



All Saints, Great Thurlow

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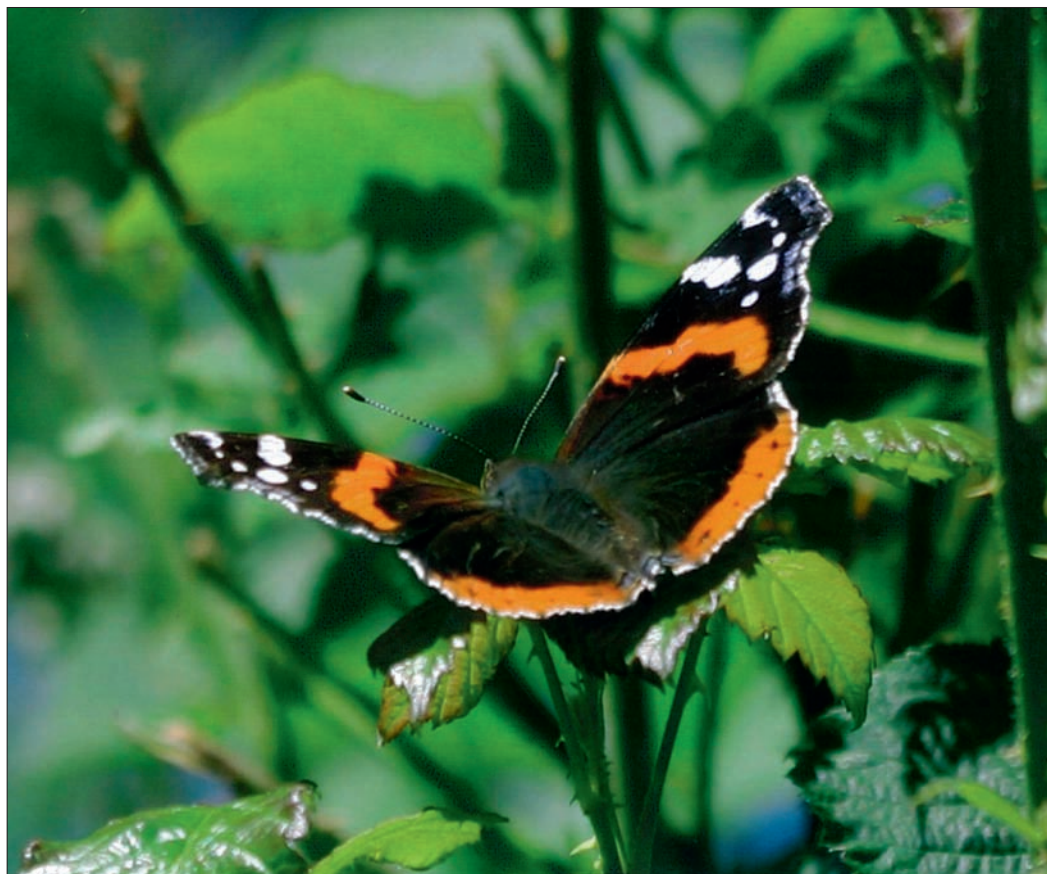
# THE Village Link

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St Peter's, Little Thurlow

May 2010



News and views from Great and Little Thurlow  
plus The Little Bradley Column

Free to every residence (£5.00 p.a. when purchased)

## VILLAGE LINK

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**FROM THE RECTOR.** The Month of May brings with it two of the most uplifting festivals in the Churches year. **Ascension Day** this year is on the 13<sup>th</sup> May and we will be having the usual celebrations of the morning 7.00a.m. Benefice Tower Service with the "Ascension Sausage Breakfast" at the Rectory in Kedington afterwards. Do let us know if you are able to join us for catering purposes. There will be a Holy Communion Service in the evening at 7.00p.m. and this year it will be held at Little Wrattling Church. **The Day of Pentecost (Whit Sunday)** is on the 23rd May and we have the Deanery joining us for the **Confirmation Service** with Bishop Nigel. The Service starts at 10.00 a.m. and is the only service in the Benefice that day. We have five candidates from the Benefice and others will be joining us from the Deanery. Do come and join in this joyful and important service. As you may just have noticed, there has been a great deal of use of the phrase "*getting the message across*" in recent weeks, usually from political parties! There job almost done or just beginning I do not know but the Christian Church has been working at getting the message across for centuries and who can judge the results? It's the skill of "listening" and "discerning" that message which I believe is missing. How many of us will have been influenced by the well chosen sound bite? Politicians did not invent them, biblical writers were pretty good at it to, trying to catch people's attention with a short pithy saying "*Father into your hands I commend my spirit*", "*love your enemies*", they and others echo down the centuries. We hear them but do we take on board the full implications of their meaning? Often this takes time and thought to work out the full implications. We can ask the question of ourselves, have we fully understood what it means to be a Christian in 2010. Hearing the message, understanding the message and then living by the implications of the message are the great challenges we all have to face if we are truly to engage in living the Christian faith. The closer we look the more difficult it may seem and yet the rewards are promised for those who persevere. However we do not make the journey alone. We have the Church, the body of Christ. We have Christ who helps us. He knows us as he became man and lived amongst us. He knows our frailties and our weaknesses. He also has given us the assurances that we can have life in him and life eternal. As we continually find out more about ourselves, confess our sins and weaknesses and try to amend our lives and acknowledge our need of all these things we may discern his will for us not only for this life but the life to come. However we do need to listen and in listening praying and in praying deepen our awareness of our dependence for fullness of living in him. We are not all called to preach from the pulpit but we are called to be "witnesses of these things" and by our lives try to get the message across. **John Eley, Rector**

**NATURE NOTE.** Have you heard the cuckoo yet? I have – but not in Thurlow yet, unfortunately. We were in Europe on the wrong side of the channel when the Great Eruption occurred that affected so many lives for a short time. We were up in the Tuscan hills in Italy in fact in a lovely old farmhouse, but without English papers or Internet so I was spending a lot of time listening with one ear to an ancient radio whose knobs I was hopefully twiddling to find some reliable news in the babble of foreign voices. But with the other ear I could hear the clear signs of spring outside – about two weeks ahead of us, I reckoned. There were warblers, woodlarks, and nightingales singing everywhere; there were swallows and swifts overhead; and best of all there were lots of cuckoos calling, the traditional harbingers of spring. This is a sound that is becoming increasingly rare in Britain, alas, but for centuries it has been the key marker of a new season for country folk. One of the oldest English songs of about 1240 begins (in the original spelling):

Summer is icumen in  
Loude sing cuccu

People used to write letters to the Times each year to report ‘the first cuckoo of spring’ (even if they sometimes confused them with song thrushes). And people still stop each other in the village to ask, ‘Have you heard the cuckoo yet?’. They don’t stop you to ask, ‘Have you heard the latest opinion polls?’, ‘Have you heard if Chelsea won their last game?’ or even ‘Have you heard if that volcano has erupted again’. No, they ask about the cuckoo, and that shows how deep our feelings about the seasonal cycle and the natural order of things run. Something is wrong with the world (*our* world) if the swallow, the cuckoo, the swift and the turtle dove don’t arrive when we expect them, or worse still if they don’t arrive at all. But something *is* changing and it’s very troubling for someone with even one ear to the natural world. True, our first swallows are now here, as I write, and the house martins are prospecting last years’ mud huts under our eaves, and down the Drift there are plenty of blackcaps and chiffchaffs in song. But last year I only heard the cuckoo once in Thurlow, and the numbers of summer migrants like the willow warbler, turtle dove and spotted flycatcher were much reduced from even 10 or 15 years ago. The reasons won’t be exactly the same in all cases, but something really is happening out there and if we don’t recognize it and start to affect it in the ways we can we shall literally lose our bearings in the world as we know it. And then it won’t just be a practical question of how we get home, but whether home is still home when we get there.

**Jeremy Mynott**

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**WHAT’S ON AT WICKEN FEN. Dawn Chorus Walk. 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> May, 4.45am, £10 (includes bacon roll and coffee) A guided walk with our birdsong specialist to discover what birds are waking up at Wicken Fen. Tel. 01353 720274, email [wickenfen@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:wickenfen@nationaltrust.org.uk)**

**Thurlow Estate Farms.** The oilseed rape is making the most of the warm and sunny conditions. Plant growth is significant during April and early May and noticeable week-by-week. The plants are beginning to flower already and it won't be too long until rape fields are a sea of lush yellow. The flowering crop is very much welcomed by our native British black honeybee, who would have had a difficult time over the past four months. They can now venture out pollinating our food chain. The Spring Beans and Malting Barley have emerged and the application of nitrogen has begun. The meadows have been rolled and fertilised ahead of the cattle being turned out for the summer. The winter crops are now beginning to outgrow the huge flocks of pigeons which have been plaguing us since October. Pigeon control has therefore stepped down for this growing season. Rabbits however, are still feasting heavily on the headland crops.

**Thurlow Woodlands.** The Woodland Management Plan and Deer Management Plan have both been approved by the Forestry Commission. Harrowing and rolling of the grass tracks around the Estate is now underway. Felling is complete in Norney Plantation, Fourteen Acre Wood and Vestey's Wood and operations have now moved to The Spinney near Withersfield. The firewood extracted is being split which speeds up the seasoning process.

**Thurlow Estate Management Limited.** The wall at the junction of Bury Road and the B1061 has been repaired following the impact damage sustained during the snowy conditions in December. Tenders have been received for the external redecoration programme, and instructions will be going out shortly. A project manager has been instructed to oversee the major refurbishment of two properties on the Estate, one in great Thurlow, the other in Ashdon. Both properties are Listed with structural work required. Meanwhile our in-house maintenance team will shortly commence refurbishing a property in Great Wrattling.

Properties to let Manor Farm Office, Horseheath (653 sq.ft, OFCH, Off-road Parking, broadband). Rook Tree Barn, Great Wrattling (1,830 sq.ft), a fabulous open plan air conditioned converted barn with first floor conference room, OFCH, car park, broadband). We also have a number of sheds/garages available for rent, and units for storage. For more information, please contact the Estate Office (01440 783661).

**Thurlow Hunt.** With one of the hottest days of the year so far, over a thousand spectators and punters enjoyed the racing at the Puckeridge Hunt Point-to-Point. The going was good to good-to-firm in places, and the course was in pristine condition. The day commenced with the pony racing which provided some great entertainment, in terms of both competitive finishes, and equally, if not more competitive, the stretched vocal chords of the parents at the finishing post! The three bitches all successfully whelped in April. Greedy is looking after her two dogs and two bitches; Ripple with seven dogs and one bitch and Moment mothering her six bitches and two dogs. Hound selection will begin for the South of England Hound Show which takes place in June. It is hoped that up to seven and a half couple will make the trip to Ardingly.

**Thurlow Shoot.** The Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust begins the grey squirrel survey in May. You may recall from the December article that the survey compares squirrel movements in two woods where game birds are fed, and where squirrel control takes place in only one of the woods. The day-old chicks should be arriving back from

incubation in May and will be reared on Brickey Field, before being released on the Balsham and Thurlow beats. The delivery of the six-week old poults will arrive in late May/early June and be released straight into the woods on the Thurlow beat.

**Countryside Foundation for Education – School Visit.** The annual visit is taking place on 9 June. Adding to the huge success of previous years, the day is very much sought after by schools from much further afield, and already we have had to stop taking bookings as the upper limit of 245 has been achieved. Schools in attendance this year come from Ashdon, Barnardiston, Haverhill and Weston Colville.

**AND FINALLY.....**

Q. What season is it when you are on a trampoline?

A. *Spring-time!*

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**W.I.** Rosemary Allcock took on the role of President at the April meeting due to the absence of both President and Vice President. She welcomed all members and the speaker Jenny Hill. Three members hope to join the Federation trip to Hatfield House in May. The tickets for the Concert by the Band of the Royal Air Force have been received. Five members had attended the AGM at Culford when the main speaker had been Vet Mr Dermot Oriadon.

Jenny gave us a potted history of the formation of the Association of Country women World Wide which we contribute to each year. We now know how the money we give is used in providing women in the Third World with clean water as one project. The other way they are helped is in providing animals for them to milk so that they can feed their families better and also earn a little money which helps to educate the children. She ended up buy saying that the needs of women are the same wherever we live.

Lucky members this month were Rosemary Allcock, Anne Patient and Arline Vollam. Next month we hope to go Ten Pin Bowling.

**Iris Eley**

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The **THURLOW BOWLS CLUB** urgently requires members for this new season of Outside Bowls, to keep the Club going. Experienced players or novices, all are welcome. Old, young, middle-aged, male or female.

We will be holding an Open Night on Friday 7th May at 6.30 p.m. at THURLOW BOWLS GREEN on the RECREATION GROUND. All Welcome! Please contact: Rosemary Heyes. Te: 01440 783460

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**DEDHAM VALE SPRING WALKS. DAWN WILDLIFE WONDER IN ASSINGTON.** Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 5.30am-8.30am. Rise early and reap the rewards - watch and hear the wonder of the dawn wildlife and celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the designation of the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Breakfast included at the idyllic Assington Mill. Tel. 01473 264263

## **POLICE NEWS.**

This month's newsletter comes at a time of year when those of us who are gardeners start planning for the anticipated long hot summer. We spend time in the greenhouse bringing on and lovingly nurturing our young bedding plants to put out in planters and hanging baskets or we browse around garden centres looking for more mature plants to fill our containers. If you're like me, you will clean all those garden ornaments, which you have collected over the years so that they take pride of place in the garden amongst your floral displays and perfectly manicured lawn. Then you can sit back and relax with a cold beer or glass of wine and admire your hard work and privately pat yourself on the back for your efforts.

Unfortunately, it is also the time of year for thieves to totally disregard or respect your garden and all it contains. Garden ornament and planter thefts are a seasonal crime and criminals will take advantage of the lack of security and easy access to your front garden to steal these items. Within our Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) area we are currently experiencing a number of these types of offences. These thefts do cause a lot of distress to the victims, not only because the items cost a lot of money to replace, but also a lot of these items have sentimental value, and in some cases are many years old. We are of course putting in extra patrols in vulnerable areas, but with such a large area to cover we do need the public's support in not only helping us to detect the offenders but also to deter them as well.

Simple crime prevention measures can be taken by householders to reduce the chances of you becoming a victim of this type of crime. Garden ornaments can be chained and secured to a fixed position as can hanging baskets, and most garden centres and DIY stores sell plant anchors to secure your planters. Always mark your garden ornaments and planters by etching your postcode and house number, or name so that in the event that your property is stolen we can trace it. It is also a good idea to photograph your property, digitally if possible. All of these steps help to keep your property safe and ensure we can prosecute the offenders. Remember; if you see anything or anybody you consider suspicious then let us know immediately. The police non emergency telephone number is 01284 774100, or you can e-mail us at

**[stedsruralsouth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:stedsruralsouth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)** Please dial 999 if an immediate response is needed. It would also be helpful if you see a suspicious vehicle to note down the registration number together with any distinguishing marks and a full description of suspicious persons. By working together we can make a difference.

PCSO Alex Foster remains on long-term sick leave and the likelihood is she is going to be absent for a few more weeks. The rest of the team continue to cover in her absence so please contact us if you have any issues.

Good news regarding the spate of thefts from outbuildings:

Two men have been charged with conspiracy to commit burglary (outbuildings), following a large-scale investigation by Suffolk Constabulary. 26 year old Levi Smith of Stanstead has also been charged with aggravated vehicle taking relating to a car taken from Great Cornard in November 2009 and converting criminal property under the Proceeds of Crime Act. 21-year-old William Parker of Cambridge has also been

charged with attempted theft from three vehicles in Thurlow in October 2009 and converting criminal property under the Proceeds of Crime Act. Both men have been released on bail to appear before Bury Magistrates Court on 13<sup>th</sup> April.

A 32-year-old man from the Newmarket area has received a caution for giving false details to a scrap dealer when selling metal.

Your Safer Neighbourhood Team is:

Sgt 566 Kevin Horton

PC 704 Ruth Horton

PC 18 Trish Sinclair

PCSO 3140 Alex Foster

PCSO 3219 Kayla Packman

PCSO 3218 David Matche

Please consider registering with Police Direct on [www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk) which will enable you to receive relevant information about crime and policing issues in your area.

The Police non emergency number is 01284 774100, or you can e-mail us at [stedsruralsouth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:stedsruralsouth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk) Please dial 999 if immediate response needed. **If you wish to report criminal activity in your area anonymously please ring the Crime Stoppers number 0800 555111**

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### **THE WAR MEMORIES OF RAF STRADISHALL by Sqn Ldr A.N. (Leslie)**

**Banks MID \*RAFV1.** By 1938 war seemed inevitable and we were being urged to prepare ourselves. I was already a member of the Observer Corps and we had strong links with the RAF. My boss Sir Alfred Bossom the MP for Maidstone, I was his agent, suggested I could do worse than join the RAF. At this point in time I was of course fully employed but if I joined the RAFVR training was at weekends with a squadron attendance once a week. In the event of hostilities. This I did and I was commissioned and joined 500 County of Kent Sqn Auxillary AF. My training focussed on the operations room. They were a fighter sqn. The pilots were all already qualified and in some form of civil flying. At this stage the R. Aux AF Sqns were the best weekend flying clubs going, notwithstanding that they were contracted for immediate call up in the event of a declaration of war. In the circumstances auxiliaries were posted to regular Sqns as were the RAFVR. The distinguishing marks were either the letters A or VR on the upper lapel. Later these were taken down for some reason. We were proud of our origins especially as we were all volunteers. The National Service Act brought in conscription in time of war.

I was posted to Stradishall in January 1940. The station had been under care and maintenance hitherto which was surprising as it was opened in 1938 as one of the flagship stations under the Hall-Belisha development plan. When I arrived there were two Blenheim fighter squadrons under training. They were moved further south as the phoney war gave way to the onslaught of the Luftwaffe which we now know as the Battle of Britain. Midsummer saw the arrival of 214 Squadron with Wellingtons. By October they became operational. The Sqn was also tasked with some special operations, including the reinforcement of Egypt and the Middle East. There was another small cell which I subsequently became responsible for as the Unit Intelligence Officer. There were a few of the ubiquitous Lysander aircraft which were used for dropping agents into occupied France with a view to developing resistance groups. This

later became one of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) Units based at the Station. The Lysander with albeit a low air speed had the great advantage of very short landing and take off runs. I became well acquainted with Wing Commander Knowles who flew these missions, usually at night. It was a masterpiece of navigation to locate the small safe location landing grounds with three torches positioned in the shape of an L and another flashing a morse code letter for the recognition of the day. It was a hazardous job requiring tremendous courage and absolutely no sense of fear. As missions intensified we were joined by another very experienced pilot ideally suited to this type of flying, a Squadron Leader Mike Samuelson. We became great friends. They flew a great many missions over Europe for the whole of the period of the war. Eventually by 1942 the need for agents had increased so much that the safest method of getting them in was by parachute. Firstly one and then two or three Halifax aircraft were modified for the purpose and the Rowley Mile, one of the Newmarket race courses, was turned into an airfield and parachute training was completed there. The intelligence Section (Intsec) had close contact with MI9 which was specially formed for counter espionage. Intsec was also responsible for briefing and debriefing operational aircrew. In addition they covered escape and evasion which included quite sophisticated escape kits which included some condensed survival foods, maps, compasses, hacksaw blades and later on as things developed, a survival combination tool, the forerunner of today's Swiss Army Knife.

to be continued....

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### **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS.**

Following the resignation of John Tipper there is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor on Little Thurlow Parish Council. Anyone interested in the position should contact the Clerk for more details. At the April meeting it was noted that Councillors had no objections to the Planning Application for an Extension and alterations to the rear of The Cock or the application for Damp proofing work at 135 Pound Green. In response to concerns raised by parishioners regarding the grass cutting on Little Thurlow Green, it was decided that with the agreement of Thurlow Estate who currently cut the grass twice a year, the Parish Council should fund two additional cuts. The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council Meeting at 7.30pm on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2010. This meeting will be immediately followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 8.15pm when representatives of all local organisations will be invited to give a report on their activities during the past year. **M. Hawkins, Parish Clerk**

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### **HOUSE AND GARDEN FAIR IN AID OF ASTHMA UK**

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2010, 10am - 4pm at Chilford Hall, Linton.**

**60 stalls selling everything you need to revitalize your home, plus jewellery, shoes, clothes, toys and food.**

**For more information contact Jo Fairey on 01223 894866**

**‘CASINO ROYALE EAT YOUR HEART OUT!** Well, we did it; finally we brought booze and gambling to the Church, and what a fantastically successful night it was. All that we do with church is supposed to be fun, and fun is what we had! April 16<sup>th</sup> was a blast. The atmosphere was brilliant, with about 51 people buying tickets for the night and entering the prize draw, and the roulette and blackjack tables were mobbed by punters hungry for success! The pub was packed with people and the spirit of ‘community’ was just lovely. Our hosts at the The Cock - Giles, Janie and their team, laid on a fantastic spread for the buffet, and their service at the bar, as usual, was flawless until very late into the evening. Several of us nursed very sore heads on Saturday morning!!

In total, we raised £510 from ticket sales, but the evening saw an additional £262 raised from the sale of casino chips, the winner of the top prize of two tickets to Newmarket Races donated them back to be auctioned and this saw £70 into the kitty, a lovely picture of race horses was also auctioned for £52, and the prize for the winner of the most chips (a bottle of champagne donated by the Co-operative in Haverhill) also went at auction for £32. The net amount raised for All Saints PCC was £635, just superb! We cannot thank enough, those people involved with planning and setting up the evening with us.... without them we would not have had such a fantastic start to this year’s events in the village.

Most of all, to all those people in the benefice who came and made the night so great. The next date for your diaries is the Summer Garden Party at Great Thurlow Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> June, keep an eye on the Village Link for more details, but believe us when we say ‘it is an event not to be missed’.

**Kevin Crowson and Tim Knappett**

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**RAF WRATTING COMMON.** There will be a service at 12 noon on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2010. This will be held at the Memorial Stone which is situated at Weston Woods Farm. The Cadets of 1451 (Haverhill) Squadron Air Training Corps will parade their standard. We remember all who have served and are still serving in the Services and especially those who served at RAF Wrattling Common, ground staff and air crew. Every is welcome to attend this service.

**Suzanne Langford 01223 290353**

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**ST. EDMUNDSBURY BC LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK.** The Consultation on potential sites for new homes on 32 potential rural sites across St. Edmundsbury begins on 12<sup>th</sup> April and will run until 10<sup>th</sup> June. To send your comments, you can complete a consultation form which can be completed online through a link from the St. Edmundsbury website, or you can print the form and fill it in, or we can send a paper version. The consultation is one part of the work going on to plan the future shape of the borough through the Local Development Framework (LDF). Tel.01284 757368. email [ldf@stedsbc.gov.uk](mailto:ldf@stedsbc.gov.uk). Website [www.stedmundsbury.gov.uk/ldf](http://www.stedmundsbury.gov.uk/ldf)

**APIARY DIARY.** To begin, a brief summary of what we have read about over the last three months: In February, I wrote about how I have come to be a Beekeeper, and in March Edition, I spoke about a hive and how they all fit together, and what a colony of bees is, speaking about the queen, drones, workers and brood. In April, we read about bee biology (a bit dry and scientific that month) and this month, I briefly want to describe what a manipulation is and what a beekeeper is looking for when they are opening their hives.

I have sited my bees at the bottom of the vegetable garden, where there is easy access, it is an open but sheltered corner of the garden with not too much wind or sun, and it has plenty of local forage in the gardens around Thurlow and a natural supply of water (which turned out to be my neighbour's bird bath!). Bees use water in a hive to cool it when it is hot by evaporation and to dilute crystallised honey for food. Bees normally fly about 5 meters from the ground, but when entering and leaving the hive, they take a flight path about head height, so to avoid any collisions with us in the garden or our neighbours, I face the hives into a hedge to force them to fly upwards before the off, to keep them above head height. As bees arrive back at the hive laden with pollen, they will instinctively enter into the side of the hive where the brood nest is, so by watching the bees outside, you can see generally where the queen is active.

When I open the hives, I am looking for several things, primarily the health of the queen and presence of food and importantly, signs of mite infestation or disease. Before I open the hive, I suit up properly and prepare all the equipment I need so I don't have to leave the hives when they are exposed. I light my smoker and make sure it is smouldering well, and full of fuel. I then watch the front of the hive carefully for several minutes observing the bees and their behaviour. The weather should be warm, the bees should be flying actively and there should be no signs of stress. I smoke the opening to the hive gently; this replicates the natural occurrence of forest fire and the bees instinctively plunge into the honey stores to save as much as possible in case they have to flee the hive. This keeps them preoccupied so that I can then lift the supers from the hive, and remove the queen excluder. This exposes the queen's bedchamber, the brood.

I remove a brood frame from the very outside edge of the brood to make room to work. I then lift each frame one by one inspecting the bees on the frames and looking for stores of honey, pollen, eggs, larvae and capped brood which are pupating to adult bees. It is vital that any signs of disease are identified early, and I never open a hive without carrying out an activity to control the mite 'varroa destructor' which is a vector for disease and can wipe out a colony in a matter of weeks if left untreated. Generally, I will only lift combs out of the hive to establish that all is well, and when I have found the queen in amongst several thousand of her worker bees and established that all is well, and then I will stop the manipulation and close up the hive.

The other thing to look for at this time of year is signs of swarming. A colony of bees is an entity, one queen heads up this entity, but without swarming, there can be no natural selection, nor would there be new colonies of bees evolving. Swarms simply create a new entity and are an absolutely vital and natural instinct that bees have. The problem

for me is that I sacrifice honey production if I don't actively manage the swarming instinct, but I will talk about how we control this next month (it is a topic all of its own). Onto the Apiary then, and I can tell you that since the last edition of the Link, I have fully opened and inspected both hives. The one I thought was weakest and most vulnerable last autumn, has in fact turned out to be fantastically healthy, the queen is laying very well, there are workers at all stages, and they are busy collecting heaps of pollen to sustain the grubs, and honey to both ingest and store. I am delighted. The hive that I thought was strongest, the one which performed exceptionally in the run up to winter, in fact, suffered from massive starvation. When I opened the hive, there were literally thousands upon thousands of dead bees in the bottom of the hive, with maybe a tenth of the colony surviving with the queen. There was virtually no brood, but despite being so upset, I have made the brood space smaller, kept the brood box closed with minimal room to ensure they don't have to heat a huge space with so few bees, and have left the queen alone to recover.... and recovering she is! At the point of writing, the hive grows stronger each day, with more and more bees emerging and flying for forage, a very happy sight indeed.

I have also completed a one day course with Defra, on beekeeping (I was very lucky to be invited onto one of only four events nationally) where I learned loads more technical skills, hints and tips on how to manage the apiary to best effect. It was a great day, I took samples of adult worker bees with me from each hive for testing, and I am dead pleased to say that I have no disease in the hives for the time being, and the varroa mite, although present, is not at an abnormal level. I even got to see one of my bees dissected and presented under a microscope magnified by 400 times – brilliant!

I have added two supers to the stronger hive, and will add one onto the weaker on in the next couple of weeks, so that the bees have sufficient room to store honey when the rape eventually comes into flower around the village, so generally, all is well, and both colonies have survived winter.

Next month, a hot topic at this time of year, I am going to talk about swarming bees and what happens when bees up stumps and move house with nothing.... which is what a swarm literally is! If you spot a swarm anywhere around the village, give me a call and I will do my best to collect them if it is safe to do so, there are loads of beginner beekeepers looking out for swarms particularly my new bee 'buddy' in Haverhill, who is impatiently on the lookout for his first colony.

Bee facts for this month... if humans were to take over the responsibility of pollinating the world's crops, it would take a workforce of 30 million people worldwide! Did you know that there are varieties of vegetables and fruit which are wholly reliant on bee pollination, including raspberries, apples, black berries, blueberries, broad beans, brussel sprouts, cabbage, parsnip, onion, cucumber, currants... there are too many to mention!

Good old bees!

**Tim Knappett**

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**EVENTS AT LACKFORD LAKES.** Nightingale Walk, Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May, £3, 7.30pm to 9pm.  
Pre book **Tel. 01473 890089**

**OBITUARY.** Sylvia Anne Atherton who died on the 1st April spent all but her first few years living in Lt. Thurlow. Born in Gt. Bradley, Anne moved into the Cock Inn with her mother and father in 1948 when her father took over the pub from his father. Educated at Gt. Bradley and Haverhill, Anne started her working life in the office of Sainsburys Egg Packing station, later on moving to the Addis brush factory. She married Dennis in Lt. Thurlow Church in December 1954 and they made their first home together at 4 Council Houses Lt. Thurlow Green. Son Graham was born in 1961 completing their family and soon after this they came to live at 14 Pound Green. 1971 saw Anne and Den back in the pub, this time as Landlady and Landlord and having to cope with the new decimal coinage. They enjoyed twenty five years as mine hosts and then retired to 135 Pound Green. Anne now had more time to spend with grandson Luke but unfortunately after only two years she suffered a severe stroke which took away much of her ability. She bore all this with great courage, from being an excellent needle woman and knitter she had to give these hobbies up and her pastimes in later life became jigsaws crosswords and puzzles. Stairs were becoming a problem and when the bungalow in The Square was ready for occupation Anne and Den decided to take it. Anne loved living at 135 with the lovely garden which Den had created but it was not long before another pretty garden was created and Anne could enjoy this one just as well, watching all the great variety of birds which visited. One of our old villagers who will be greatly missed.

**Iris Eley**

## **JAMIE AT HOME PARTY**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

**8pm**

**At the new pre-school building next to Thurlow Primary School**

**Lovely products for kitchen, home and garden  
from Jamie Oliver's new summer range just out**

**A fundraising event for Thurlow, Bradley & District Pre-school and its children**

**For information call Helen 07941 124796**

**2010**  
**DINNER AND DANCE**

**Saturday 29th May 2010**

**7.30-11.30pm**

**Thurlow Village Hall**

**Fish/chicken and chips dinner served at 8.00pm prompt  
(veggie option available) followed by live music and dancing to**

**Easy Livin 60-90s Band**

**Tickets £15 each. Admission by ticket only.**

**Dress smart casual**

**Call 01440 783756 or email [ltbradley@uwclub.net](mailto:ltbradley@uwclub.net) to book**

***In aid of Little Bradley Church***

**Barn Dance - Thurlow Barns**

**Fundraiser for THSA (Thurlow School)**

**Saturday 8th May 2010**

**8pm - 12am**

**Fendragon Ceilidh Band with caller**

**Ticket price £15 each**

**includes fish & chips or chicken & chips.**

**Bring your own drink, Pudding stall on the night**

**Contact details - Helen 07941124796**

# SUMMER GARDEN PARTY

IN AID OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

AT GT. THURLOW HALL

ON SUNDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010 FROM NOON

JAZZ BAND. BARBECUE. RAFFLE etc

TICKETS £10 EACH (children under 16 £5) from Thurlow Stores

Tel. 01440 783240 for more details

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*\*subject to area, max. of 7 pints*

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[moojuicedairy@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:moojuicedairy@tiscali.co.uk)



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Your home meets current standards  
Please call



Tel: 01440 704823  
Email: [enquiries@jfkservices.net](mailto:enquiries@jfkservices.net)  
[www.jfkservices.net](http://www.jfkservices.net)

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55 High Street, Linton            01223 891333  
30 High Street, Clare              01787 277600

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Carol Warden  
Tel: 01440 783455

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## A LITTLE LOCAL KNOWLEDGE...

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AGENT THAT UNDERSTANDS THE  
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**Sam Cooke on 01440 707076**

email: sam.cooke@cheffins.co.uk

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Please telephone Zara or Francis at

Napier Garden Planning  
Tel : 01638 508845

Westley Waterless, Newmarket  
e-mail : napierfz@aol.com

## **PAPERS**

*Early morning  
delivery of daily and  
Sunday newspapers,  
also magazines,  
comics etc.*

**Tel. Mary 783585**

**INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS.** This is a brief guide, intended especially for newcomers to the villages, with information about the facilities and services available locally and some useful telephone numbers and addresses.

### **Emergency**

Emergency telephone 999

Police Response (any officer, non-emergency) 01284 774100,  
stedsruralsouth.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Police Direct messaging service (information only) 01473 613997,  
police.direct@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Local Refuge in case of major disaster or if village cut off: Thurlow Village Hall; key-holder Diana Allin, 89a Hill House, Gt. Thurlow, 01440 783560

Suffolk Fire Service 01284 558888

### **Hospitals**

West Suffolk (Bury) 01284 713000,  
A/E Department 01284 713333  
Addenbrookes (Cambridge) 01223 245151

### **Doctors**

The Christmas Maltings & Clements Practice (Cornish), Camps Road, Haverhill  
08444 773543

Selby Practice 01440 702010  
Stourview Medical Centre, Crown Passage,  
Haverhill 01440 761177

Haverhill Social Services 01440 764949  
Citizens Advice Bureau 01440 704012

St. Edmundsbury BC Emergency Planning  
01284 763233  
Floodline: 24 hour with recorded update 0845 9881188  
EDF electricity main cabling (24 hour) power cut and emergency, Helpline 0800 783883  
Anglia Water water/sewerage (24 hour)  
08457 145145  
British Telecom faults (24 hour) 0800 800151  
Suffolk Radio (BBC FM 103.9 or 104.6)  
01473 250000

### **Other useful contacts**

Parish Clerks:  
Little Thurlow, Molly Hawkins 01440 783259, mollyhawkins10@aol.com  
Great Thurlow, Diana Allin 01440 783560, nilla.home@tiscali.co.uk See Parish Council Notice Board in front of the Village Hall for further information and dates of meetings etc.

St. Edmundsbury Borough Council:  
General enquiries 01284 763233

Website [www.stedmundsbury.gov.uk](http://www.stedmundsbury.gov.uk)

Haverhill offices 01440 702271

District Councillor: Robert Clifton-Brown,  
01440 783562, robert.clifton-brown@stedsbcc.gov.uk

Waste Management 01284 757320 – bin collection is every Wednesday morning alternating black bins one week and brown and blue bins the next. Environmental Health (pest control) 01284 757054

Suffolk County Council:  
General enquiries 08456 066067  
Website [www.suffolkcc.gov.uk](http://www.suffolkcc.gov.uk)  
County Councillor: Jane Midwood  
01440 821428,  
jane.midwood@councillors.suffolkcc.gov.uk

Thurlow Estate Office -  
Agent: Tim Barling 01440 783661  
Assistant to Agent: John Frank  
01440 783661

Chemists:  
Boots Chemists 01440 702058  
Co-op Pharmacy 01440 702079  
Sainsbury's Superstore Pharmacy  
01440 708043

## **Useful contacts cont...**

### **Vets:**

Swayne and Partners, 84 Hamlet Road,  
Haverhill -01440 702007

Lida Vets, 162 High Street, Newmarket  
01638 560000

Hawkedon Veterinary Surgery  
01284 789428

Age Concern: Mary Hilton 01440 783649

### **Libraries:**

Haverhill 01440 702638

Bury St. Edmunds 01284 352545

A mobile Library visits the village on  
alternate Mondays, stopping at Sowley  
Green, 150 Bury Road 11.30-11.40am,  
Great Thurlow, 109 Bury Road 11.45-  
12.10am and Little Thurlow Green,  
1 Coronation Villas 12.45-1.00pm.

## **Transport**

### **Local Bus Service:**

Current timetables are on display at  
Thurlow Stores

Dial-a-ride 01440 712028

Taxis: several operate from Haverhill – see  
Yellow Pages

## **Local facilities**

Thurlow Stores & Post Office, Mrs.

Patricia Banks 01440 783214

Opening hours: 8.30am to 5.30pm each  
day, except Wednesdays and Saturdays  
8.30am – 12.30pm. Closed Sundays and  
Bank Holidays.

Newspaper delivery: Mary Atherton  
01440 783585

Plumbing Services: TK Heat  
01440 783654, 07966 208794

Thurlow Village Hall bookings: Diana  
Allin 01440 783560

Churches: Great Thurlow (All Saints),  
Little Thurlow (St. Peter's). Part of the  
Stourhead Benefice which includes the  
Bradleys, the Wrattings, Barnardiston and  
Kedington. Rev. John Eley 01440 710216

CEVC School, Little Thurlow, Head  
teacher Ros Bunting 01440 783281  
Thurlow Pre-School. Secretary Mat Cowell  
mathew.cowell@sky.com

Thurlow Mother & Toddler Group: Rosie  
Winner 01440 702182 and Helen Smith  
01440 783272

Thurlow Sports Club, secretary Allan  
Loveday 01440 707416

Thurlow Fayre: Janice Klimcke 01440  
783626 and Diana Allin 01440 783560

Thurlow Garage (Great Thurlow)  
01440 783248

The Cock (Little Thurlow) Janie &  
Giles Reardon-Smith 01440 783224

## **Local Societies**

Women's Institute: President Jill Steele  
01440 783310

Village Hall Committee: Chairman Janice  
Klimcke 01440 783626

Carpet bowls: Ella Ainsworth  
01440 783349

Outdoor bowls: Peter Thomas  
01440 783700

Woodcraft Folk (children's activity for  
ages 5-13): Diana Allin 01440 783560

**Stourhead Benefice Monthly Service Rota, May 2010**

**Rev. John Eley 01440 710216**

**Steve Diddams 01440 710225**

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>9.30 Kedington FC</b>	<b>11.00 Lt. Thurlow SW</b>	<b>11.00 Gt. Bradley FC</b>	
<b>9<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>9.30 Kedington SW</b>	<b>9.30 Barnardiston FC</b>	<b>11.00 Lt. Thurlow FC</b>	<b>11.00 Gt. Wrattling SW</b>
<b>16<sup>th</sup> May</b>		<b>10.00 Lt. Bradley Benefice HC</b>		
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> May</b>		<b>10.00 Kedington Confirmation</b>		
<b>30<sup>th</sup> May</b>		<b>10.00 Gt. Thurlow Benefice HC</b>		

john.eley@btopenworld.com

**Dates for your Diary:** Lt. Thurlow Annual Parish Council Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm  
 Lt. Thurlow Annual Parish Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> May 8.15pm  
 Gt. Thurlow Annual Parish Council Meeting 19<sup>th</sup> May 8.00pm  
 All Saints Church Garden Party 27<sup>th</sup> June  
 The Thurlows 2010 Book Launch Party 25<sup>th</sup> September

\*\*\*\*\*

**Thought for the month:** There are two sorts of people; those who go through life doing as much as they can and those who do the minimum.

\*\*\*\*\*

**EDITOR'S NOTE.** Next month's issue will see 11 years for the Link under the present editorship. Regrettably other commitments mean that the present Editor will be retiring, therefore a volunteer(s) is/are sought to take over in the very near future. Please telephone 783259 to discuss if you are interested.

*Front cover photo: Red Admiral butterfly*

Little Thurlow village website is [www.littlethurlow.org](http://www.littlethurlow.org)