves.clerk@outlook.com.

FRITTON with St. OLAVES PARISH COUNCIL Attendances August 2022 to July 2023

COUNCILLOR	Possible Meetings	Meetings Attended
Stannas Bellaby (Chair)	6	6
Catherine Richards (V-Chair)	4	4
Judith Bosworth	4	3
Margaret Johnson	4	1
John Burton	6	3
Rowland Dunn	6	6
Peter Storey	6	6
John Stephens	6	5
Clive Julian	4	3
Keith Leggett	4	3
Nigel Barnes	2	2
Bob Betts	2	2
Hayley Carruthers	2	2
Carl Annon (Norfolk C.C.)	6	2
Tracy Cameron (GYBC)	4	0
Adrian Myers (GYBC)	4	3
Graham Carpenter (GYBC)	2	0
Ivan Murray-Smith (GYBC)	2	0
Kate Ruddock (Parish Clerk)	6	6

Current councillors/representatives in **Bold type**, possible attendances vary due mainly to elections in May 2023, there is still one vacancy which is expected to be filled by co-option at the September meeting



Fritton Bingo

Our Bingo Session at Fritton Village Hall is to take place on **Friday September 15th 7.15pm start.**

Please join us for an enjoyable evening. Only 50p per card. Raffle also at half time £1.50 for five strips.

Many prizes to be won

Many Thanks Roy



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£10 per Session
(Morning, Afternoon or Evening)

Ring Ann Wilby on **01493 488210**
For more details

ST. OLAVES VILLAGE HALL

MONDAY EVENING
Ring craft dog training (training for shows): Contact Emily Bircham - Tel: 01502 569243

TUESDAY EVENING
Pooch Paws Dog Training Club (Obedience, clicker training, fun/tricks & more): Contact Katey Aldred - 07841 040171
www.poochpaws.co.uk

WEDNESDAY EVENING
Middle Eastern Dance: Contact River Scent 07854 407419 www.riverscent.com

THURSDAY EVENING
Saxon and Viking Re-enactment Society
www.jormungandrreenactment.com/

SATURDAY MORNING
Pooch Paws Dog Training Club (Obedience, clicker training, fun/tricks & more): Contact Katey Aldred - 07841 040171
www.poochpaws.co.uk

Overgrown Garden Hedges / Shrubs etc

The Village Voice has received several enquiries about overgrown gardens (hedges/shrubs etc.), impeding access along pavements. The following information should acquaint residents of the parishes served by Village Voice, of the law and procedure to address this issue.

In the first instance, speak with the property owner and ask him or her politely if they would trim the offending item, explaining why this needs to be undertaken. The owner or occupier of a property has a legal responsibility to ensure that the 'public *highway' adjacent to a property is not obstructed by vegetation from their property.

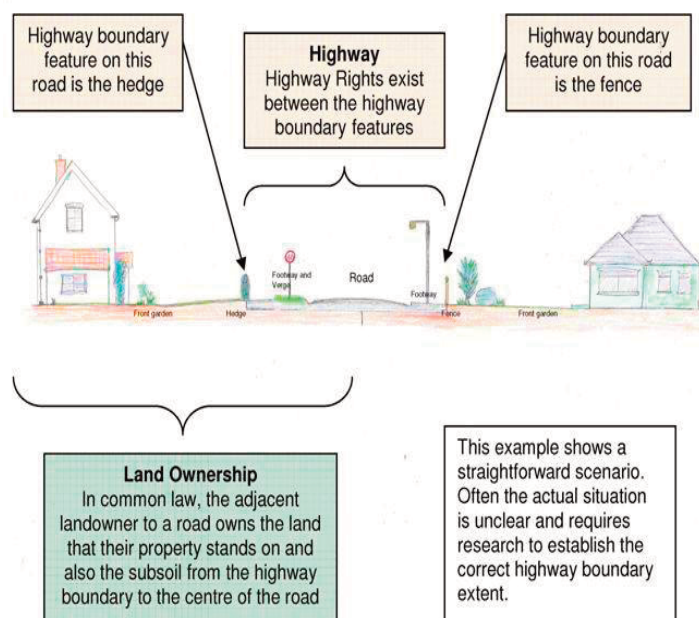
If you receive a negative response, you can report it to the Local Authority, which, in our area, is Norfolk County Council (NCC). The duty of Norfolk County Council, as the Highway Authority for Norfolk, is to maintain the roads and footways (pavements). Section 5 of the Highway Act 1835 states: "highways" shall be understood to mean all roads, bridges, carriageways, cartways, horseways, bridleways, footways, causeways, churchways and pavements.

The technical term for a pavement is a footway, not to be confused with a footpath. A footway either forms part of a highway, or runs alongside it, and limits the width of a highway. Although footways are commonly referred to as 'footpaths', in law footpaths are paths away from the highway, not along them.

Section 154, subsection 1 of the Highways Act 1980 states: Where a hedge, tree or shrub overhangs a highway or any other road or footpath to which the public has access so as to endanger or obstruct the passage of vehicles or pedestrians, or obstructs or interferes with the view of drivers of vehicles or the light from a public lamp, a competent authority (NCC) may, by notice either to the owner of the hedge, tree or shrub or to the occupier of the land on which it is growing, require him within 14 days from the date of service of the notice so to lop or cut it as to remove the cause of the danger, obstruction or interference. "hedge, tree or shrub" includes vegetation of any description.

Section 154, subsection 4 of the Highways Act 1980 states: If a person on whom a notice is served under subsection 1 fails to comply with it within the period specified in the subsection, the authority who served the notice may carry out the work required by the notice and recover the expenses reasonably incurred by them in so doing from the person in default.

Cross-section of an average road



Highways Problem Report Form

This form allows you to report problems on the Roads, Public Rights of Way and Norfolk Trails, that NCC are responsible for maintaining.

<https://apps.norfolk.gov.uk/HighwaysDefect/>

It is important that you provide the full postal address for the offending property to enable notice to be sent By NCC to the owner.

If you are unable to utilise the online form:-

Telephone 0344 800 8020 or Post to:

Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, Norfolk NR1 2DH

REPORT A PROBLEM

Fly tipping to Great Yarmouth Borough Council

<https://lovecleanstreets.info/>

Bulky Item disposal, online collection booking.

Enquiries 01493 801750

<https://myaccount.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/bulky-item-collection-booking>

Flooding of your property or of a road to Norfolk County Council Lead Flood Authority. Non-emergency situation Flooding Hotline

call 0344 800 8013 to report flooding anywhere in Norfolk.

In an emergency, if people or property are in immediate danger from floodwater, call 999 immediately.

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/safety/floods/report-a-flood>

Environmental Health, e.g. Neighbour nuisance, Pest control, Pollution, Nuisance vehicles. Tel: 01493 846478 or email health@great-yarmouth.gov.uk

<https://www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/article/1968/Protecting-people-and-the-environment>

Report a Crime to Norfolk Police

<https://www.norfolk.police.uk/contact-us/6-report-it>

Planned Roadworks

You can find a map of scheduled roadworks, road closures and diversions in Norfolk on the one.network website

<https://one.network/uk/norfolk>

Report a Problem, see list below, to Norfolk County Council Highway Authority.

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads/report-a-problem>

Roads, pavements and cycleways problem types

Potholes	Large holes on the road, path or cycleway surface
Drainage and flooding	Standing water, ditches, blocked drain, flooded property, impassable road
Highway damage (excluding potholes)	Cracks or other damage excluding potholes to a road
Hedges and trees	Trees or hedges that have fallen into the road or are leaning, unstable, diseased or dying
Streetlights	Broken, missing or problems with streetlights
Manhole cover	Broken, missing or rocking manhole cover
Grass, weed or verges	Overgrowth creating issues or obstructions
Road signs and posts	Damaged, missing or dirty road and warning signs
Obstructions, spillages and mud	Thick mud, soil, stones, embankment slips, large branches and illegal road signs
Road markings	White and yellow, stop or give way lines
Surface dressing	Bleeding tarmac or missing chippings of a road
Traffic lights	Damage or fault to traffic lights or signals
Street furniture	Damaged, missing or unsuitable condition of roadside fences or barriers
Cats eyes and studs	Damaged, obstructed or missing cats eyes or studs
Bridges	Structural damage or significant obstructions restricting water flow
Winter maintenance	Damaged grit bins

Public right of way or trail problem types

Overgrown surface	Surface vegetation affecting use of public rights of way or trails
Overgrown trees or bushes	Trees or bushes affecting the use of public rights of way or trails
Damaged or missing sign	Damaged or missing finger posts or way-marker signs
Obstruction (man-made)	Obstructions preventing use of public rights of way or trails, including unauthorised gates or barriers
Surface condition	Unsuitable surface condition affecting use of public rights of way or trails
Crops or ploughing	Crops or ploughing affecting public rights of way or trails
Gate or barrier	Damaged, missing or problematic gates or barriers
Tree dangerous or fallen	Large vegetation that is affecting the use of, or may cause harm to users of, public rights of way or trails
Misleading sign	Finger posts, way-marker or other signs displaying incorrect, illegal or unsuitable information
Bridge	Damaged or missing bridge
Illegal or vehicle use	Inappropriate or illegal use of a public right of way or trail
Flooded path	Standing water affecting public rights of way or trails
Stile damaged, too high or other	Unusable stiles due to damage or misplacement
Animals	Animals affecting use of public rights of way or trail
Steps damaged or other	Damaged or missing steps

Hedges: nuisance and overgrown

<https://www.gov.uk/how-to-resolve-neighbour-disputes/high-hedges-trees-and-boundaries>
<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/problems-where-you-live/if-you-disagree-with-your-neighbour-about-a-tree-or-hedge/>
<https://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/types/hedges/nuisance-overgrown>

Problem Neighbours

<https://www.problemneighbours.co.uk/>

Dealing with Barking Dogs

<https://www.problemneighbours.co.uk/barking-dogs.html>

Overgrown and Untidy Gardens

<https://www.problemneighbours.co.uk/overgrown-messy-gardens.html>
<https://nuisanceneighbours.co.uk/my-neighbours-garden-is-an-eyesore/>

Grass cutting in Belton

With the exception of New Road Sports Field, Bell Lane Park and the Churchyard, is undertaken by a Local Authority Trading Company called Great Yarmouth Services Limited (GYS). GYS is wholly owned by GYBC.

GYS is responsible for a number of services the Borough Council provides, including refuse collection and recycling, street cleaning, public toilet cleaning and maintenance, buildings cleaning, grounds maintenance services, vehicle maintenance, arboriculture, leisure, burial services and pest control.
admin@greatyarmouthservices.co.uk

MASH aims to assist local people to become more personally resilient and less reliant on services, supporting groups and activities, covering all subjects that affect everyday life. We work with a variety of organisations and partners to instigate services locally. info.mesh@btconnect.com Tel: 01493 604739

The *Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub* (MASH) helps safeguard adults and children, and is made up of a range of organisations, including Norfolk County Council.

If someone is in immediate danger call 999. If you are concerned about a vulnerable adult, call 0344 800 8020. If you are concerned about a child call 0344 800 8021.

Current MASH partners include:

Norfolk Children Services
 Norfolk Adult Social Services
 Norfolk Constabulary
 Public Health
 Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation Trust
 National Probation Service (Norfolk and Suffolk LDU)
 Norfolk and Suffolk Community Rehabilitation Company
 Leeway (providing support to adults, young people and children who are experiencing domestic violence and abuse in Norfolk and Suffolk)
 CSE – Barnardo's (Child sexual abuse and exploitation)
 Ormiston Families (early and preventative action to create safe, healthy and resilient families who feel in control of their own wellbeing)
 Norwich Connect (a holistic approach to addressing domestic abuse)

Pooch Corner



CAN DOGS SEE COLOUR?

By Clinical Animal Behaviourist & Animal Trainer Katey Aldred MSc, RVN, ABTC-CAB

A question I often get asked is 'can dogs see colour?'. The short answer is yes but not quite the way humans do. Dogs' vision is a fascinating topic that has long intrigued pet owners and researchers alike. The question of whether dogs can see in colour has been a subject of study and discussion for quite some time.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN HUMAN AND DOG SIGHT

Despite this limitation, dogs have a heightened ability to perceive motion and detect subtle changes in light intensity, which might be due to their evolutionary history as predators. This unique visual system has its own advantages, allowing dogs to excel in low-light conditions, such as during dawn or dusk, when their superior motion detection and night vision capabilities come into play.

The human visual system is equipped with three types of cone

cells in the retina that allow us to perceive a wide spectrum of colours. These cones are sensitive to different wavelengths of light, which our brain processes into the rich and vibrant colour palette we see every day. However, the canine visual system differs to ours.

Dogs possess only two types of cone cells in their retinas, which are sensitive to blue and yellow-green wavelengths of light. This means that their colour perception is limited compared to humans. The absence of the third type of cone, sensitive to red wavelengths, leads to a form of colour blindness known as dichromate vision. While humans can perceive a wide range of colours, dogs' colour perception is limited to shades of blue and yellow, with an inability to distinguish between reds and greens.



THE IMPACT ON DOGS VISION

Despite this limitation, dogs have a heightened ability to perceive motion and detect subtle changes in light intensity, which might be due to their evolutionary history as predators. This

unique visual system has its own advantages, allowing dogs to excel in low light conditions, such as during dawn or dusk, when their superior motion detection and night vision capabilities come into play.

In terms of the real-world impact of dogs' colour vision, it's important to note that their reliance on other senses, like their highly developed sense of smell and acute hearing, far outweighs the significance of colour perception in their daily lives. Dogs have evolved to interpret the world primarily through their noses and ears, which are crucial for tasks such as tracking scents, detecting predators or intruders, and communicating with other dogs.



Human VS Dog vision of the same image

VISION FACTS

It was once believed that dogs can only see in black and white, this has been proven to be false. There have been studies conducted to better understand dogs' colour perception. One common method involves training

dogs to associate specific colours with rewards or commands. These experiments have shown that dogs can indeed differentiate between certain colours, particularly blue and yellow. However, their ability to discriminate between colours is not as refined as that of humans.

Dogs can make out yellow and blue well along with combination of these colours. Other colours translate differently to dogs which is why they have more issue finding them in certain environments, such as grass.



That's not to say you should completely exclude toys or training items of other colours as they can still be fun for them and make training more complex.

While dogs cannot see the full spectrum of colours that humans can, they still possess a unique and functional visual system. Their dichromatic vision, characterized by sensitivity to blue and yellow-green wavelengths, is adapted to their evolutionary and ecological needs. While colour perception might not be a dominant aspect of their sensory experience, dogs more than compensate for this limitation with their exceptional olfactory and auditory capabilities. So, while the world might appear less colourful to our canine companions, their ability to navigate and interact with it is still rich and meaningful in their own unique way.

GET IN TOUCH

Is there a dog related topic you would like to know more about? Feel free to get in touch on 07841 040171

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Writing Competition Special Commendations continued

6 GOING TO THE CHARITY SHOP

Ann Wilby

I'm planning to go shopping today
Me and my shopping bags are heading your way.
It's the charity shops I'm looking for
Clothes, household and bargains galore.

The shop assistant watches me with a frown
because I pick things up, and put them down,
Not necessarily in the right place
The goods on sale all have an allotted space.

I'm in my element, I'm where I want to be
Trying on coats and jackets, looking in the mirror...does it suit me?
Rows and rows of second-hand paperback books
Oops... the shop assistant is watching, giving me funny looks.

I look at all the household goods, mugs and kitchen stuff
Making a decision on what to buy is tough.
There are bargains to be had all around the shop
Towels, sheets, buckets, dusters and mops.

I've rummaged, sorted, and chosen what to buy
I'm undecided about the pink and yellow spotty tie.
A pair of black cotton jeans will look smart on me
Two fancy bone china cups for afternoon tea.

Gosh! time flies, an hour has slipped by
I've paid for my goods, and I'm leaving on a high,
The staff are preparing to vacuum round the floor
Must dash, off to the charity shop next door!

7 Stop!

C. Harrison

Stop! Look what you have done,
What have you become?
Stop! Gaze around you,
Are you being true?
Stop! Listen to the sounds,
Why are they being drowned?

Stop! Smell the air around you,
Do you notice anything new?
Stop! Appreciate the moment,
It's not your opponent!
Stop!
Just stop . . . and breathe.

8 PAKISTAN

Maureen Welsby

Open your eyes. Shed some tears
Millions of children living in fear
They have no food. No bed to lay
Nothing left, a future of grey.

Some had a house, but now nothing is left
The rising flood waters, a country's theft
Many had fields to grow their crops
Now the harvest is ruined, left to rot

Open your eyes -what can we do?
Is it our fault - what the world has come to?

9 ANOTHER ROUGH PATCH

Jean Marcus Wright

Sunshine slices the firmament fabric
Like a knife kindled in butter,
Only for moonlit needles
To seamlessly sew it back together.
Curious clumsy mortal footsteps
Embracing existence into sinless sands,
Only for immortal wandering waves
To abruptly absorb those meaningful moments.

Words sharper than a double-edged sword
Piercing haemorrhaging hearts like engraved emeralds,
Only for healing to embalm
On charismatic chariots of time.
Troubled thoughts in him
Choreograph chaotic pendulating legs,
Only for her tender touch
To soothe another rough patch.

10 SECRET TUNNEL

Isabelle Harrison, 10 years

It was a rainy afternoon. Me and my sisters were sat on an old wooden bench. The sky was gloomy and grey. Every single bit of hope was gone. Everything was gone. Suddenly I felt a tight pain in my head like something inside me was slipping away. I slowly lifted my hand and stroked the long coffin with my sweaty nervous hand. The wood felt strange like a tight grip was holding me down. My little sisters looked at me not saying a word. I promised to protect them, well that's what I said, but that was a long time ago now. We will never recover from that day. We are raised by a girl named Miss Blossom. She says she is my mum's friend. But she is so mean, she never lets us go outside or have any fun.

My sisters are amazing. Amara spends all her time in her pretty pink room applying endless amounts of makeup and earrings. She usually sits on her pink floral double bed with pretty, fake pearl chains hanging off it. She usually has a long flowing gown on that she can barely walk in without falling flat on her face and then there is Anna. She loves anything with awards in, she has a whole shelf of fake trophies made of plastic.

Out of all this there is one thing I fear and that is losing my sisters like I did my mum. We are all curious about one thing in our house, there is a small green door. Each morning the three of us would walk past it on our way to breakfast we all wondered what was in there, but we were forbidden to go in. One rainy lunch time Mrs Blossom was out and me and my sisters all knew we needed to get in that room to see what lurked behind the closed doors. We slowly sneaked out of the room to the door and all three of us put our sweaty hands on the golden doorknob. Shaking, we pulled the stiff door aside. There was a long dark hallway and a black and white door at the end. The air was cold and dusty. I could hear drips forming on the old dark cold wall. The tile pattern had faded away. All that was left was a grey sooty pathway.

I stood in front of my sisters as a chill ran down my spine. I saw notes on the walls but they just had scribbles all over them. It looked like something, or someone went insane in here. The name Sally was written all over the stained wall as if this was someone's science lab many years ago. The picture showed an injection and green gloopy slopy tears rolling down a little girl's face. We finally reached the end of the long tunnel and made our way into the long black and white door. Inside we saw a puzzle that had been put together many years ago. It said, "I am so sorry this has to happen, one must die Olive." We all stared at each other confused, Olive was the name of our mum.

The walls around us started to close in around us. I grabbed my sisters and ran as quick as I could, out of the door. My heart was pounding and my palms sweaty, but I had to escape. As we opened the door. The doorknob was stuck. I tried to pull it but it was so stiff and it was not working. I could feel parts of brick and stone taking on to my shoulder which was now bleeding heavily. My stomach filled with worry as the roof came down. I ran to shield my younger sisters as fast as I could. The floor started violently shaking as if it was an earthquake but it was much different. I woke up in a pile of soot and ash, my face was covered in cuts and scrapes I ran to see if my sisters were ok and shook them, trying to wake them up.

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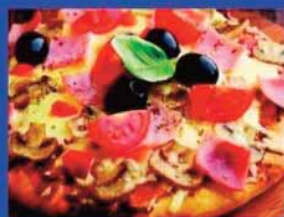
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They started to sit up their faces were still stained with tears. It was then I realised I had broken my promise the one I made to my sisters on the day mum died. I promised I would provide and protect them the best I possibly humanly could, and I failed. I needed to make sure my sisters did not get hurt at all. I broke the promise, and I will not let my sisters die no matter what happens. I will always be here for my siblings.

My sisters looked at me in despair and sighed as Amara frantically searched for her lost golden earring. The strange thing was the scribbles were ok no crack in between. That was when I realised that they were not scribbles, they were scratches. My head spun; my belly felt light but my feet got heavy like a weight. Questions flooded my head. What were the scratches for? Why is this place here? I felt like I could ask questions forevermore, but no one was there. They were all alone now and my sisters screamed, kicking me out of my thoughts. All three of us realised at the same time the door was covered by brick. We were trapped and may never ever get out. My heart skipped a beat as a dark shiver ran down my spine, I felt like something, or someone was watching me and my sisters. But no one else noticed I was the only one. Was I wrong or was it true my sisters couldn't see it.

(This is the first chapter of a book that Isabelle is writing)

11

THE WICKED WITCHES OF THE MOUNTAIN OF DESPAIR

Scarlett Phillips, 10 years

Chapter 1

Once upon a time there lived two old grumpy horrible witches who stole the lives of teenagers to become beautiful and immortal for a century again. None had ever come across their cottage at the very top of the darkest mountain in Cherry Grove. It was nicknamed the mountain of despair. But one day in the east coast of Zara, Brave Teens (there are five of them) sought to travel to the mountain of despair and see if the tales were true. So, you may ask how do they get there? Well, this isn't 2022 where you have cars, so they walked. Many miles later, "Oh look, I think we are in Cherry

Grove.", shouted the first boy to the other four. They all started running to the mountain of despair. They had never listened to anyone but themselves, so all the villagers' worries and concerns were ignored. "We sense children", said all the witches.

Chapter 2

The terrible two old witches scurried to the small broken window and stared at the upcoming Teenagers. I want the little boy first said the plumpy green eyed one. The children finally finished walking up the mountain of despair and soon regretted not listening to the villagers, as their long-awaited doom was about to arrive ...

Chapter 3

The witches started to brew the elixir of immortality (which would last a century) for the Teenagers to arrive to become all powerful again. As the Teenagers started to back down, the moon started to rise, and the witches escaped from the cottage and started to cause chaos and destruction and doom. As the foolish five had thought they doomed themselves and everyone in Cherry Grove, they started blaming each other for their foolishness. They soon realised they should have listened to their parents. As they thought everything was lost, they looked up at the darkened sky and a huge storm of black came across the mountain. The storm came shooting towards the cottage on the mountain of despair. But it was no normal storm, it was a flock of vampires to defeat the witches (vampires and witches are mortal enemies).

"Now who caused this mess?" asked the leader of the vampires "We did it miss, we are sorry", muttered the teens as the vampires started to clean up the mess that the witches had made. Some had started to make a trap for the witches to be trapped in the cottage again. They lured the terrible two into the cottage and you might ask how they got lured into the cottage. Well, the teenagers were bait. And soon the spell was fixed that kept the witches in. Peace was soon restored to Cherry Grove. The teenagers learned their lesson and moral of the story is to listen to your parents and don't go places that are not safe and don't touch things at aren't yours.

12

MISTAKEN IDENTITIES

Heather Andrews, short story

Kara tossed and turned in bed, as she lay there she could hear children's laughter from the garden below. She glanced at the clock and realised that she had actually managed to get a lay-in. Hurriedly she got up, showered and dressed and went downstairs to join the family. Usually Detective Inspective Kara Wade lived alone and lived for her career, but it was half term and her sister Kate was visiting with her niece Sarah and nephew Aaron. Kara had booked in some days leave to be with them. She had thought it would be nice to get away to another area, but the children loved staying at her home that was close to the beach. 'Morning' said Kara as she walked into the kitchen. Kate was sitting enjoying a quiet coffee and watching the children from the window. 'Oh, sorry if they woke you' she said. 'No worries' said Kara and she began to cook breakfast. Aaron raced in excitedly showing them a spider he had found. His mum asked him to put it back outside and asked the pair of them to wash their hands for breakfast. Sarah was four years older than Aaron and she helped lift him up to reach the sink. He was missing the plastic step that he would have had at home. They were ready slightly before their boiled eggs, so Kate supervised them spreading margarine on their own bread and cutting soldiers for dunking. Aaron managed to get very greased up, so she whisked him back to the sink again much to the amusement of Kara and Sarah. As soon as they had their last mouthful, Aaron asked if they could go out to play again. Kate said 'yes, you may and remember not to pick or stand on Auntie's flowers.' Kara smirked, wondering if these instructions were a little late. She had thought one bed looked a little sparse since their arrival.

Kara flicked through the newspaper that had just arrived. One page caught her eye, an article on a man who she had convicted for a vicious assault some years before. He must have been released. 'Can I take a look when you're done' asked Kate. Kara passed the paper over and began to load the dishwasher. Then she stepped out onto the patio and held out her hand palm up to check on the weather. It was very overcast, but she could feel no rain. 'Get your coats and boots on if you want to go to the beach then' she shouted. Sarah and Aaron raced for the door, nearly knocking her over in the process. They lived in a city centre flat with mum, so thrived on the open space and freedom of staying there. Aaron had a tantrum with getting his boots jammed on the wrong feet, much to Sarah's amusement. They packed their bags with drinks, snacks, buckets and spades. A rather optimistic mum chucked in the sun cream, whilst realistic auntie grabbed a brolly. Sarah found this hilarious too.

They settled on a quiet section of beach and Sarah and Aaron made a beautiful sand castle. Sarah got a stick and spent ages engraving on windows and brickwork. Aaron worked hard on digging a trench at the side for a moat. He was allowed to collect water in his bucket from a shallow rock pool nearby and trotted to and fro with half a bucket full at a time. He couldn't carry the weight of more and lost lots if he tried to run with it, so this kept him amused for quite some time. There were a few flecks of rain, but nothing worth moving to cover for and the kids were far more concerned about keeping their castle dry than themselves! Kate took the kids for a paddle in the sea one on each hand and they squealed with delight as the waves crashed around there ankles and legs. Aaron cut his toe. He didn't notice in the water, but looked down as it hurt a little when they walked back up the sand. Seeing a slight trickle of blood, he became hysterical. Kate swept him up in her arms and carried him back to where Kara remained with their belongings. Kara immediately got out a small travel first aid kit. Kate felt embarrassed, Kara was always the one more prepared to cope with any

problems. 'It's my job, my lifestyle' said Kara with a grin. Aaron sat on his mum's lap and held out his toe for Auntie to wipe clean and plaster up. 'Thank you' he said, 'can I go play now?' 'What about lunch?' asked Kate, Aaron didn't have to be asked twice about food. He made a space just big enough to squish into and sit beside the snacks bag, holding out his hands for a wipe. Sarah ambled up the beach muttering that his foot wasn't too bad then! She slumped down, barely missing their elaborate castle. She was now engrossed in text messaging a friend. Aaron laughed as she was told off for not concentrating and reminded to wipe her hands. He was so often the one in trouble, he loved it when big sis got told off instead! They enjoyed their lunch and then Kara took them with nets to the rock pool. This was not a huge success as Aaron couldn't understand why he had to put everything back and couldn't acquire some new pets. 'Please' he begged as he had named and claimed a bucket of new friends. 'No' said Auntie Kara and she received a huge scowl! In perfect timing, the skies opened and it deluged. They all threw everything back, gathered their things and ran for cover under the canopy of a nearby ice cream kiosk that was closed. When it eased a little they walked home.

They had some tea and Kate bathed Aaron whilst Sarah took a shower. Kara offered to read them a story. Aaron chose a dinosaur book and did all the sound effects well. Kara was shocked when he asked for the same story again and again and was quite relieved when he eventually showed signs of becoming drowsy. In the quiet, there was a shot. The noise terrified Kara. She knew only too well that it wasn't good and froze with Aaron and the book. Sarah raced downstairs two steps at a time and screamed to the lounge door. Lying in a pool of blood was her mum who had been shot through the window. Kara raced down and asked Sarah to hold Aaron back in the doorway. She raced to Kate's side but

could feel no pulse, frantically she called for the police and an ambulance. She began to panic and her heart pounded. She had always imagined she could cope with emergencies well, but this was hard. She began mouth to mouth and was exasperated fighting to save Kate when help arrived. Kate was declared dead and the children screamed and screamed. Kara promised them that she would look after them. She intended to do so temporarily, hoping other family would take them on in time, so she could return to work.

They stayed with her and an investigation was carried out into the murder of their mum. The police found a discarded shotgun and were able to match a print left on it to that of the convict recently released that Kara had read about. He passed Kara in a corridor in the police station walking to the interview room and everyone witnessed his shock and horror. The person he thought he had murdered was there beside him. He was being accused of murdering a total stranger. He took a second look at her and exclaimed 'what have I done' In interview he admitted to thinking that he had killed Kara for putting him inside and was convicted for Kate's murder. Kara thought it ironic, that he had mistaken their identity when they were in reality as different as chalk and cheese. Her Superintendent enquired as to how much compassionate leave she would be taking. Kara had grown fond of Sarah and Aaron over the past few weeks and decided her duty should move away from the force to them. Their mum had lost her life, the least she could do was to sacrifice her career for a few years to help them. She told Sarah and Aaron that they were all moving to their home, so they could keep their school friends and she would look after them. They were traumatised from loosing their mum so suddenly, she couldn't make them sacrifice any more.



1st Belton Scout Group

Would you be interested in helping out at the Beaver section this does not have to be every week. A small amount of training on line is required (support available) and a DBS. If you would like more information please contact Brown Beaver (Jane) 07975 533572.

Beavers

The Beavers had a fun sleepover sleeping outside in tents with a theme of pirates. They made pirate hats, had a sword fight using bread sticks, made pizza's and lots more.

We have used the cliff top exercise area complete to our 6 weeks of exercises. They also on that evening hid the stones they had painted.

The Beavers have made sandwiches and then washed up. They talked about kitchen safety after looking at the HQ after it was set up as a dangerous kitchen. The Beavers looked at ideas for next terms programme by throwing a ball of wool and when it was their turn they said an idea, it ended up becoming a cobweb. The Beavers are looking forward to visiting cub camp as part of their camp craft badge.

If you have a young person 6 years or about to be 6 years and are interested in Beavers, please contact Brown Beaver (Jane) 07975 533572

Cubs

The Cubs finished the summer term tying up loose bits of badge work and having fun on the last meeting of the term at Norwich Snowsports club having ago at tubing which was enjoyed by all. This involves going down the ski slope in a rubber ring. Then at the end of the session we were able to all go down together in 1 long round ring, a great buzz at the end of another busy year

The Cubs will be holding an overnight camp too where they will



at the end of the camp have earned their backwards cooking badge

If you have a young person between 8 to 10 years old both boys and girls who would like to come and join the fun, please contact Peter (Akela) 07900 494344 or email peterclarke222.pc@gmail.com for more information. We play games, learn about the world, learn scouting skills like pioneering and building fires as well as camps and much more.

Scouts

The Scouts invited Malcolm Metcalfe to join them for the evening as part of his 90 challenges as he will be 90 years old later this year. It was his 70th challenge. He broke the flag, had a try at fire lighting, cooking camp donuts on the open fire. He was presented with a badge to remember the evening.

The Scouts have given ideas about what they would like to do in their programme next term.

There are places at Scouts (10 years to 14 years) please contact Brown Beaver contact details above.



Group

It is with great regret that the Scout Group will no longer be collecting newspaper / clean cardboard due to the cost to us it is no longer worth our while. This is after more than 40 years+ of collecting paper in the village.

Can I please take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported the group by saving paper it has been a great fun raiser.

We would be grateful of any books/ Bric-a-brac/ Toys for sales they can either be dropped at 6 Station Rd North Belton or phone 01493 780965.



ALL SAINTS BELTON



Rev Rosie writes . . .

As I write this at the beginning of August, my husband, Tim, has just told me its 145 days until Christmas! I recently went into a local craft supplies shop and a huge section was full of Christmas items, and at that time the school holidays hadn't even begun!

In the Bible Jesus is quoted saying Don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. (Matthew 6:34) It comes at the end of a passage all about worry, when Jesus tells his disciples not to worry about life – what they are going to eat, drink or wear. He then goes on to say can anyone of you by worrying add a single hour to your life.

So, when Tim reminded me of Christmas coming, my first thoughts were – I've not got time to think about Christmas, but then I realised I had already thought about five important members of the family, as I had gifts ready to take to Malawi. Sometimes we can get ahead of ourselves, which can put us in a spin or begin a worry about what's to be done. I do recognise that a careful bit of planning helps spread out the cost and effort of it all.

As September begins, parents and grandparents will be thinking more about children going back to school; do the uniforms fit? what about the shoes? are they going to be alright as they start school, move to a new school or change classes? For some there may well be relief as the children have eaten them out of house and home, which is what my Mum used to tease us with.

Many children will be looking forward to going back to school, seeing all their friends again; others will be apprehensive, and some might like the holidays to go on for ever. The Autumn term is often the longest in the school year; getting back up to speed and with so much learning to be done.

When Tim spoke about Christmas, I thought hang on..... I haven't finished the summer holidays yet! Then there's Harvest Festivals to plan for both churches, for Moorlands and for Burgh House, followed by the Light

Party, All Saints Day, Remembrance for both churches, for Moorlands and for Burgh House, and Advent, before we even get to Christmas. Don't get me wrong, I absolutely LOVE Christmas, but if we are not careful we can wish our life away and not enjoy the moment.

So, this September I hope we are able to enjoy some late summer warmth; to hear the children having such fun as they play together on the school field and playgrounds; to pick juicy berries on the brambles in the hedgerows and to see the swallows gathering ready for their long migration. Simple things that come around every year.

No doubt there will be things to be done to prepare for the rest of the year, but let's take the time to smell the perfume of the late-flowering roses, and to enjoy the month for what it brings. I wish you a peaceful and blessed September.

Rev Rosie Bunn

AN EVENING OF REMEMBRANCE

On the evening of Thursday 20th July our Rector, Rosie Bunn, held a service of Remembrance for the Departed in All Saints Church, Belton. Over forty people attended who had lost someone recently or over the past years.

The service itself was sensitively presented, exuding an atmosphere that was very comforting and moving. It allowed for natural moments of emotion. From losing a grandson 6 years ago we found the emotions were high again but allowed our feelings to happen in very calm surroundings.

After the service tea, coffee and cakes were served by the church team to all. Natural conversations started between many present which again allowed emotions to be expressed. This allowed us to learn how other people had coped, and are still coming to terms with the loss of a dear one.

It was a very special evening and it is hoped to hold a service like this every year alternating between Belton and Burgh Castle.

Many thanks to Rosie and her wonderful team for giving us all present, the opportunity to pray and reminisce together.

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If your child is in year 6, come along to our Open Evening on Thursday 28th September 5pm-7pm.

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extensive Health form to bring to Sallyann's attention any health conditions she needs to be aware of. We also discussed areas members feel they need to work on during the next 12 weeks leading to Christmas, especially leading into winter. These include practicing Balance, Sit to stand, exercise for

UP4FITNESS & SALLYANN

Sallyann has had her operation and is recovering well at home. She is able to take small short walks using one of her poles to assist her as she is not that steady. She also needs to alternate between sitting and standing regularly which seems to ease any discomfort. Sallyann thanks everyone for their cards and get well wishes.

Quite a few members attended the first ever coffee catch-up during the summer. Sallyann organised this which was intended to bring everyone together during the six week break. Donations of biscuits were brought and those biscuits which were not used were given to the Pantry at Belton Church for the food bank. Once again thank you to everyone who has supported The Pantry at the church.

During our meet up we discussed what our return date would be and how our return would be. Sallyann put forward some suggestions for the return and everyone agreed with the proposals. It would mean Sallyann's pre-recorded sessions would be used for a few weeks until she feels strong enough to deliver a class properly. Subject to circumstances out of Sallyann's control, all members agreed this was the way forward to ensure we open on time and Sallyann gets extra time to get stronger. Any members not attending the meeting will be contacted personally. We also used our meeting to complete annual paperwork on any changes in health over the last 12 months. Each member has to complete the

Arthritis and Standing and moving which helps with all of the above as well as, muscle strength, coordination, and good bone health. Implementing these suggestions will help Sallyann to structure the exercises to the people attending the classes. Sallyann has been delivering classes here at Belton, New Road for 11 plus years and is so proud of the community spirit within the group and that everyone has the opportunity to have an input into the content of the classes. Some of our members were busy and couldn't come along on the day and they too will be asked the same questions. Others were poorly and we want to wish them a speedy recovery so we can have them back with us again soon.

During Sallyann's recovery she has been trimming the used postage stamps and has posted an envelope weighing 221grams off at the beginning of August. Apparently 8kgs of used stamps raises £160 for the RNIB. So every little helps! Keep saving; get your family to save to! Then give them to Sallyann to collect please.

Sallyann will be working a skeleton schedule for a while, this includes her 2 seated classes, private clients both studio and home visits and the Nordic Walking, but will concentrate on people who she has been working with over the last twelve months and not be taking on any new clients till the new year.

Please contact Sallyann on email should you wish to know any information about the above. Please be patient as you may not get an early reply. up4fitness@gmail.com

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Great Yarmouth Stroke Club

Just started back with Michelle's son giving a talk to the group about his Degree, he is a paramedic we are so proud of him. Wow.

Birthdays Brenda, Michelle, Jean G, Marilyn, Denise.

Thanks to Brenda for putting on afternoon Tea for the volunteers in her lovely garden.

With sad news our Grace has died. She had been a member for a long time, we shall miss her just a wonderful lady. We would like to thank the family of the late George for the generous donation.

If you have had a stroke come and join us

Contact Sue Casey 01493 781846

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Down the Garden Path

with Elizabeth Myhill



Pansy Evo Autumn Select Mix

With the nights getting longer and the days getting shorter, we can turn our attention to plants that must cheer up our moods and whether we have a large garden, or a modest patch then pansies, or viola is the answer. In my opinion there is nothing better than a pot or container of these colourful flowers to greet one when arriving home from work or from doing the

shopping and they are so easy to look after with all the new varieties available and can suit all tastes. Pansies/violas require little or no feeding. If possible, use Primula & Pansy Clover compost. It is a fine/medium grade peat. Low base nutrient for optimum flowering and controlled growth and contains fine bark or use Potting compost. (Peat free is available)

For the best results plant in September, this lets the plants get established before winter sets in. Many people wait until the first frosts have killed off the bedding plants, but I have found this to be too late to plant Pansies. Breeders have now produced trailing pansies/viola for hanging baskets but I have not had much success with them I think it is too windy and I am not prepared to faff around in the winter watering them. Even with the winter and spring weather, you still may need to check on your winter pansies now and then to



Pansy Matrix Ocean Breeze

check that they are getting enough water. This is especially important for potted pansies that are undercover. To check if your pansies are properly hydrated, stick a finger into the soil and water if necessary. Why not pop down to the Plant Centre A143 (opposite Fritton Lake) and treat yourself to a coffee and



Pansy Matrix Blue Botch



Pansy Matrix Pink Shades

browse the varieties available or pick up a readymade flowering container. Visit the Owl Sanctuary and Pet Centre (Feathered Friends) Free Parking. We will be pleased to see you



Pansy Evo Autumn Select Mix

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Events at the John Green Institute



Trustees of the JGI		
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Bill Richmond	Treasurer	07950 039455
Sheila Evenden	Bookings	07984 443808
Geoff Evenden	Bookings	07984 443808
Robert Goffin	Maintenance	07526 201088
Bridget Lawrence		01403 780160
Suzanna Craig	Hon Secretary	01493 789019

Wednesday Morning Drop In

These prove to be as popular as ever with a gathering of 30 plus every Wednesday morning for a chat, coffee/tea and cake. On the first Wednesday morning of August the Community Nursing Team from the James Padget Hospital visited us with their basic advice for health with blood pressure testing and advice on any possible follow up to your GP. They also said that as autumn approaches the Covid booster vaccines and possible flu vaccines would be able to be given to all who want them at a Wednesday morning meeting. Nineteen of those present said they would like this instead of having to travel to their own GP. The head of the team from the JP will contact us when this could happen so watch this space or come along on a Wednesday morning for an update. Contact Sue on 01493 780822 for further details.

JGI Trustees

Another successful year is completed by the Trustees at the end of August. The hall has been used widely with the monthly Saturday Morning Coffee events started again. Although the attendance was down for the August Coffee morning the Belton Singers still made £82 and Linda with her Christmas crafty table made £12 for the food pantry.

A user group holds a raffle for funds for their own organisation on these mornings. If your organisation or group do not meet at the JGI we would still welcome you to hold a Saturday morning raffle. If you would like to advertise your wares or have a stall to sell items on any of these Saturday mornings then please contact Bill on 01493 780822.

Camera Club

At the beginning of August the club had a great afternoon out at the Nelson Monument along South Quay, Great Yarmouth, with scenes on the beach and around the monument. We also walked back along South Quay to the new bridge road for shots of the bridge in its up position. While at the works entrance the gate-keeper invited us inside the gates for closer shots from a different angle. This was a nice bonus to our out afternoon. He also told us that it was most likely that the bridge would open to traffic in early October. On returning to the monument we walked down to the old ferry crossing for shots across the river and up to the new bridge. A sample of some of the shots are shown. Next meeting will be on Friday September 1st at 2pm at the JGI.



Quiz Nite at the JGI

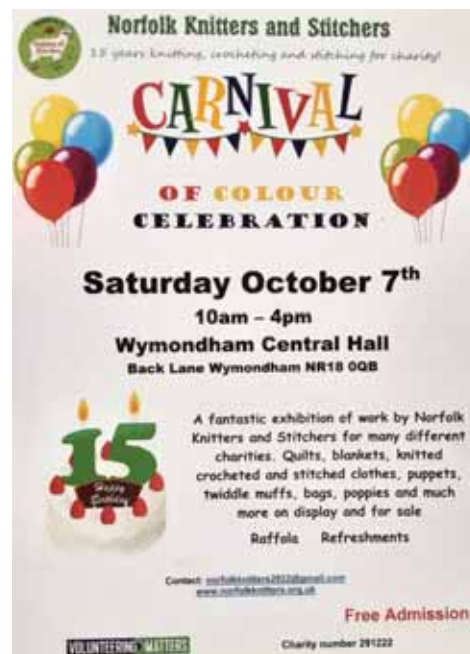
These are held on the last Friday of each month with the next on Friday 29th September. Great prizes and a raffle. Start at 7.30pm with teams up to 4 at £5 per team. The dates for the rest of the year are October 27th, November 25th and the Christmas quiz will be on either Friday December 22nd or 29th. This uncertainty is because Christmas falls on a Monday this year. Watch this space for a final decision in the October edition of the Village Voice. Come and join us for a festive evening when the date is fixed.

Belton Crafty Group

The Belton Crafty Groups have been asked to make anything blue for this charity event in October. If anyone would like to make blue items, this would be most appreciated by us, and by the Norfolk Knitters and Stitchers Organisation. The more we take in October, the more money is raised by the charity for other charities!

(You don't need to be a member of the crafty groups, although you would be most welcome to join us any Tuesday or Thursday!).

Please contact me for collection/delivery or drop any items at the JGI on Tuesday mornings 10.30 till 12.30, or Thursday evenings 7 till 9. Mobile 07721 599559



Contacts for Clubs and Groups at the JGI

To book the JGI Hall call Geoff or Sheila Evenden on 01493 298164

MONDAY

10.15 – 11.45 am	Yoga	Julie	780121
2.00 – 16.00 pm	Short Mat Bowls	Mike	07754 503666
7.30 – 9.30 pm	Bingo	Toni Hazel	780748

TUESDAY

10.30 – 12.30	Belton Crafters	Linda	07721 599559
2.00 – 4.00 pm	Over 60's	Ann	780443
		Rose	780784
6.45 – 8.30 pm	Belton Guides	Louise	07826 919517

WEDNESDAY

10.30 – 12.00 am	Drop-In	Sue	780822
2.00 – 4.00 pm	Art	Jan	488683
5.00 – 9.00 pm	Slimming World	Debra	07551 975800

THURSDAY

10.30 – 12.00 am	Line Dancing	Jane	07788 408801
7.00 – 9.00 pm	Belton Crafters	Linda	07721 599559

FRIDAY

10.30 – 12.00 am	Line Dancing	Jane	07788 408801
2.00 – 3.49pm	Camera Club (First Friday of each month)		
7.30 – 9.00 pm	Belton Singers	Mick	07795 422420
(Except last Friday in month)			
7.30 – 9.30 pm	Quiz Nite	Bill	780822
(Last Friday of each month)			



CLOSURE OF RAIL TICKET OFFICES

As you may have become aware through local media outlets, the consultation period for putting forward views on the closure of rail station ticket offices has been extended to 1st September, 2023. The original closing date was 26th July, 2023.

ENTUA is opposed to any reduction in staffing at stations, you cannot beat one to one contact, actually talking to a human being "face to face".

If the ticket office at Gt Yarmouth Vauxhall closes the staffed hours at the station will be reduced to 0615-1315 hours Mon-Sat and no permanent staffing on Sundays being replaced by what Greater Anglia call "regular visits by the GA mobile team"

When the ticket office currently closes at 1710 the main gates to the station are closed and passengers have to access the station platform via a small side entrance to Platform 2, which means there is no access to seating or toilets while waiting for a train.

If under the closure proposals the same operating procedure applies eg the main station gates are closed at 1315 hours, does this mean that there will be no access to seating or toilets during the whole afternoon? Imagine that on busy summer Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays with families and suitcases squeezing through the small side entrance onto Platform 2.

Another often raised issue is the positioning of the Automatic Ticket Machines which quite often are placed in unshaded areas making it difficult to read the screens on sunny days. Ticket machines

are no substitute to speaking to a member of staff on how best to buy your ticket and any other issues you may have about your journey.

Passengers that will be most affected will be those with physical disabilities who will find it virtually impossible to use a ticket machine unaided.

If you have any comments you would like to make on these closures either e-mail or phone Transport Focus:-

Email: ticketoffice.GA@transportfocus.org.uk

Post: FREEPOST RTEH-XAGE-BYKZ, Transport Focus, PO Box 5594, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 9PZ

INCREASE IN BUS FARES

First Eastern Counties have announced that some of their fares will increase from Sunday 20th

August, 2023.

The increases mainly affect daily, weekly and monthly tickets and for our area they are as follows:-

Gt Yarmouth Town Zone -

Adult = £5.00, Young Person = £3.70, HIGH 5 = £9.00

Coastal Zone -

Adult = £7.00, Young Person = £5.50, HIGH 5 = £12.00

Explorer Zone -

Adult = £8.00, Young Person = £6.00, HIGH 5 = £14.00

Other increases are as follows:-

	5 Day		10 Trip		Monthly	
	Adult	Young Person	Adult	Young Person	Adult	Young Person
Gt Yarmouth Zone	£18.00	£13.50	£19.00	£14.00	£70.00	£55.00
Coastal zone	£23.00	£17.50	£24.00	£18.00	£90.00	£70.00
Explorer zone	£26.00	£20.00	£27.00	£20.00	£100.00	£75.00

These are the first increases since January, 2022 and still represent good value for money when compared to using a car over a comparable journey. There are no changes to the single and return fares and remember the £2.00 maximum single fare ceiling is still in force until the end of October, 2023.

STUDENTS FROM BELTON TO LYNN GROVE ACADEMY

By the time this issue of Village Voice is circulated we will almost be at the start of the school year in September.

In November, 2022 following approaches from parents of Belton students attending Lynn Grove Academy, ENTUA asked First Eastern Counties and Norfolk County Council what could be done.

From March, 2023 two afternoon Service 5 Burgh Castle buses were diverted off their normal route (on school days only) to convey students from Lynn Grove Academy back to Burgh Castle and Belton. This variation to Burgh Castle's Service 5 re-routing did not go down too well with the Parish Council at Burgh Castle who have been keeping a watchful eye on the number of student using the service to Belton.

Disappointingly, despite the fact that there are 70 plus Belton students attending Lynn Grove Academy, only an average of 6 students used the bus between March- July 2023.

In the morning, Service 5 is not affected as the students catch a service 6B which leaves Bracon Road at 0737 and they alight at a stop opposite Millwood Surgery. In the afternoons a Service 5 is timed to reach the Burgh Road bus stops approx. 15 minutes after Lynn Grove's closing time.

We have been told and we hope that the numbers using this bus service will increase with the new intake from Moorlands Primary to Lynn Grove Academy this September.

RAILWAY INFORMATION

If you use the trains please be aware of the ongoing industrial action by members of RMT and ASLEF. Greater Anglia seem to be able to put together a limited service on strike days by both unions, but the effect is greater when ASLEF carry out industrial action short of a strike which includes an overtime ban and this can lead to cancellation of trains more so than on strike days.

For more information please go to National Rail website at <https://www.nationalrail.co.uk>

ENTUA always welcomes new members, all we ask is a minimum annual donation of £5.00 which helps us cover the cost of printing and postage of our very informative quarterly newsletter, plus the hiring of venues for public meetings. To join please write to ENTUA, 18 Wensum Way, Belton. NR31 9NY.

TONY GRICE

Village Voice Free Ads

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We will run your advert for 3 months but please let us know if you sold it
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Closing date for October edition
Sunday September 17th**

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Wanted for 1st Belton Scout Group, phone
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log, washing line with pegs, and a trolley to
carry it all in. To be sold together, collection
only.

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collects

Halfords oil filter wrench 1/2 inch square drive,
never used £3

Whale(Brand) submersible water pump 12v
DC for use with caravan or motor home £20
Solar panel 12v DC 40 Watts, Aluminium
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yards of cable and landstar solar light
controller £50 Rapide bike carrier foldable,
suitable for two adult bikes fits most cars £10
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Two seat sofa and two chairs. Good condition.
Buyer collects. £100, reasonable offer
considered. Please telephone on 01493
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Suitcases by Revelation - Set of 4, Various
Sizes. All with Keys. Used three times. Very
Good. Condition. £110. Mobility
Scooter/Wheelchair Bag Set. Various
Compartments. Black. Brand New. £30 Cash
Drawer, metal, 7 section cash tray, 3 keys. £35.
Myers 620 Mk 2 Heavy Duty Paper Cutter. £75.
Mobility Scooter Visibag. Black/Yellow. Size:-
H - 18", W - 14", D - 6". Brand New. £17. Leitz 6
drawer desktop unit. Grey/Blue. As New. £30.
Yearntree 10 drawer desktop unit.
Grey/Blue. As New. £30. 01493 781094



Dates for your Diary

Sunday 3rd September 2023

Holy Communion

9.30am at St Peter & St Paul, Burgh Castle

Morning Celebration – Café Style

10.30am All Saints Church, Belton

Tuesday 5th September

Traditional Holy Communion

11am All Saints Church, Belton
(Coffee available from 10am onward)

Friday 8th September

10am – 12 noon Women's Bible Chat

Sunday 10th September

Morning Prayer

9.30am St Peter & St Paul Church

Holy Communion

10.30am All Saints Church, Belton

Evening Celebration

6.30pm All Saints Church Belton

Sunday 17th September

Holy Communion

9.30am St Peter & St Paul Church

Morning Celebration

10.30am All Saints Church, Belton

Messy Muddy Church

4-5.30pm in The Rectory Garden and the
stables
including a Campfire

Sunday 24th September

Harvest Thanksgiving

10.30am All Saints Church, Belton
Followed by a bring and share lunch

Harvest Festival

4pm at St Peter & St Paul Burgh Castle

Sunday 1st October

Holy Communion

9.30am St Peter & St Paul Church

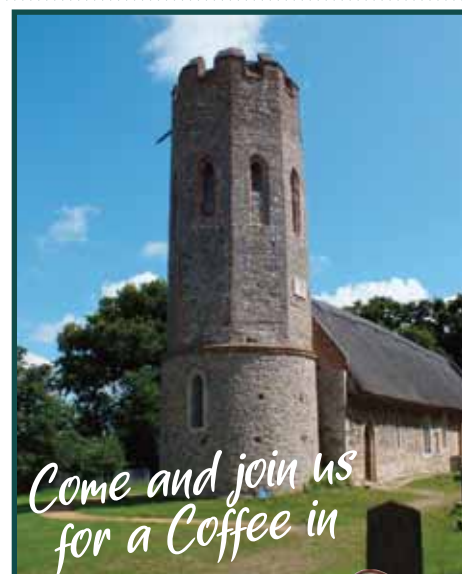
Morning Celebration – Café style

10.30am All Saints Church, Belton

Tuesday 3rd October

Traditional Holy Communion

11am All Saints Church, Belton
(Coffee available from 10am onward)



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on

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September
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