

Village Voice

LOTHINGLAND

August 2026

27th Year. Vol 27-05

Delivered FREE to homes in
Burgh Castle, Fritton, St. Olaves, Belton & Browston
Also FREE through outlets in Bradwell and Somerleyton

Official website:
www.lothingland-village-voice.com







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SAT 22ND AUG
 AMY BONDI 9PM

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A word from the Lothingland Village Voice - Goodbye & Hello

A message from Christina Baxter: Hello all

I hope you are all well. I am writing to inform you all that I have stepped down from the editor's role. I am aware we struggle to recruit for the magazine so please know this was not a decision taken lightly.

I have enjoyed my time with the magazine and meeting you all. I took on this role when I was working minimal hours and wanted to put my energy to good use. Now I am working full time again with two young children, I have found slotting in the editing to be very difficult. Although it was only a few hours of my time, the short time frames were proving difficult to schedule in. I thank you all for your help and patience.

Helen Ayers our Secretary has volunteered to take on the Editors role as well as being the secretary. She hopes that she can live up to Christina's exacting standards going

forward. If you need to contact her (either as Secretary or Editor please see the magazine contacts details below).

The Lothingland Village Voice Board are all volunteers as are the Deliverers and Distributors. We rely heavily on all volunteers, and it is always a shame when they have to stop for whatever reasons – health, mobility, family, other commitments.

With deliverers, if this happens, we try to recruit (cajole) others to step in either to take on an additional route or try to get someone new interested in helping us out.

Without all the volunteers, the magazine wouldn't be the success it is and if too many people are lost from the volunteer's pool, then the magazine is at risk and may not be able to continue.

If you or your family, or a friend are interested in helping, then please see details in the magazine.

Thank you all for your help.

NORFOLK POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER BY-ELECTION - RESULT

The new Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk is Colin Sutton of Reform UK who was successful in the vote on July 16th when there was a very low turnout of 17.14%

Candidate	Party	Vote
Christopher J Brown	Liberal Democrat	10499
Mark R Buckton	Restore Britain	13319
Beth Jones	The Labour Party	14192
Marcus H Pearcey	Indepenent	16402
Martin K Schmierer	Green Party	16907
Colin Sutton	Reform UK	32647
Matthew P Taylor	Conservative Party	18343

Village Voice

LOTHINGLAND

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DEADLINES

The closing date for all Articles and Adverts for the September 2026 edition is 15th August 2026

Cover Picture: Blossom on a local pomegranate tree

August 2026 **302nd** Edition

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

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MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE

Locally the Norfolk Mobile Library rounds are as follows :

St Olaves Wednesdays August 5th and September 2nd.
Priory Close 12.45 - 1.00pm

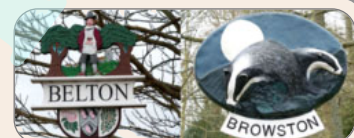
Belton Wednesdays August 5th and September 2nd.
Moorlands Primary Academy 3.20 - 3.50pm
Outside 7 Station Road South 3.55 - 4.10pm
Amhurst Gardens 4.15 - 4.35pm
St. Roberts Way 4.40 - 4.55pm

Burgh Castle and Fritton – No service.

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



Belton with Browston Parish Council



**are seeking to set up a steering group
for an exciting new initiative**

The council will be exploring the viability of building a brand new indoor sports facility at New Road playing fields. The group which will report to full council will be led by Councillor Nigel Light and Councillor Adrian Myers. We are looking for members of the public to join the steering group who will bring experience, expertise and enthusiasm to the project.

We are looking for those who have particular skills/experience in funding applications, sports facilities, building and design and communications.

If you feel that you would like to be part of the vision of a lasting legacy for the Lothingland villages and surrounding areas, then in the first instance please contact the Parish Clerk providing name, contact details, why you would like to be part of this and what you, can bring to the table.

Nigel and Adrian look forward to hearing from you

Parish Council Reports

Monthly Reports from all your Local Parish Councils
Burgh Castle, Fritton, St Olaves
Belton & Browston,



Belton with Browston Parish Council

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council took place on July 7th with all eight existing Parish Councillors present along with four members of the public including Borough Councillor Ivan Murray-Smith and P.C. Mark Saggars plus the Parish Clerk, Kate Ruddock. Jason Riseborough was in the chair. During the meeting two new members, David Dawson and Paul Holmes were unanimously co-opted on to the Council.

Borough Councillor Murray-Smith reported on a meeting he had with P.C. Saggars to discuss the encampment at Belton Cross Roads, P.C. Saggars is looking in to this further, after discussion Councillor Myers suggested that planning enforcement procedure should be started as this is agricultural land now with a person living in a caravan.

The Chairman of Burgh Castle Parish Council had provided a report from the Borough Councils Parish Council Liaison meeting saying the councils reorganisation work was continuing at the County Council, there will be the unitary councils first election in May 2027 (as a shadow council for their first year), the first regional Mayor will be elected in May 2028 and Parish Councils will be elected as expected in 2027, but this time for five years to bring all elections together from 2032.

There were several maintenance matters, low hanging tree branches on the

Sandy Lane bends, reported by a resident, will be reported to the County Council, Councillor Comer reported issues with some matting in the Bell Lane children's play area and the Borough Council have reported issues with the basketball posts recommending an engineers quote be obtained. Owners of two properties, both on Station Road North, will be contacted about overhanging vegetation from their gardens and the Compass Centre will be asked to cut their hedge that runs along the Bell Lane playing field footpath after the bird nesting season. the damaged gate post at Bland Corner is in a section of the corner that is privately owned.

In planning the Council had advised no objections to plans for a conservatory at 2 St Georges Road, or a front and side extension at 12 Heather Road but had objected to extensions at Woodside, Sandy Lane as outside the Neighbourhood Plan development area and not in keeping with this part of the village. In response to an approved tree Preservation Order at Woodside, following concerns by a resident about a number of large trees being cut it was agreed to refer this back to the Borough Council Enforcement Officer. No objections were raised to either an outbuilding at 15 Heather Road with a change to mixed use (dog grooming and residential) provided there is sufficient parking on site or at 2 Beech Farm Barns, a request for a cart shed.

The Borough Council have approved, at, 3 Heather Gardens (extensions), Ashmar House, Sandy Lane (work to trees covered by TPO's

provided replacements planted), and Shenleigh, Stepshort, Belton single story extensions, The Borough have refused an application to determine if prior approval is required to convert an agricultural building to a single-story dwelling at Greenfields, Cherry Lane, Browston.

After an inspection by the Chairman and Vice-chair at the allotments it was agreed to obtain quotes to take down trees and clear brambles and

vegetation from the site which will improve entrance visibility.

As usual there is no Council meeting in August, the next meeting will take place at 7.00pm on Tuesday September 1st at the New Road Sports and Leisure Centre details from the Parish Clerk, Kate Ruddock on 01493 602960 or e-mail clerk@beltonwithbrowston-pc.gov.uk, there are still vacancies on the Council, details available from the clerk as above.

Liz Myhill

A Staunch Supporter of Lothingland Village Voice, Forever Remembered



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Liz Myhill, a long-standing and devoted supporter of The Lothingland Village Voice. The family have been advertising in the magazine since its beginnings in April 2000.

Liz and family moved to Belton in the 1970's and soon, Barry her husband, started growing flowers from seed as a hobby at their home in Station Road South. This grew each year and they started to sell plants from home which led to their own business, which we know today as Fritton Garden Centre.

For many years, she took immense pride in championing the magazine, recognising its value in preserving local heritage and strengthening community ties. Her encouragement, contributions, and enthusiasm were a constant source of support to all involved in its publication. Her commitment to village life, combined with her gentle nature and steadfast friendship, earned her the respect and affection of many. She will be fondly remembered by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

The magazine has lost a great supporter.

Burgh Castle Parish Council



The meeting of the Parish Council on July 13th was attended by all seven Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk and County Councillor Michael French. Brian Swan was in the chair.

County Councillor French informed the Council that there will not be any county councillors individual highways budgets this year as the ruling Reform Group had discontinued it, the fund was previously worth £11k to each of the 84 Norfolk Councillors to use in their own home areas. This is currently being challenged by the other political parties on the Council. The Chairman again expressed his concerns that remedial work to the surface dressing especially on Mill Road will not take place till all the contractors other work for the Summer has been completed and he asked Councillor French to ensure that the cost of temporary remedial surface dressing does not come out of the highways budget but is met by the original contractors.

Members discussed a new issue of deer getting into the burial ground and eating floral tributes on graves, they agreed to find out how much a fence at the far end of the site would cost and see what materials the contractor thinks should be used although it was noted that any work would have to be paid for from reserves.

It has now been discovered that as well as rot in the main post of the village sign, the concrete base has two nasty cracks running up the inside and as well as a new post the base will now need to be reconstructed, however on the plus side, the councils insurers have now stated that they might be able to cover the cost (less their standard excess clause) after previously giving a straight refusal to the initial enquiry.

Members noted that the original planning application for land between Roman Way and 1 Cement Cottages for new gates, a second entrance and install new fencing has been taken to appeal by the applicants however at the same time they have put in an application for an 18 x 12-metre agricultural feed store, retrospective permission for a memorial area, a field shelter, a shipping container and retention of existing fencing and access gates to the south. After a long and heated discussion members agreed to object to this by a majority vote. An application for the additions of a first floor to a bungalow at Windale, Back Lane, Burgh Castle has been

withdrawn by the applicant and a request for a new self-build dwelling next to Breydon View on Market Road is not being proceeded with by the Borough Council.

Members noted that County Highways still cannot give a date to install the bus shelter at Cherry Tree Corner although they provided the funding to the Parish six months ago, Councillor French was asked to see if he can get the process speeded up. Members noted that the resident at Sunnyside on Mill Road has now laid artificial grass on the recently laid cement base outside the walls of their property although the County Highways engineer has advised that he has asked them to remove all of their works including the new roadside edging and posts.

With no August meeting the Council next meets on Monday 14th September at The Village Hall on Church Road commencing at 7pm, details from the Parish Clerk, Kate Ruddock on 07899846148, e-mail clerk@burghcastle-pc.gov.uk.

NORFOLK CHURCHES SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE 2026



Burgh Castle

Paul Nicholls is once again riding on behalf of Burgh Castle Church in this year's event on **Saturday September 12th**. when he will visit as many churches as possible in the day on his trusty machine, something that he has undertaken annually for over 30 years!

Paul always does very well thanks to the generosity of parishioners, please support his efforts, we all know that times are difficult but please support him if you can, in common with many businesses and charities our church funds have suffered in the current climate and we are also planning further, costly, restoration work.

Please do support Paul if you possibly can he will be calling on homes in the village during August and early September, all donations will be greatly appreciated.

Maureen Grey, Parish co-ordinator, Cycle Ride

Burgh Castle Tea Room & Bargain Stall

(Village Hall, Church Road)



We are open as usual 10.00am – 2.00pm Thursday and Friday every week, please come along for a cuppa and a bargain.

The first week in August is traditionally our Open Churches Week, volunteers kindly give up extra time and we keep the hall open from Monday 3rd to Friday 7th to compliment the times the church itself is open

Please continue to think of us when you have unwanted goods to dispose of, we can arrange collection at a convenient time for you or you can drop goods off at the hall when we are open.

For more information call

01493 780126

or email: mgreenacre532@gmail.com



St Peter & St Paul's Church

Our thanks go to those who have helped us continue with services each week during this period of interregnum we are at present sorting the 2026 calendar with the help of local and retired clergy, we are very grateful to them for their support.

We are delighted to announce that the Reverend Iain Robertson has been appointed as Rector of Belton and Burgh Castle and will take up his post in the autumn, (more details next month) The first week in August 3rd – 7th is our Open Churches Week, our church will be manned daily and there will be displays, prayers stations and a quiz for visitors to enjoy. To compliment this the village hall will also be open all week for refreshments and facilities.

AUGUST SERVICES

2nd August	Holy Communion	09.30	Rev. C Straton
9th August	Songs of Praise	16.00	Mary Ives
16th August	Joint at Belton	10.30	Rev. C Straton
HOLY COMMUNION AND LUNCH			
23rd August	Morning Prayer	09.30	Matthew Hutton
29th August	Wedding	16.00	Rev. C. Straton
30th August	Holy Communion	09.30	T.B.A.

Fritton with St. Olaves Parish Council



The July meeting of the Parish Council was held at St. Olaves Village Hall on the 2nd of the month as the Police and Crime Commissioner elections prevented the meeting being held on the usual date, there were seven Parish Councillors, Borough Councillor Ivan Murray-Smith, one member of the public and Kate Ruddock the Parish Clerk present, Councillor Richards was in the chair.

County Highways have reported problems with repairing a broken drain near The Dell on the A143 due to an incursion into the system by City Fibre which is being followed up. A site meeting of two councillors with Norfolk Trails to discuss the A143 crossing point with Angles Way is being arranged. The Sam2 sign has been moved as it is not permitted to remain in one position indefinitely.

County Councillor Wedon had advised the clerk that as the Reform leader of Norfolk County Council had signed an order to discontinue members Highway Budgets he no longer had a funding possibility for the proposed brown heritage sign at Fritton, members therefore agreed to go back to the Fritton PCC to get an exact cost so that other funding options could be explored.

The Borough Council had advised that, due to its condition, they were having to remove the senior multi-play unit from the Fritton Play area, they could not replace it at present but the site would go on to the waiting list for works, following on from this councillors decided to see what options are available for grant

funding to replace this item how much it would cost.

Members had met with the Trustees of St Olaves Village Hall and a representative of Community Action Norfolk to discuss future management of the hall and this subject will be added to the September agenda of the Council.

The Council have been advised of the closure of Fritton Post Office and will need to remove the notice board from the site, it was agreed to thank Mr and Mrs Buckole for running the Post Office for many years and to ask the Post Office what will happen to the post box that is on site.

Councillor Stephens had obtained quotes for works round the Fritton Village Sign, some amendments to the proposals will be made before and application for funding to GY BID while the clerk will check if the proposed works will be covered by the Parish Council's insurance policy.

In planning matters the Borough Council had approved works on trees covered by a Tree Preservation Order at Herons Rise, Priory Road, St, Olaves, also works on trees on land adjacent to the B1074 (Herringfleet Road) and reserved matters for the new property at Forestry Cottages on New Road in Fritton.

The next meeting of the Council will take place at the Fritton Village Hall on Thursday September 17th commencing at 6.30pm, for information contact the Council via the Parish Clerk on 07899 846148 or e-mail her at clerk@frittonwithstolaves-pc.gov.uk.

ST. OLAVES VILLAGE HALL

MONDAY EVENING

Ring craft dog training (training for shows): Contact Emily Bircham – 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

Free and looking for a club to hire

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

SUNDAY MORNING

River Scent & Earth Frequencies Every other Sunday morning. River Scent Egyptian Bellydance. Earth Frequencies meditation. Contact River Scent 07854 407419 www.riverscent.com

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BINGO									
19	33	48	78	82					
9	32	59	70	87					
20	23	55	65	79					
1	24	47	60	81					
4	12	54							
2	15	36	64	72					
	28	39	43	67	76				
5	27	38	50						89
	16	22	46	56	61				
3		42	57	75	85				
	17		58	62	77	83			
	21	34	51	71	88				
18	31	41	66	84					
14	30	35	52	63					
6	11	37	68	74					
7	13	25	44	80					

Fritton Bingo

Our next bingo event at **FRITTON VILLAGE HALL** is being held on **FRIDAY AUGUST 21st**

As usual its eyes down for 7.15pm start. So please join me, you bingo fans for an enjoyable evening. Bingo cards only 50p each Raffle tickets £2 per five strips.

Tea, coffee, biscuits only 30p

All proceeds go towards upkeep of the hall. Many thanks ROY

A word from Ashley

OK! I hope you have all had a good start to the summer holidays?! I don't know about you but I never really plan much for the holidays, however this year we planned a surprise holiday to Paris for the first week. So, we are off to a good start, then its just making memories with garden and beach days with a few days out here and there, I think. Oh yes, myself and my daughter will pop down and say hello to everyone that asks after her at the

Wednesday morning coffee morning at the JGI. If you find yourself at a loose end on a Wednesday morning why not pop down enjoy a nice cuppa and chat to the lovely people at the coffee morning.

Brain Teaser!

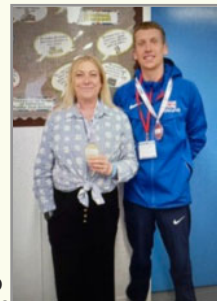
Q: What number replaces the question mark in the sequence below?

7855344?9788

Compass School, Belton

We have had a really good summer term and are now having our last few days of activities before we break for the summer.

As you can see from the picture, we welcomed a very special visitor this term. Logan Smith, Norfolk's very own world championship medal winner, came and put us through our paces. Logan is currently the 3rd fastest man in Europe to run 50km! He brought a small selection of his medals and trophies to show us, and I wasted no time in choosing to pose with the team Gold.



We have been busy getting our site ready for sports day and had a brilliant day catapulting wet sponges and knocking down tin cans with all of the students and their families. The therapy team laid on a really nice lunch for everyone with ice lollies to keep us cool.

We are looking forward to a break and then returning in September where we will have a full-school for the 1st time in a while.

Happy summer Belton residents!
Amanda

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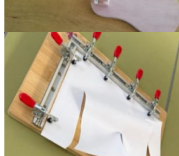
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Spend a Summer Day at Burgh Castle Fort



More than just a mere stone wall surrounding a wide area of greens, Burgh Castle Fort has a rich history that spans for almost seventeen centuries. Being one of the best-preserved Roman surviving relicts in England, it has witnessed the rise and fall of many settlements with their diverse cultures across East Anglia. From the time of its original construction around the third century as one of the Roman Saxon Shore forts, through the monastic settlement in the seventh century and the subsequent Norman settlement around four hundred year later, the fort still persists until now, tall and powerful.

Immerse yourself in the history of Burgh Castle Fort with our guided tours that run through the summer until September. With only £5, you will be taken to a walk through centuries around the site. Take in the castle view, the fort walls, church, as well as a stop at the bird watching station to see the avian visitors that frequent the site and see the breathtaking views of the nature reserve of



Breydon Water across from the fort. After that, stop by the nearby Queen's Head and get complementary drinks for attendees purchasing lunch and holding a valid ticket.

The tour runs for approximately 90 minutes, starting at 2pm on 5 August, 20 August, 19 September, and 30 September 2026. Tickets can be purchased via Eventbrite: Visit our website at www.norfolkarchtrust.org.uk, choose the

'Events' menu at the top, click 'Guided Tours', then choose 'Guided Tours Burgh Castle Fort' to access the link/QR code that will take you directly to the Eventbrite page. You can also find details about our other guided tours at archaeological sites across Norfolk on our website.

If you cannot make the scheduled tours, you can visit Burgh Castle Fort any time when the weather is fine. There is a parking space to leave your car, which is available for a small fee to facilitate

the preservation cost of the historic monuments. Dogs are welcome, but do not forget to keep them on a lead to keep the other animal habitats safe, including the skylarks who nest on the ground of Burgh Castle Fort.

As a closing note, we would like to thank Adam at the Queen's Head for supporting this tour and our visitors. We also look forward to seeing you at the tour.

Photography Competition

Discover Norfolk's past through your lens



Want a chance to show off your photography skills?

Norfolk Archaeological Trust (NAT) is hosting an exciting photography competition to celebrate Norfolk's rich archaeological heritage.

Simply send us up to five photos of your favourite NAT heritage site for the chance to win.



Competition closes 4th September 2026



We currently are caring for 27 kittens, 25 cats, 6 guinea pigs and 7 rabbits. We are full to the brim. We have no room to squeeze any emergencies in, which is upsetting and not where we would like be at all. If you are thinking of opening up your home to a

beautiful kitten or cat or are hankering after caring for a guinea pig or rabbit, please consider adopting from us. Our adoptees are vaccinated, chipped, vet checked and cherished. They are used to being handled and treated nicely, and their individual characters are assessed to match them with the best match adopter, so you will get no nasty surprises. We will ask to do a quick home check and chat but this is to check for hazards, help you through the adoption process and check you have thought of all eventualities eg holiday cover. We really want each adoption to be a success. If you buy online or from anything other than a rescue, you will not get this level of support and ongoing help and generally they are just interested in the income, not in the ongoing happiness of the adoptee and the new owner.

We are grateful to receive donations of items to sell in our online shop and of cat food to feed all those hungry tums. If you would like to donate, please contact us to arrange drop off or collection.

Please adopt, don't shop and please neuter your cats. If you are interested in adopting please apply through our Facebook page.

We are also always happy to find new foster homes. This involves caring for a cat temporarily until they find their forever home. All food would be supplied and vet bills would be paid, so there is no financial burden to you and it means we have the option of taking emergency rescues in if necessary. If you are interested in fostering, please contact us through the Facebook page.



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Looking Back, Growing Forward

Looking back can sometimes help us see just how far we've come. Growth is often quieter than we expect, happening one small step at a time.

August is a curious month. The excitement of early summer has begun to settle, gardens are full, the fields are gradually turning gold, and many of us

transformed the landscape. Growth rarely happens overnight. It is usually so gradual that we hardly notice it until we stop and look again.

Perhaps our own lives are much the same.

Earlier this year, many people marked Lent in different ways. Some gave something up, others took on a new challenge, while across the Church of England we were encouraged to think about life-giving habits—the small, everyday practices that help us draw nearer to God and to one another. Six months later, it seems a good time to ask a different question. Not "Did I keep my Lenten promise?" but "What has quietly become part of my life?"

find ourselves somewhere between holidays and the return of familiar routines. Children are making the most of the long summer break, while others are beginning to think ahead to September and all that it will bring. It is a month that looks both backwards and forward, making it a natural time to pause and take stock.

When we see a field ready for harvest, it is easy to admire what is in front of us without thinking about everything that came before. Months of preparation, sowing, rain, sunshine and patient care have all played their part. Day by day the changes have been almost imperceptible, yet over time they have

We often measure our lives by the big milestones: birthdays, holidays, new jobs, moving house or retirement. Yet most of life is not lived in those moments. It is shaped by the ordinary rhythms of each day and by the habits we hardly think about. A few minutes of quiet before the day begins. Taking time to notice the beauty of creation. Checking in with a neighbour. Sharing a meal without distractions. Choosing patience over frustration, kindness over criticism, or gratitude over complaint. None of these things makes headlines, but together they have the power to shape our character and our relationships in ways that are deeper and more lasting than we often realise.

Jesus understood this well. He once compared the Kingdom of God to a farmer scattering seed. The farmer goes about his daily life, and "the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how" (Mark 4:27). It is a wonderfully hopeful picture. Growth is not something we can force, nor does it always happen at the pace we would choose.



Often, God's work in us is quiet and unseen, becoming visible only when we look back and realise that our attitudes, priorities or relationships have slowly begun to change.

Whether this year has brought growth, unexpected challenges, or plans that have unfolded differently from what you had hoped, August offers us an opportunity to pause before the busyness of autumn begins. We can give thanks for the life-giving habits that have taken root, however small they may seem, and perhaps gently begin again where good intentions have been crowded out by

everyday life. The fields surrounding our villages will soon be ready for harvest, not because of one perfect day, but because of countless ordinary days that came before. Perhaps our own lives grow in much the same way, as God works patiently within us, one small step at a time.

We are happy and excited to announce that we have appointed a new vicar Iain Robertson, who is due to start later this year. Further details of what date he joins us will follow in next month's article.

Anneka GEARIE, Parochial Church Council Team.





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29th Singer Arianne 7.00pm

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1st Belton Scout Group

Squirrel Taster Sessions

We have run 3 Squirrel Scout taster sessions this term, young people 4 year to 6-year-olds with the support of East Norfolk District leaders and the county development worker.

Between 9-12 youngsters attended the sessions, had great fun in taking part in making an edible camp fire out of biscuits, icing, shoe laces, growing cress in a cup, playing games and listening to stories.

Squirrel Dray starts on Monday 7th September 2026 5pm to 6pm with 12 spaces.

Would you be interested in helping out at the Beaver (Beavers only runs at 18 beavers at present time due to not enough adult help, the colony should have 24 spaces) or Scout section this does not have to be every week. A small amount of training on line is required (support available) and a DBS. We have a waiting list and can't fill all of the spaces as we don't have enough adult help. If you would like more information, please contact Brown Beaver (Jane) 07975 533572.

Beavers

The beavers have walked to Rectory Corner to plant French Marigolds, while practicing the Green Cross code. They took turns to push the wheelbarrows with plants and equipment in them. We have done some leaf printing, finding out about different trees, then went onto do a bug hunt, looking for small animals to ID through magnifying glasses.

All of this term the Beavers have been doing exercises over a 6-week period as part of health and fitness 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 have had a couple of weeks out of the scout HQ, playing Frisbee golf, and then having a trip to the Clip and climb at the Marina centre. We will this week be going on a hike and then the week after having a joint meeting with the scouts to end the term, where we will send 11 cubs to scouts with their Chiefs Scout silver awards.

If anyone would like to join the adventure and learn skills for life then please contact Peter on 07900 494 344 or send a message to our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/share/1BFRhYhN4P/>

Scouts

The Scouts have built flag poles out of canes in small groups, once finished set off a party popper and made a beehive for a small animal to shelter in out of bracken. Built and lit fires to cook home made dough twists. Spent an evening organising a programme for a joint

meeting with the Cubs. Made a key ring out of wood, with screws for arms. legs, eyes. Along with playing lots of games

Anyone aged between 10 years and 14 years who would like to come and join the fun please contact Brown Beaver phone number above

Group

Our thanks to everyone who donated and gave items for our June Jumble Sale we made £144

Many thanks to the village voice for their grant to cover the cost towards the flooring for the new lady's toilet at the HQ. The girls are very happy as we got the toilet area which we



are very grateful for. Thank you, Village Voice.

Wanted a cobweb duster for the Scout HQ if anyone has one to spare, we would be very grateful

We would be grateful of any books/ Bric-a-brac/clothes/ Toys/ Jigsaws/soft toys/ toiletries etc we urgently need to re stock for sales as we urgently need to raise funds for the scout group. The items can either be dropped at 6 Station Rd North Belton or phone 07975 533572

A VISIT TO SUTTON HOO

by Teresa Webb

While on holiday in Hadleigh, Suffolk, we visited Sutton Hoo an Ancient Burial Ground which we had been told was very interesting. The first thing we saw was a reconstruction of the Royal Burial Ship containing the burial chamber. It was awe inspiring to realise that 27 metre long ships like this crossed oceans with just 40 oarsmen rowing! The Anglo Saxon King Raedwold was buried in a ship like this in the 600's AD, with many treasures and items it was thought that he would need in his next life.

We walked up the hill, where a guide met a group of 40 of us, all eager to learn more about this fantastic site. The mound where the Kings burial ship was found had been reconstructed after excavation and was at the highest point in East Anglia. The mound had sunk slightly, so was originally much higher. The mound was first excavated in 1939, then again between 1965-1971.

There is a 17 metre high viewing tower beside it for looking over the whole site if you were able to climb the many stairs, which we decided not to do!

Altogether there were 18 mounds, numbered in random order, at least six of these had been robbed before being excavated. Six graves contained cremated remains in a bowl. Mound 14 was the only female grave of a Queen. We didn't visit all the mounds as they covered a huge area of rough grassland. Mound 17 was the grave of a warrior buried with his horse.

Also on the hill were many graves of criminals who had been executed, usually by hanging. They were just thrown into a hole which was filled in and topped with sand and stones.

We all listened enthralled by our Guides stories and explanations of details. We were lucky to visit on a hot sunny day and some of our group needed to sit on the grass while listening to the spell-binding facts our Guide told us.



Tranmer House must have been a lovely place to live. It was owned by Edith Pretty, who arranged for her friend Basil Brown to excavate the Kings mound in 1938-9. Although very knowledgeable, he was not an archaeologist, but was very respected. The finds were ruled to be hers, but she gave them to the nation.

In the house were many interesting photos. This one shows archaeologists actually working on the remains of the Kings Burial ship.



This one shows Royal Navy sailors visiting the site.



The High Hall exhibition contained the lyre made of maple wood and a beaver skin lyre bag. It is a reconstruction of the one which was buried with the King.

There is a view of the river Deben from the house. There are now three holiday apartments in Tranmer House.

After an exciting time discovering all these facts, we were in need of sustenance, so we visited the Kings River Cafe for some excellent refreshments. There is also a picnic site for those who wish to enjoy views of the river Deben. There are five walks for those who wish to do so.

Finally, we visited the Gift Shop, stocked with lovely items at reasonable prices. I settled on a pair of ear-rings but I could have spent much more!!

I highly recommend Sutton Hoo as a special day out. The actual treasures discovered are safely displayed in Bury St. Edmunds museum. I hope to visit there soon.

Basil Brown



Life on the Farm

As the heat continues, this summer again is hotter than we are used to here, seems to be no air around either. Our pigs are enjoying a wallow pit, we add extra water daily so they cover themselves in a layer of mud to protect their skin from the sun.

Apollo is now living full time up at the pig sties with the others, his brother Richard Ham, mum, Crackling Rosie and of course the princess Eliza, who(at the time of writing this) may be expecting a



litter in 10 - 12 weeks roughly, pigs gestation is 3 months +3 days.

Our hay was cut and baled a few weeks earlier than usual, the long grass is cut, dried by the sun and air, you turn the hay over a few times until dry, then it goes into rows and is then baled. I have

had to help my husband by "rowing up" and then carting hay home.

Hay yields are up to last year but the prolonged dry spell will mean another shortage of hay as no second or third cut.



We need the rain at night and sun during the day to get maximum crop growth. So hay will not drop in cost.

Our horses are having wet mashes to ensure they get enough fluids to cope with the extreme heat. We also cold hose them a lot to help, or stable them.

The goats and sheep seem totally unaffected but the paddock has burnt off totally. We let them into the woods and on the marsh to gain enough forage and satisfy their browsing needs.

I bring you very sad news of Matilda's death. Matilda, a Belted Galloway, was blind and had special needs, sadly a nerve needed in her gut to process, digest and breakdown food suddenly stopped working and we made the very sad decision to end her suffering. I'm totally heart broken but proud I had the privilege of her last months.



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A Wonderful Afternoon at the Burgh House Open Day



Burgh House welcomed residents, family members, staff, friends, professional visitors and members of the local community for our Open Day on Thursday 25th June.

It was a wonderful afternoon and a lovely opportunity for everyone to come together, enjoy the entertainment and spend quality time with one another. The atmosphere throughout the day was warm and welcoming, and it was fantastic to see so many familiar faces alongside people visiting Burgh House for the first time.

A huge thank you must go to all the staff who worked incredibly hard throughout the afternoon and helped make sure everything ran smoothly. A special mention also goes to the Burgh House management team for the time and effort they put into organising and arranging the event, and to Julie for being



such a brilliant host.

We would also like to thank Cane the Bar for providing the entertainment and helping to create such an enjoyable atmosphere for residents and visitors.

More than £500 was raised through raffle ticket sales and generous donations, with every penny going directly into the Residents' Fund. This fund helps to support future activities, outings, entertainment and special experiences for those who live at Burgh House.

Thank you to everyone who donated prizes for the raffle, purchased tickets or made a donation on the day. Your kindness and generosity played a huge part in making the event such a success.

Most importantly, it was simply lovely to see residents, families, staff, friends and members of the wider community enjoying the afternoon together. Thank you to everyone who attended, supported the event or helped behind the scenes. It was a very special day for Burgh House.



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Contacts for Clubs and Groups at the JGI

To book the JGI Hall contact Caroline Askell by text on 07415 650227 or email jgibookings@gmail.com. No direct call will be taken.

MONDAY

10.15am - 11.45am	Yoga	Julie	01493 780121
2.00pm - 4.00pm	Short Mat Bowls	Stuart	07375 558120
7.30pm - 9.30pm	Bingo	Toni	07716 483592
		Hazel	01493 781916

TUESDAY

10.30am - 12.30pm	Belton Crafters	Linda	07721 599559
2.00pm - 4.00pm	Over 60's	Ann	01493 285436
		Rose	01493 780784
6.45pm - 8.30pm	Belton Guides	Rose	07827 913974

WEDNESDAY

10.30am - 12 noon	Drop-In	Sue	01493 780822
2.00pm - 4.00pm	Art	Jan	01493 488683
6.00pm - 7.10pm	Slimming World	Candy	07775 432970

THURSDAY

10.30am - 12 noon	Line Dancing	Jane	07788 408801
3.45pm - 4.15pm	3-4 years Babies Ballet	Jayne	07746 141525
4.25pm - 4.55pm	5-7 years Primary Ballet	Jayne	07746 141525
5.00pm - 5.30pm	Modern/Fun Class	Jayne	07746 141525
7.00pm - 9.00pm	Belton Crafters	Linda	07721 599559

FRIDAY

10.30am - 12 noon	Line Dancing	Jane	07788 408801
2.00pm - 3.30pm	Camera Club (First Friday of each month)	Bill	07950 039455
7.30pm - 9.00pm	Belton Singers	Angela	07592 731510
7.30pm - 9.30pm	Quiz Nite (Last Friday of each month)	Bill	07950 039455

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Belton Activity Morning – August 2026

By the time you read this, we will have finished another enjoyable term and be taking a well-earned summer break. Although some of our members have been away on holiday or spending time with family, we have continued to enjoy good attendance throughout the summer months.

the group during the autumn. It doesn't have to be a long presentation—a short talk is all it takes to help us learn something new about one another.

During September, we will also be arranging a visit to Pathways Care Farm to present the money raised through our



A few of our members have recently undergone major operations and will not be returning until September. We send them our very best wishes for a full and speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming them back when they are ready.

As we hadn't enjoyed one of our members' talks for a little while, Sallyann volunteered to share her own passion for painting. Around 17 members stayed behind to hear about her journey into art and the difference between intuitive and realistic painting. It was lovely to see so much interest, with plenty of questions asked and a good discussion afterwards. We hope this has inspired other members to share a hobby or interest with

fundraising over the past year. We look forward to sharing more about that in a future edition.

Plans are already in place for the autumn term, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back. As usual, we will close for the October half-term break, with our final session of 2026 taking place on Monday 14th December.

Whether you come along for the exercise, the company, or simply a friendly chat over a cup of coffee, you'll always receive a warm welcome at Belton Activity Morning.

For more information, please contact Sallyann:

✉ up4fitness@gmail.com
☎ 07599 044806 (Text or Call)



Great Yarmouth Stroke Club

The stroke group have had a busy month, ice creams from Dimascio, Bingo from our new bingo machine.

We have had Faye the singer. Music quiz. Quizzes.

Karla singing just great to see the group joining in.

We had a Drawing competition with Nolan coming first.

Thank you to Sid Clover family and friends a donation from his funeral. We would like to thank Miss Daisy Team for picking up our members and the kindness shown to the members, Ian, Vanessa, Ria, Sarah.

Our raffle table thanks go to all who donate.

Birthday Wishes to Marj, Paul, Pam, Ellen, Margaret, Hilly, Mick, Rose, Janet. Get Well wishes to Richard.

Thanks go to our caretaker Mark.

What a team of volunteers we have. We could not have a stroke group without you all x

Contact Sue Casey 01493 781846

**Our next meeting is September the 10th Thursday 2.00 - 4.00pm
New Road, Football Ground Hall, Belton.**



Belton Bowman

Belton Bowmen Archery Club

As we are now into August Belton Bowmen Archery clubs outdoor season comes to an end, our last family/child session will be August 31st. Thanks to everyone who joined us this summer.

There will be a meeting the following week for the adult club only for our archery golf.

The club then returns to Cliff Park Ormiston Academy for the winter session.

Unfortunately this will be the adult club only but we will return next spring for the return of the family/child club.

Thanks again for the support every Monday.

Duncan Wyer

Belton Judo club latest news update

It's been another successful month for Dominic King Judo & MMA Academy and our sessions have been relatively well attended considering the heatwave we've been experiencing recently. This shows that our members are generally committed on the whole and it also hopefully suggests that our sessions are enjoyable enough to attend, even when conditions are difficult.

On Saturday 11th July, 20 year old Ryan King, son of head coach Dominic King, travelled to Georgia (formerly part of the Soviet Union), to train for a month with some of the best fighters in the world. This type of training is essential if he wishes to accomplish his goal of becoming an Olympian in the future, which we believe is realistic, providing he gets the training and competition required to reach that level. Ryan is a full-time athlete, but is forced to pick up work occasionally in order to help fund these trips, so is constantly seeking

sponsorship.

On Sunday 12th July, Jed Tearle was also representing the club at the Surrey Open veterans championship. Jed probably delivered his best performance yet, with some positive throwing and prolific strangle attacks that resulted in submissions from his opponents. Jed finished the day with a very well deserved gold medal and some more confidence moving forward to the next level. Jed is father, as well as a paramedic and doesn't have the opportunity to train full-time like Ryan, but he still often finds the time to attend two sessions a day, which is why he's getting the success that he deserves.

We are obviously very proud of our competitive members, but it's true to say that the majority do not currently compete. This is completely fine as they are more than happy just to attend our general classes, simply maintaining a reasonable level of fitness and enjoying learning new skills. These members are

Continued on page 18

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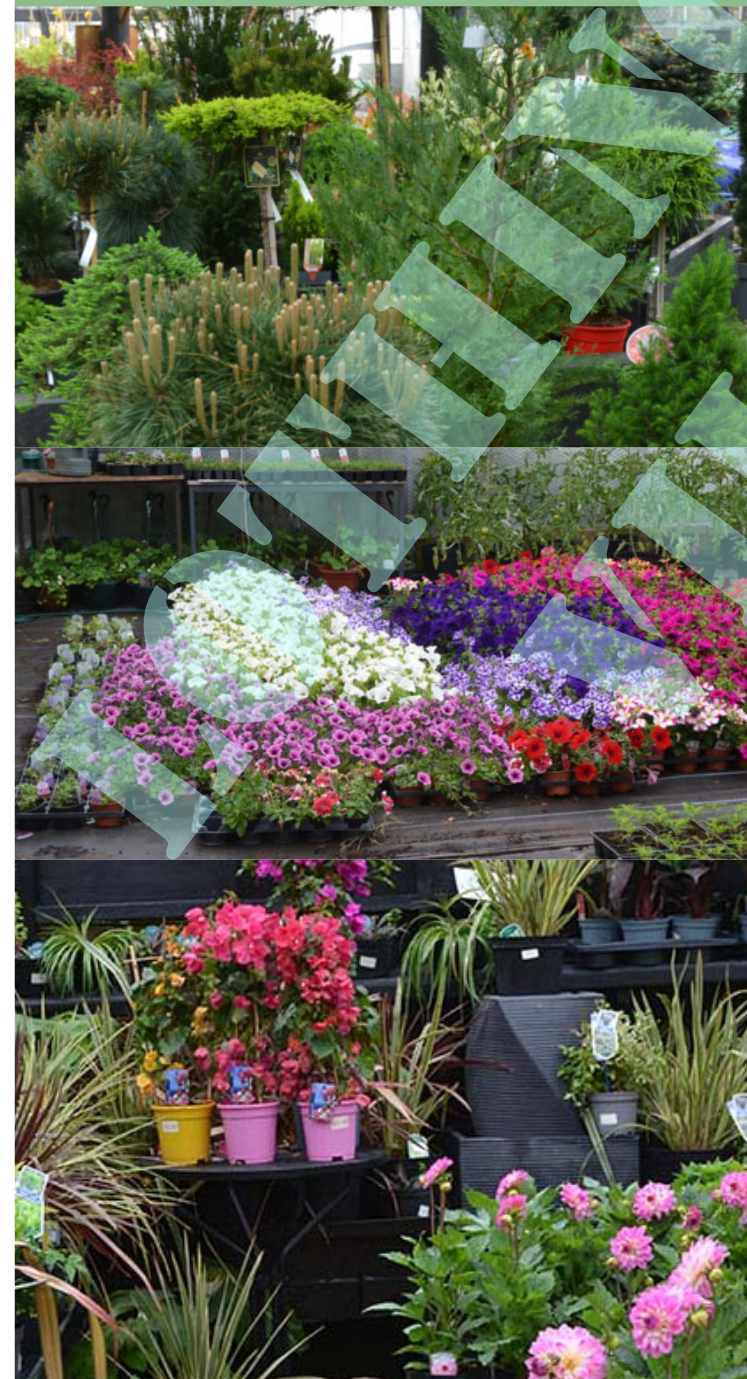
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just as important to us, as we appreciate that everyone is on their own personal journey.

Our sessions are led by former British Champion Dominic King, who was awarded his 6th Dan at the beginning of the year. Members include several black belts, as well as regular juniors and seniors of all levels, from International player to first time beginner. Everyone enjoys training alongside one another and we are able to give everyone exactly what they personally need in order to improve and have fun. Beginners are always welcome, with each one being offered two free sessions before deciding whether to sign up. However, we have a fantastic retention rate, as the atmosphere at our club is extremely positive and friendly.

Belton Judo club latest news update

Our kids classes are particularly well attended, as we like to make all our sessions fun, with little pressure on kids to learn difficult moves or remember confusing Japanese terminology. We have a tailored grading system ideal for the younger children, which they all really enjoy progressing through, before moving to higher belts down the line.

For older or less experienced members, we often use crash mats to teach heavier throws, so they can build confidence in their own time, while competitive members regularly participate in randori sessions, which is the judo equivalent of sparring. This is great preparation for competition, for those who wish to go down that path.

At the opposite end of the scale, our oldest member, 79 year old Dot Goodwin, is still going strong. Dot started her journey as a 70 year old and managed to achieve her black belt in December. Dot now assists Dominic with a new session for over 50s, that recently started over at our other venue in Oulton

Broad. If anyone is interested in signing up for this, don't hesitate to contact Dominic (contact details at the bottom).

If you'd like to start your own journey with us, you can join now! If the Tuesday evenings are not convenient, we have sessions at various venues throughout the week, which are included in the timetable below:

DOMINIC KING JUDO & MMA ACADEMY TIMETABLE:

MONDAY: EAST ANGLIAN MARTIAL ARTS CENTRE, 163 BRIDGE ROAD, OULTON BROAD, NR33 9JX

4pm-5pm – Judo for over 50s
5pm-6pm – MMA for children (6-16 years)

TUESDAY: BELTON NEW RD (NR31 9JW)

4.45pm-5.30pm - Judo for younger children (fundamentals/fun)

5.30pm-6.30pm - Judo for older children and adults (technique/theory/randori)

WEDNESDAY: OULTON BROAD (EAST ANGLIAN MARTIAL ARTS CENTRE), 163 BRIDGE ROAD, USE POSTCODE NR33 9JX

5.30pm-6.30pm - Judo (All ages welcome)

THURSDAY: EAST ANGLIAN MARTIAL ARTS CENTRE, 163 BRIDGE ROAD, OULTON BROAD, NR33 9JX

4.30pm-6.30pm – MMA for children and adults (6 years + KIDS FIRST HOUR ONLY)

FRIDAY: EAST ANGLIAN MARTIAL ARTS CENTRE, 163 BRIDGE ROAD, OULTON BROAD, NR33 9JX

6.15pm-7pm - Judo for younger children (fundamentals/fun)

7.00pm-8pm - Judo for older children and adults (technique/theory/randori)

8.00pm-9.30pm - MMA for older children and adults (12 years+). Anyone wanting further details can contact Dominic on 07977432756, email dominic@fightingfitjudo.co.uk

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Swaffham Area Are you a Veteran?



The Veterans Central Swaffham drop-in centre is now well established (and popular) and we have now fixed dates for the rest of 2026.

4th Tuesday of the month.

Join us for hot drinks, cakes and conversation.

Come along for a FREE hot drink, cake, chat and a spot of banter, or to ask questions about veterans support.

**Venue: The Pedlars Suite,
The George Hotel, 1000 to 1200.
On Tuesday August 25th:**

Location: The George Hotel is located on the corner at the Traffic lights of Swaffham and there is free parking and easy access.

You are welcome to bring partners or carers.

Please spread the word to any military colleagues in the area.



More information?

**Contact: ops@veteranscentral.co.uk
Mobile: 0771 3860040**

Veterans Central

The Veterans Central charity (#1208763) is based at West Raynham SHQ (NR21 7PL) and is a facility for Military veterans, serving personnel and families, to support activities, wellbeing and social engagement.

Veterans Central is open every Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 1000 to 1500.

Village Voice Free Ads

Advertise household items, garden, sports and camping equipment, events and much more
We will not accept business adverts, cars, motor bikes, property or pets.
ADVERTS WILL HAVE TO BE RENEWED EACH MONTH

WANTED

BURGH Castle Village Hall sales stall. Tel. 01493 780126 (local collection Any Saleable items, Bric-a-Brac, Books, Games, Jigsaws unwanted gifts etc)

JUMBLE, Books, Bric-a-brac and toys Wanted for 1st Belton Scout Group, phone 01493 780965 or can be dropped off at 6 Station Road North Belton.

BOOK collector 01493 780739. Wanted to buy, large and small book collections.

FOR SALE

LOGS / firewood £6 large bag collect Burgh Castle call 07909 984740

APOLLO Vortice Junior Hybrid Cycle NEW, suit child aged 8-12years 18 Gears. Just £85.00 (£100 below Halfords) Burgh Castle Village Hall Thur/Fri 10-2 or

Tel 07796 982259

HP keyboard and mouse £2. Canon Canoscan 5600F flatbed scanner excellent condition £20 07307 858609

GENTS Raleigh Pioneer 140 easy rider hybrid cycle, computer, new tyres, twist grip gear change complete with double pannier bag, pump, security chain and stand £80. Tel: 07762 416871

LADIES bicycle excellent condition comes with front basket, saddle bag, panniers and lights £75, buyer to collect Burgh Castle 07719 999585.

UNDER counter freezer in good working order £25 buyer to collect Burgh Castle 07719 999585.

15 baubles bundles with the metal sticks that goes with it. Will accept £20 for the whole lot. They are in a very good condition, must collect please call 07969715798 if interested.

VITAL light bowls right for in or outdoor size 4 in Kerry bag and in good order £20, trailer light trailer light board 3 foot long 12V 17 plug 4+4 functions stop trailer indicator number plate £10, camping stove new double

burner with tube butane or protein use a new order £30. (01493) 603860.

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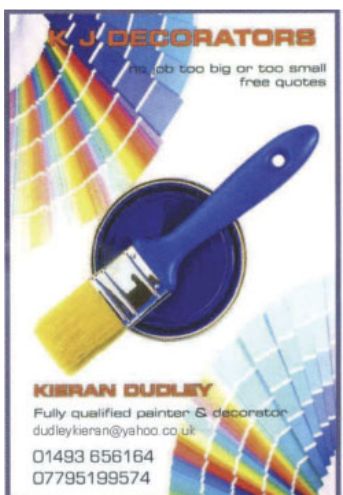
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