



Neighbourhood plan

Readers of this newsletter may recall in the last newsletter we published an article entitled 'Neighbourhood Plan – can you help with this document'. The opening paragraph stated 'Would you like to ensure that Rushmere St Andrew is protected from future over-development and that infrastructure requirements are fit for purpose'. The third paragraph started with 'Working in partnership with Kesgrave Town Council ...'

Where did it all go wrong? – Following the rules for submitting a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) the first stage was a consultation to get the boundaries of the NP approved. Kesgrave Town Council was the lead name on the consultation document. Suddenly Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC) was receiving objections to the plan boundaries – in fact they received more objections to this NP than all the other NPs they had processed.

Various reasons for objecting appear to be:- 'we don't want to be part of Kesgrave'; 'We don't want Kesgrave expanding into Rushmere'; 'Kesgrave has a hidden agenda as it has built up within its existing boundaries and now needs to look to use other areas in which to expand.'

Clearly people did not read or misunderstood the article in the last newsletter as the aim of carrying out the NP was completely the opposite to the assumptions made by all those who objected.

With respect to Rushmere Village the whole scenario was not helped by distribution of a flyer to residents urging them to write to SCDC and object to the NP. The Parish Council had no knowledge of this flyer until after it had been distributed.

Representatives from the Parish Council and Kesgrave Town Council were called to a meeting at SCDC on 26 September to discuss the consultation and level of objection as a decision had to be made by 30 September.

During the meeting three options for the NP were discussed. Namely that:-

- 1 Kesgrave Town Council withdraw the NP altogether and instead work closely with SCDC through the Local Plan Review regarding the future development of the Town Council area;
- 2 Kesgrave and a part of Rushmere St Andrew (Tower Ward) proceed together with a neighbourhood plan covering this reduced area; and
- 3 Kesgrave Town Council proceeds alone with a neighbourhood plan covering only the extent of the Town Council area and that Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council will consider the option of producing its own separate neighbourhood plan at a later date.

continued overleaf . . .

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Neighbourhood plan

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National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) provides a list of criteria which can be considered when deciding the boundaries of a neighbourhood plan proposed area (Paragraph: 033 Reference ID: 41-033-20140306) <http://planningguidance.communities.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning/designating-a-neighbourhood-area/>

Of these, based on consultation feedback, great weight was attached to 'whether the area forms part of a coherent estate either for business or residents' in coming to a decision. As such, the latter option 3 was identified as the most appropriate way forward.

This recommendation was passed to, and accepted by, Cllr Fryatt (the SCDC Cabinet Member).

Accordingly, the Neighbourhood Plan boundary for the Kesgrave Neighbourhood Plan Area, approved on the 27 September 2016, shows the plan area covering the Town Council area only.

Where does this leave Rushmere St Andrew? The District Council is soon to commence a review of the Suffolk Coastal District Local Plan (2013) with a target completion date of 2019. This would coincide with the approximate target date of any Neighbourhood Plan which may commence initial consultation within the next few months.

SCDC have learnt from their experiences in creating the 2013 Local Plan and are now pledged to work closer with parishes in generating the new 2019 Local Plan. Given recent experiences and the fact that a new Local Plan will emerge, there has to be serious thought given as to whether the Parish Council and the Community would actually benefit from creating an independent Neighbourhood Plan and would it be a case of 're-inventing the wheel'.

The objectors in this instance have won the day, but at what cost to protecting our parish from future development?

Please also note as a result of the article in the last newsletter there was not one single expression of interest in helping with the NP as a member of a working party. Neighbourhood Plans cannot be established by Parish Council alone – they have to have input from local residents and it is generally acknowledged that they take three years to be completed. The matter will be debated at the November meeting of the Parish Council.

Mel Bentley - Parish Clerk



Chater Homes – award winning builders

As a Parish Council we often need to make contact with local businesses. One such recent chance contact with Sam Chater (of Chater Homes) coincided with them having just won an award from the National House Building Council (NHBC).

Following visits by NHBC Inspectors earlier in the year Chater Homes (in the capable hands of Ian and third generation Sam), have been awarded the prestigious accolade of 'Pride in the Job' for the quality of their building work.

As well as the company now able to display the logo each employee received individual certificates (and a very welcome night out on the company!). Chater Homes are proud of the fact that several of the staff have been with them for many years so it has been a fitting reward for their dedication.

In conversation with Ian and Sam we had the chance to catch up on their latest building programme in Rushmere St Andrew. Currently the work continues on site around the Shrubland Drive area just off Broadlands Way with the construction of a range of three to five bedroom detached homes.

Whilst to the rear of the St Andrew's Walk Shopping Area the newest development is a mixture of lower cost housing and rental properties. This is an interesting new departure for the Chater Group. They have recently received accreditation from the government's Homes and Communities Agency so the properties will be managed by the newly formed Chater Community Housing.

Our Royal Celebrations on Saturday 18 June were quite a success if a little damp! Parish Councillors and parishioners all turned up to see what was going on and found it was plenty.

The event was opened by me as Chairman of the District Council which gave me an opportunity to thank the many people who contributed to the event's success.

The main purpose was to officially open the refurbished Jubilee Walk around the Parish and celebrate HM The Queen's 90th Birthday. The walk focuses on the parish's Local Nature Reserves. The signage had become very dated looking, with at least one sign completely missing. Also, the Parish Council had run out of the leaflets needed to guide us round the various points of interest.

Greenways trimmed the tops of the existing posts and fixed new plates and waymarker arrows. Greenways also had a superb new leaflet designed and printed, all paid for by the Parish Council with the help of a Grant from my Enabling Communities Budget.

On the day we had two guided tours led, in the morning by James Baker of Greenways and in the afternoon by our Parish Tree and Pond Warden, James Wright. It rained for both tours but that didn't seem to matter as everyone hailed them both a success.

Wet weather but not a wash out



Greenways stand with making bird and bat boxes proved very popular

Back on the field where local organisations had set up their stalls we had displays from the Butterfly Conservation Group, The Suffolk Ramblers Association, the RSPCA East Suffolk and Ipswich Branch who run the rehoming centre in Martlesham, Oak Tree Low Carbon Farm who have their farm on Playford Lane in Rushmere Village, Greenways (of course) and Neighbourhood Watch.

Greenways provided us with refreshments and gave instruction on making bat and bird boxes. They also had

a display of the old Jubilee Walk signs so we could see for ourselves just how much they needed attention.

We probably chose the worst day possible weather-wise, yet so many residents turned up and enjoyed themselves that we are not discouraged from doing something similar next year.

A working group is required to look at what we want to do next. If you are interested in helping then please get in touch with Jean Potter 01473 723409.

**District and Parish Councillor
Mark Newton**

It's another scam

Most of us get agitated by cold calling telephone calls and do what we can to block or avoid them. One such way is to register with the Telephone Preference Service (TPS).

However, some criminal elements are using that to defraud unsuspecting people. We have been made aware of people being contacted by telephone by those purporting to be from the TPS. They will either attempt to get you to 'sign up' to the service, for which you will be told there is a charge or that your TPS agreement is about to expire and needs to be renewed.

Both will require all your personal details and credit card details to be provided. BEWARE – THIS IS A SCAM! The TPS is a FREE service and anyone wishing to register can find more details on their website at www.tpsonline.org.uk. The TPS will never contact you requiring payments or credit card details and once registered there is no further need to update it.

If you suspect you have been contacted by a fraudulent organisation the advice is to report it to Action Fraud at <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk>



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'Why don't they do something about that'

We lose track of the number of times we hear that phrase (or similar words), but it begs the question 'who are 'THEY'?'

Inevitably people will say 'the Council' and 'that's what we pay our taxes for' etc. Yes, you've heard it as well.

The Parish Council has a range of committees and panels covering many aspects of life in the parish. We even look after you when you've departed this world! Your Parish Council took the decision a couple of years ago to invest in a new cemetery extension and we shall shortly be offering an additional facility of 'scattering of ashes'. Rushmere Lawn Cemetery (managed by your Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council) is certainly a location to be proud of, and it is a haven of peace and quiet.

Another location in the parish which has received significant investment this year both in time and resources is the

Allotments. The Allotment Manager who is also a parish councillor, has worked hard with the officers of the parish to bring the whole site into good order.

'Flooding' is a repetitive topic. In actual fact it's usually surface water which cannot drain away quickly enough. However, over the last couple of years we have been able to apply significant pressure on the responsible authorities to bring about significant improvements in several locations.

More recently we received news of real problems encountered by some of our elderly residents in Holly Lane who were struggling with deep rutted and muddy grass verges. The situation was becoming untenable when even an ambulance got 'stuck' whilst using this road. We approached Suffolk County Council Highways Department who were able to offer technical support, suggest various

ideas for remedial work and cost out the project. Alas! No money . . . However, where's there a will, there's a way!

County Councillor Robert Whiting provided a grant of £1,000 from his Locality Budget. This together with diverting a sum of Parish Council money which had been earmarked for a different 'highways' project we had sufficient funds to cover the bill, with SCC kindly offering to do the design work in-house and not charge us for that part of the work.

Planning matters are another area which keeps the Parish Council busy. Once a planning application is made with the local authority (SCDC) they assign a reference number, post notices close to the site, and nearby neighbours are informed, and the full details are sent to the Parish Council. You may be interested to know that there is a really good website set up by Suffolk Coastal which enables you to look at planning applications on-line.

So where does the Parish Council fit-in? We have a dedicated Planning Committee which meets roughly once a month – sometimes more frequently in order to meet the 21 day consultation deadlines.

Members of the Parish Council sometimes visit sites, meet neighbours and check up on other relevant matters such as trees on the site, appearance of buildings etc. Planning Committee meetings are open to the public. Applicants sometimes attend to explain their proposals, neighbours sometimes attend to support an application or pass comment in opposition to the plans.

The Planning Committee will then make a recommendation on the application. It must be remembered, however, that our 'decisions' are advisory in the sense that SCDC has (more or less) the final say. Occasionally we recommend refusal and SCDC grant approval and vice-versa although mostly both councils concur. Many planning applications are decided by officers of SCDC. A fair number of applications go before a planning committee meeting at SCDC where councillors from across Suffolk Coastal discuss and determine on an application.

Another important aspect of Parish Council work is the provision and maintenance of play and fitness equipment. We're always looking for ways to improve and of course, there's a big job involved in maintaining the equipment in good and safe working condition.

Just recently, following a request we managed to locate grant funds and other sources of funding to enable the purchase of a new climbing frame for very young children at the Tower Hall play area.

Can we get enough support for a Community Festival?

Several parish councillors have expressed interest and support the idea of a Rushmere St Andrew Community Festival.

The Ramsey (Cambs) Arts Festival of which I was one of the founder members is one I am able to use as a comparison in that the numbers on the electoral register are broadly similar with Rushmere St Andrew.

Here they staged a varied programme which included choral concerts, recitals, drama productions including open-air theatre, puppet shows and workshops, art exhibitions, reading groups and much more.

We are aware that there are a variety of organisations already active in Rushmere St Andrew and there's absolutely no intention of treading on any toes. Rather, we found in Ramsey that the local organisations were very keen to have their events promoted in the Arts Festival magazine.

The impetus for this venture has received excellent support already in that one of our district councillors is planning to put up some of the Enabling Communities Budget to spur things on. We've also had an excellent offer from some community stalwarts who are prepared to be

both secretary of the festival and to design and typeset the magazine.

So now it's over to you, the residents. Is this something you can see as part of the Rushmere St Andrew 'landscape'. Are you an artist who would like an opportunity to show off your skills (and sell a painting or two)? Maybe you'd like to meet fellow 'book-worms' to discuss the latest best-seller. Are you part of a choir that's looking for an opportunity to put on or take part in a choral evening?

One of the most successful Ramsey evenings was the School's Concert. The range of talent in the community was amazing. There were performances from infant age children right through to sixth formers. A mixture of choral pieces, orchestral numbers and exquisite soloists combined to form a superb musical event which was always a sell-out.

If you would like to be involved in any way – if you have any comments, thoughts, suggestions they would be most welcome. Whatever ideas you have then please contact Mrs Jean Potter on 01473 723409 or via email at jep.potter@btinternet.com We look forward to hearing from you.

James Wright

The highlights of the natural year

If nothing else the year 2016 will surely be remembered as the year of outstanding growth. Our nearby conservation hedgerows have increased in height by nearly 2m in some places. It always seems as though the 'weeds' are the most successful in the garden whilst in wooded areas brambles prove to be a real menace putting on inches of growth each day and catching walkers unaware!

It's hardly surprising therefore that we've been approached by several parishioners to deal with overgrown footpaths, hedgerows and play areas and sometimes people ask about cutting trees/hedges and other vegetation overhanging their gardens (from neighbour's gardens or public footpaths etc).

We always do our best to advise – there is no general pattern because each location has its own characteristics especially when you consider that, for footpaths alone in our parish, the 'owner' or person(s) responsible for the maintenance can be any of dozens of people or organisations.

Please remember there are numerous Tree Preservation Orders in Rushmere St Andrew so, if you are at all unsure, it's always best to ask first. This would include restrictions on what you can prune or cut down even if it is in your garden. If the roots are not in your garden then be extra vigilant before you start the autumn cut-back.

This newsletter has seen us moving into the leaf fall period. Some people are 'obsessed' with clearing leaves. Sure enough they can be a menace on footpaths etc but decaying leaves offer a rich source of food for so many birds and animals.

Maybe you could leave a patch somewhere in your garden. You could be rewarded with a hedgehog finding such a place as their ideal hibernation spot. If, like many you leave the leaf clearance well into the winter then please be extra careful to look for hedgehogs which have already curled up for the winter.

Once again there was a healthy showing of migratory birds in the spring and as we write the autumn migration is in full flow. In addition to the beautiful melodies of the Nightingales it was possible to see Tree Creepers, Chiffchaff, Willow Warblers, Goldcrests and Woodpeckers all quite close to everyday footpaths.

We've also had a really good year for butterflies. Species include Purple Hairstreak, Small Blue, Common Blue, Small Skipper, Large Skipper, Small White, Large White, Grayling, Meadow Brown, Speckled Wood, Gatekeeper, Wall, Ringlet, Comma, Peacock, Painted Lady, Red Admiral and Small Tortoiseshell.

I mentioned earlier the growth of 'weeds'. Several species really took hold in the area which we are trying to establish as a miniature nature reserve

at Ipswich School Sports Centre off The Street. The 'bully boy' weeds of thistles, plantain and ragwort took a stranglehold on the area. The ground staff were left with little option but to cut it all down and burn it. A gruelling task indeed and not one to be repeated. Reluctantly, therefore, we have decided to delay plans to plant this area as a wildflower meadow. The two sections of hedgerow are coming on well whilst the rest of the site will be maintained as short grass once the weeds have been culled.

James Wright (Parish Tree Warden)

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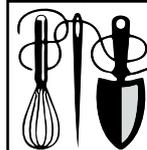


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New Assistant Clerk and New Parish Office

Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council is pleased to announce that a new Assistant Clerk joined the Council team on 1 October. Sylvia Stannard, a resident of the Parish, will work alongside the Assistant Clerk, Jean Potter, until the end of December at which time Jean will take a well-earned retirement from the Council, leaving Sylvia to carry on with the Assistant Clerk role.

Sylvia is well used to local government having spent seven years as a Planner and Senior Planner with Mid-Suffolk and Babergh District Councils and more recently as Clerk for Somersham Parish Council.

We will not be losing touch with Jean completely as she will continue as Secretary/Treasurer to Parish Halls – Rushmere St Andrew, the local charity which manages Rushmere Village Hall and Tower Hall.

Until recently the Clerk and Assistant Clerk had always worked from their respective homes. After careful consideration the Council has decided that this is not a suitable arrangement for the future given that Parish and Town Councils now have an increasing role in the community.

With an increasing number of services and functions being devolved downwards by the District Councils it makes sense to provide a more professional and efficient face to the world at large. It was therefore agreed to establish a Parish Office in what was the Committee Room at Tower Hall, Broadlands Way.

The office will be open to the public to pop in with queries etc at specific times (at the moment that is 9.30am to 3pm on Thursdays and Fridays but is subject to change to accord with part-time working arrangements of the council employees).

The Parish Council telephone number remains unchanged at 01473 711509, but you may encounter an answering machine which will be regularly checked so please remember to state your name and a contact number when leaving a message.

Sarah Todd

I feel very privileged to have been recently co-opted as a Parish Councillor for Rushmere St Andrew, as the parish holds some very special memories. I was married at St Andrew's Church and have lived for the last thirty years in the parish with my husband and two children.

Until recently I combined two job roles, firstly as a Nurse Specialist at Ipswich Hospital caring for children with cancer, ranging in age from just a few weeks old to eighteen years of age. Previous to this I worked as an adult and children's nurse in both London and Ipswich. However my second job, which is now my main focus, is as a Senior Lecturer/ Course Leader for the degree course in Child Health Nursing at the University of Suffolk.

I enjoy running, having completed the half marathon, The Great North Run, with my family; eight times raising money for EACH, Teenage Cancer Trust and a local children's cancer charity. My other interests include walking, gardening, travelling and reading.

I am now looking forward to working with my fellow Parish Councillors and everyone in the parish; to maintain and enhance our wonderful parish life, both now and for future generations.



The Queen's Garden Party

In May and June each year, the Queen holds a number of Garden Parties to which people from all walks of life are invited. This year, the year of the Queen's 90th birthday, three pairs of tickets were made available, via the Suffolk Association of Local Councils, and I as Chairman of Rushmere St Andrew, along with the Chairs of Bures St Mary and Ufford were the fortunate recipients.

The letter from the Lord Chamberlain duly arrived and the invitation, for my wife and I, was for the second of the three parties due to be held in 2016 – two being scheduled at Buckingham Palace and one at Holyrood House.

The challenge then began – what to wear and how to get there. There were clear guidelines in the invitation pack as to dress code. For ladies, the code was day dress with hat or uniform (no medals). The phrase 'trouser suit may be worn' almost sounded begrudging!

For gentlemen, morning coat, lounge suit or uniform (no medals) was the appointed attire. In the end, the wallet was not drained too heavily with a mix of new and once-worn wedding clothing being chosen!

The main decision really was how to get there – do we just go for the day or do we make a stay over in London. In the end, we decided to drive and chose a hotel, based



The Parish Council chairman, Phil Richings and his wife Linda, promenading outside Buckingham Palace

in part of the former Greenwich Military College to stay for a couple of nights. That way, we could make a last minute decision, closer to hand, on what to take to the Palace dependent upon the vagaries of the British weather forecast!

For the first garden party of the year, the dress code needed was akin to broly and galoshes. Happily our day came and the forecast was for warm, if slightly overcast, weather – sighs of relief went up.

A parking permit had been sent with the invitation, so we set off from the hotel to brave the challenges of the London road network. Suffolk is a doddle in this aspect, but we eventually got to the Constitution Hill and, with a big green 'X' sticker in the windscreen, were swiftly waved by the Police into the entrance to the horse ride track running parallel to the road.

Arriving just after the parking opening time, we were fortunate to be parked facing

the front of the Palace. With a couple of hours to spare before the Palace gates opened, along with many other well-dressed people, we promenaded in Green Park and the surrounding area, until we spotted people starting to queue at the gates.

We joined the queue at the front entrance to the Palace and the ensuing queue became quite a tourist attraction. Whilst we waited, some Palace Officials came out and randomly selected people for a chat.

Come the appointed hour, 3pm, the gates opened, and we filed in for invitations and security checks to be made by the Police. With somebody deciding to 'hop over the wall' the night before, they had to be vigilant but it was all very informal. We snaked across the outer and inner quadrangles and into the Palace, passing through the Hall, Gallery and Council Room to emerge onto the Terrace with the Gardens beyond.

To the left, we could see the open-fronted Main Tea Tent which extended for about 100 metres with many garden chairs positioned on the lawn. Backing onto the lake in front of us, were two rather smaller tents, the Royal and Diplomatic Tea Tents. Two tents for military bands were also located in the corners of the lawn area. With about 8000 invited guests, this is no small tea party!

At 3.30pm tea service started. All very civilised and very well organised, we briefly queued and partook of the repast consisting of sandwiches, cakes, ice cream tub, tea and Sandringham Apple Juice.

Soon after, the Yeomen of the Guard appeared to line up and make three distinct walkways leading from the Terrace to the Royal Tea Tent. Within these gangways, groups of people were ushered into position at intervals and we recognised some who had been randomly selected when waiting at the entrance.

Everybody then lined up alongside to watch and at 4pm the National Anthem sounded to herald the arrival of The Queen and Members of The Royal Family onto the Terrace. The Royal Party consisted of the Queen, Duke of Edinburgh, Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and Duke and Duchess of Kent.

We had hoped to see the Cambridge's, who had been there the previous week, but Prince William was working that day, had a 'shout' during the afternoon, and landed his helicopter on a school playing field at Felixstowe during sports day!

The three walkways then became apparent, with the Queen taking one, the Duke of Edinburgh taking the second and the other Royals taking the other. Passing from group to group, the Royals chatted to each group for a couple of minutes. What was amazing was the length of time they took to reach the Royal Tea Tent – over an hour – they certainly have stamina!

We then took the opportunity to check out the lavatories – rather more plush than your normal loos – before taking a walk around the gardens which are a joy to behold. With discrete areas such as lake, herbaceous borders, arboretum and rose garden, turning each corner a new vista appears.

Out of curiosity, who uses the tennis court located at the bottom of the garden?

Time was of the essence so we returned back to the main lawn to see the Royal Party heading back from the Royal Tea Tent to the Palace. It was almost over. The National Anthem struck up at 6pm and that was it. We retraced our steps back through the Palace and Grand Entrance and back to the real world – the challenge of getting back to the hotel through the rush-hour traffic.

Phil Richings



Fly tipping and litter becoming a problem around the parish

It's a bit disappointing to be writing on this topic once again. Sadly it coincides with similar depressing news items locally and nationally. We've recently had our attention drawn to fly-tipping in hedgerows and besides footpaths. We have inspected these sites and are dumbfounded as to why someone would want to discard their waste on someone else's property. Just because it's 'green' waste, that does not permit the dumping of your garden waste, hedge cuttings and lawn mower clippings beside a footpath or under the nearby hedge.

Maybe the thought 'dump it in lane' or 'we'll chuck it over there' is the only thing going through the minds of 'offenders'. Maybe they don't see it as an offence. Well, it is! We've just asked for clarification on the offence of fly-tipping because we wanted to know whether or not the offence was actually throwing the stuff down or where it landed. In other words if the fly-tipping was on private land could the perpetrators still be 'prosecuted'? Well, yes they can.

From Monday 9 May 2016 local authorities have been given greater powers to tackle the crime by issuing penalty notices of between £150 and £400 to those caught in the act of fly-tipping anything. We shall be looking out for instances of fly-tipping and acting accordingly. 'Hot spots' already identified are within areas of undergrowth around footpaths in the vicinity of Hardwick Close, Pardoe Place and Bixley Drive. As well as a 'free' brown bin service, Foxhall Tip is just minutes away so there really is no excuse.

Last autumn we highlighted the dumping of grass cuttings in the path between Hardwick Close and Pardoe Place. We even had a photo showing the 'evidence' on the front page. Guess what – it's still happening. Do these people not have a brown bin?

Another area of concern regarding litter are the play areas for young children in the Parish. Tower Hall play area is the worst. Here the older 14+ children – your children – gather in the evenings. They obviously have not seen the message displayed a year or so ago on the back of buses – 'Don't be a tosser'.

Weekend nights are the worst, pocket money burning a hole in their pockets, straight round the shops and stocked up with sweets, tobacco and lager, they gather on the swings and seats. It's like a party, ending with morning clearing up the litter by volunteers. All the sweet wrappings and packets, food, plastic bags, lager cans and bottles, some smashed, that they have just tossed to the ground. There are litter bins just a few feet away. Also the odd condom, tampon, excrement, and the far left corner and the rear of the hall being used as a toilet.

Are they your children? Have you seen the mess they leave behind? Probably not, it's all cleared daily early in the mornings by volunteers by the time you are up and about. Imagine what it would be like if it wasn't – the really young children wading through that lot to use their play equipment.

Yes, YOUNG children's play equipment. It's not meant for teenage 'children'.

How to stop this? Various suggestions have been muted, including leaving for a week or longer to highlight the problem so you can see how your children are spending their pocket money, high fencing with a lockable gate, powerful flood lighting, and even stripping all the equipment out and blocking off the area.

Apart from the noise factor, probably nobody would complain about the teenagers gathering there if the mess was cleared up by the perpetrators. How about questioning your teenagers about what they do on weekend nights and where they go? And reminding them what litter bins are for, like the bins at home. Or even parents going to the play area late at night to see who's there, and what they are doing. After all, they could be your children creating the problem.

Recently a bin liner full of over 50 empty lager bottles and vodka bottles was just dumped at the entrance to the playing field in Salehurst Road. This clearly was not the 'fall-out' from children on the field, but an adult 'do' – perhaps a party or barbeque. What is the thought process of people who just dump bags of rubbish instead of disposing of it properly?

In this case there is a bottle bank outside the shops in Penshurst Road. If they can take the bag and dump it in Salehurst Road, why not do it properly at the bottle bank? Where is pride in the area – and what does the appearance of litter and fly tipping have on peoples perception of the neighbourhood?



Part of the litter on Tower Hall play area early Saturday morning 15 October

Kesgrave Community Library Summer Reading Challenge

Every year the Librarian and staff at the Kesgrave Library run a Summer Reading Challenge for children aged three to 11.

This is part of a national initiative aimed at sustaining and developing children's reading skills over the long summer holiday, as well as providing the children with interesting activities and lots of fun. Each year there is a different theme.

This year's Challenge was built around the works of Roald Dahl, as 2016 is the centenary of his birth, and was called 'The Big Friendly Read'. As usual, children were asked to read six books of their own choice, including one non-fiction book.

Volunteers were available to talk to the children about their books, to provide lots of encouragement and to give out small 'rewards' such as stickers, book marks, bracelets and rainbow glasses as the children progressed.

Nearly 350 children completed the Challenge, which was rounded off with a special celebratory event where the youngsters were presented with medals and certificates and entertained by a puppet show based on the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears.



The childrens corner at Kesgrave Library

As well as reading books, every week there was a different craft activity with materials provided by the Kesgrave Community Library Group. There were a staggering 1,500 attendances at these sessions over the six weeks.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time as one of 20 plus regular helpers. The children were a delight – so enthusiastic and polite – and the mums and dads were very appreciative. We are lucky to have such an excellent library and committed staff and volunteers on our doorstep. If

you know of a child who missed out this year, there is always next year. You might also like to come along and help or join the Library Group.

Dates for your diary: Christmas Fayre – 27 November, 10.00am – 12.00pm in the Library

Two New Clubs for Adults – Colouring Club and Knit and Natter (any craft) – details of all available activities on the library website www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/branches/kesgrave-library

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World War 1: remembering those who died for us in 1916

My interest in WW1 history started with both of my grandfathers who served with the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry and the Sherwood Foresters, they both survived but not without some lifelong physical and emotional scarring.

It seemed appropriate in 2014 to undertake some research for Rushmere St Andrew Men, appreciating the research already undertaken and I would not wish to detract from that. Deciding to start with the names on the war memorial in the churchyard, I then realised there are other Rolls of Honour – in the Church hall, Suffolk Roll of Honour and in the Baptist chapel - with some variations. It is going to be a long process with 36-39 names to research, not all of them lived in the current parish but all had some links with it.

Many sources for WW1 military records are now available online including the Commonwealth War Graves Commission records which was a starting point. Other records available are Army Medal Roll Records, Service Records (partial) and Pension records, as well as the 1911 Census, BMD registrations and school admission registers. Equally important especially for photographic interest are local newspapers such as the Suffolk Chronicle which is available at Suffolk Record Office on microfilm.

Some striking conclusions started to appear as my research proceeded:

- Seven died at sea
- Two at the Battle of Jutland in 1916
- Three sets of brothers died.
- Two started school at Rushmere St Andrew on the same day.
- Schreiber Road families suffered heavy losses
- Three losses resulting from the battle of the Somme

For this article I have selected those that died in 1916.

The Battle of Jutland (31 May - 1 June 1916) was the largest naval battle of the First World War. It was the only time that the British and German fleets of 'dreadnought' battleships actually came to blows.

Around 100,000 men took part in the action, including Queen Elizabeth II's father. Prince Albert, future King George VI, served on board HMS Collingwood during the Battle of Jutland. The Prince had been in the Navy since 1909, and is the only British Sovereign to have seen action in battle since William IV. HMS Invincible was a battlecruiser in the Royal Navy, the lead ship of a class of three, the flagship of the 3rd Battlecruiser

Squadron during the Battle of Jutland. Sunk within 90 seconds when a German shell detonated the ship's magazines and blew the ship in half. 1026 officers and men killed with only six survivors.

The first two following men both served on HMS Invincible and were killed:

William Thomas FRANCIS

Wireman First Class M/9999 HMS Invincible Royal Navy died 31 May 1916 at the Battle of Jutland age 26 and is remembered with honour on the Portsmouth Naval Memorial.

He was born 21 December 1889, son of William and Gertrude Melnotte Francis of 103 Rushmere Road, Ipswich, who were at one time school master and school mistress at Rushmere St Andrew School and lived in the school house as shown in the 1901 census. William went on to become an engineer employed at the workhouse in Woodbridge Road prior to joining the Navy.

Suffolk Chronicle and Mercury: 9 June 1916 Obituary:

Lost May 31st 1916 Leading Wireman William Thomas Francis of HMS Invincible elder son of William and Gertrude M Francis, Annandale, Rushmere Road, Ipswich aged 26 years.

Charles Edward PECK

Stoker 1st Class K/6405 HMS Invincible died 31 May 1916 age 25, son of Arthur and Annie Peck of 85 Schreiber Road, Ipswich and is remembered with honour at Chatham Naval Memorial. Suffolk Chronicle: 16 June 1916; Obituary:

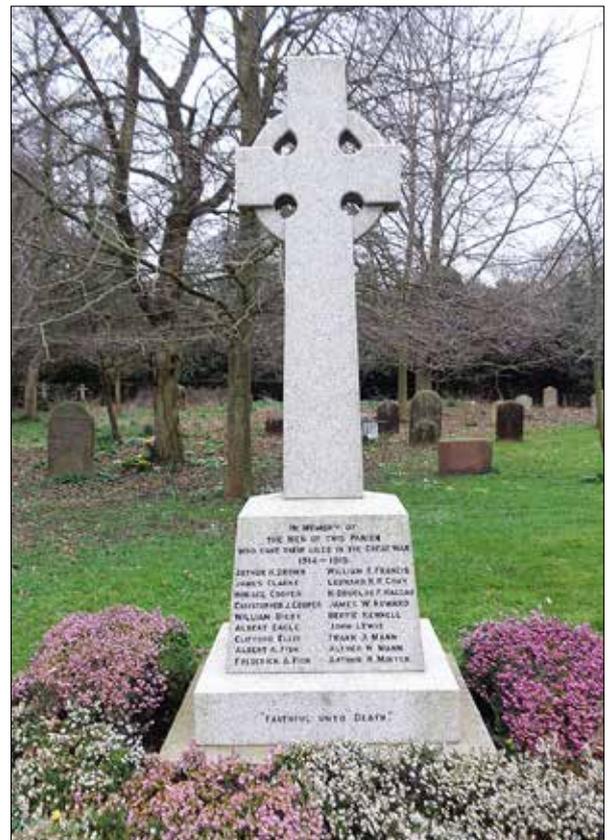
Lost on 31 May on HMS Invincible First Class Stoker, Charles Edward Peck of HMS Invincible second son of Arthur and Annie Peck of 85 Schreiber Road, Ipswich, age 27 years.

Arthur Henry MINTER

Leading Seaman j/905 HMS Primula Royal Navy died 1 March 1916 age 24

Remembered with honour Chatham Naval Memorial

Son of Mr and Mrs Minter of 82 Schreiber Road, Ipswich and husband of



The WW1 Memorial in St Andrews Churchyard

Florence Annie Minter of 28 Cavendish Street.

Arthur Minter joined the Navy in 1910 at HMS Ganges, he lost his life when HMS Primula, a minesweeper, was torpedoed by a German submarine and sunk in the Mediterranean.

His brother, George F Minter was killed the following year.

The battle of the Somme took place between 1 July and 18 November 1916 and it would appear that the following men died as a result of injuries sustained in this battle:

Christopher J COOPER

Born 1884 Rushmere St Andrew Private 4164 2nd Battalion Australian Infantry A.I.F

Died 9 August 1916 Buried in Etaples Military cemetery

Parents Horace and Alice Cooper Market Gardener The Old Hop Gardens.

Suffolk Chronicle and Mercury: 25 August 1916 Obituary

On August 9th from wounds received in action at No 1 Canadian General Hospital France, Private Christopher John, 1st Australian Infantry Brigade the second son of Mr H Cooper, Old Hop Gardens, Rushmere St Andrew.

1901 census shows Harry Cooper and sons Oliver and Christopher working as market gardeners. Eight children including six sons and two daughters in 1901.

Harry Douglas Fox HAGGAR



Harry D. F. Hagggar.

Lieutenant 3rd Battalion The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment

Died 17 August 1916 Battle of Somme
Remembered with honour at Peronne Road Cemetery Maricourt

De Ruvignys Roll of honour

Lieutenant 3rd Reserve Battalion The Loyal North Lancashire Regiment attended 2nd Brigade Trench Mortar Battery, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Henry George Hagggar of Lattice Grove, Ipswich, born White House, Burstall 17 October 1896. Educated Ipswich School where he was a member of the OTC and matriculated in 1912, subsequently was studying for the Civil service. Joined the 1/5th Battalion the Suffolk Regiment in August 1914 after the outbreak of war, was gazetted 2nd lieutenant 3rd Battalion the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment 21 October following and promoted Lieut Aug 1915 obtaining a first class certificate for musketry at Hythe in Kent. Served with the Expeditionary Force in France and Flanders from September 1915 where he obtained a First Class certificate for bombing, trench, mortar and machine guns and was for several months Lewis gun instructor 1st Division. Joined 1st Battalion of his regiment at Loos in September 1915 1st Division being attached to the 2nd Brigade, Trench mortar battery in May and killed in action at Mametz High Wood 17 August 1916 by shell while taking his men and guns up to the firing line. His Commanding Officer wrote 'He was a splendid officer, a born leader of men and knew no fear. He died doing his duty and doing it well'

His father was a farmer at Burstall in 1901 and in 1911 was a farm manager The Laurels, Woodbridge Road.

John Arthur LEWIS

Private 10363 I Company 1st Battalion Highland Light Infantry Died 20 December 1916 age 29 at Tooting Military hospital

Remembered with honour

Wandsworth (Earlsfield) cemetery.

Son of John and Elizabeth Lewis , The Seven Cottages. John was a horse man and John Arthur was a caddy on the Golf Course in 1901.

Suffolk Chronicle and Mercury 29 December 1916: Obituary

On December 20th at Tooting Military Hospital Private J A Lewis Highland Light Infantry eldest son of John Lewis, Rushmere and dearly loved brother of Mrs Stanley Cotton, Witlesham.

Robert James SALMON

Private 22011 9th Suffolk Regiment

Died 13 September 1916 age 19

Remembered with honour Guillemont Road Cemetery Guillemont

Son of Isaac and Louisa Salmon of The Fields, Rushmere St Andrew

Harry TAYLOR

Private 53108 118 Bde Machine Gun Corps

Died 10 October 1916 as a result of gas poisoning and pneumonia

Remembered with honour at Martinsat British Cemetery

Close to Allied front line on the Somme until September 1916

Robert Bertie WEBB

(died in Belgium)

Private 13393 9th Battalion Suffolk Regiment

Died 9 February 1916 at a casualty clearing station at Lijssenthoek. Son of Robert and Jane Webb of Rushmere. Remembered with honour at Lijssenthoek Military cemetery Belgium close to Ypres.

Robert Webb was a maltster and Bertie was a horse man on a farm before joining up, they lived at the back of Seven Cottages.

I hope to continue with this research and add further information as well as presenting some notes next year for those who died in 1917.

Ruth Silburn

Local History Recorder

Rushmere St Andrew

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History of Rushmere St Andrew Exhibition Village Hall 7/8 April, 2017

The purpose is to engage with the local community to increase awareness of the rich history of the village and parish dating back to records in the Domesday Book. The promotion of localism and increasing of affinity with the village's heritage should help to strengthen the resolve of the community to retain the

unique character of the village against the ever increasing threat of development.

The main stand will provide an overall history of the Parish of Rushmere St Andrew over the centuries up to the present day. In past times the parish was larger than it is now stretching into areas of what is now Ipswich. We will

seek to enlist representatives of groups to contribute separate presentations. These will include The Commoners, The Chapel, Women's Institute, St Andrews Church, Dinner Club, Stepping Stones Charity, SORRI, Oak Tree Farm, The Golf Club and others. We will seek to involve local schools in doing research for the exhibition to further increase interest and community participation.

If anyone has any historical information about any part of the parish we would be pleased to hear from you.

Ron Spore Tel: 07880 734126
Email: ron.spore@icloud.com

RUSHMERE ST ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL Parish Councillors and Officers

Village Ward

Miss Ann Cracknell	148 The Street, IP5 1DH	01473 719746
Mrs Barbara Richardson-Todd	57 Playford Road, IP4 5RJ	01473 411442
Mr Robert E Whiting	105 Playford Road, IP4 5RQ	07833 441347

Tower Ward

Mrs Mirabel Brown	15 Chestnut Close, IP5 1ED	01473 725720
Ms Carole Evans	9 Blackdown Avenue, IP5 1AZ	01473 617535
Mr Dennis J Francis	14 Clovelly Close, IP4 5UF	01473 723453
Mrs Claire Gower	22 Euston Avenue IP4 5QY	07805 353018
Mr Mark Newton	11 Chestnut Close, IP5 1ED	07788 456641
Mr Phil M Richings (Chairman)		

	29 The Pastures, IP4 5UQ	01473 436688
Mr Mark Sones	94 Penzance Road, IP5 1LE	01473 625511
Mrs Sarah Todd	75 Claverton Way, IP4 5XF	07713 800858
Mr Brian Ward	12 Playford Road, IP4 5RH	01473 622272
Mr John Westrup	9 Holly Lane, IP5 1DN	01473 272257
Mr John Withey	8 Newby Drive, IP4 5UY	01473 273471
Mr James Wright (Vice-Chairman)		
	18 St Austell Close, IP5 1JY	07494 447391

Clerk to the Parish Council and Responsible Finance Officer

Mr M R Bentley, Email: mel.bentley@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk 01473 711509

Assistant Clerk

Mrs S Stannard, Email: sylvia.stannard@rushmere-st-andrew.org.uk 01473 274859

Parish Office

Tower Hall, 5 Broadlands Way, Rushmere St Andrew, IP4 5SU 01473 711509

Web site www.rushmerestandrew.onesuffolk.net

Allotment Manager

Mr John Westrup 9 Holly Lane IP5 1DN 01473 272257

Registrar to the Burial Authority

Mr Andrew Duncan 8 Crofton Close, Ipswich, IP4 4QR 01473 727389

Advertising enquiries Mrs Sylvia Stannard, Assistant Clerk, see above

Safer Neighbourhood Teams

Tower Ward: To speak with an Officer at **Ipswich East SNT** – telephone 101
Email: IpswichEast.SNT@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Village Ward: To speak with an Officer at **Woodbridge SNT** – telephone 101
Email: Woodbridge.SNT@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 3194 Mike Sarbutts is our match funded PCSO and covers both wards
Telephone 101 Email: michael.sarbutts@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Further information about Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) including
Team Members; Priorities; Campaigns and Meetings, can be found on
www.suffolk.police.uk

Community Speed Watch

County Councillor Robert Whiting arranged a grant of £1,400 from his Locality Budget earlier this year to fund a joint scheme between Playford and Rushmere St Andrew Parish Councils. As the initial co-ordinator of the proposed scheme I must apologise to all concerned for the delay in getting the scheme underway.

A more recent development is most encouraging in that Kesgrave Town Council had also previously drawn up CSW plans and have expressed a strong interest to joining in with our scheme. We hope that the two Parish Councils and Kesgrave Town Council will endorse the proposals of joint working on Community Speedwatch – all three organisations have Full Council meetings in early November.

Drivers don't like hearing it, but 'speeding' ranks along with drink/drug driving, using hand held mobiles and not wearing seat belts as the 'deadly four'.

No one likes being caught speeding, however, CSW is about educating drivers to take care. If you do transgress you will receive a letter of advice. It's only when there appears to be a persistent pattern that you may then be on the receiving end of formal police action.

It would be really helpful if we could have a few more volunteers from within our community. For full details please contact me on 07494 447391 or by email at a14jrw21@gmail.com.

Councillor James Wright

Forthcoming Parish Council Meetings

All meetings listed are open to members of the public, and agendas published on notice boards around the parish and on our web site

Full Parish Council

Thursday 12 January 2017, 7.30 pm Tower Hall
Thursday 9 March 2017, 7.30 pm Tower Hall
Thursday 11 May 2017, Annual PC Meeting 7.30 pm Tower Hall

General Purposes and Finance Committee

Thursday 8 December 2016, 7.30 pm Village Hall
Thursday 9 February 2017, 7.30 pm Village Hall
Thursday 13 April 2017, 7.30 pm Village Hall

Parish Amenities and Services Committee

Thursday 19 January 2017, 7.30 pm Tower Hall
Thursday 16 March 2017, 7.30 pm Tower Hall
Thursday 18 May 2017, 7.30 pm Tower Hall

Planning and Development Committee

These meetings are arranged as and when we receive planning applications for discussion. Notice of meetings and agendas will be placed on notice boards and web site.