

DENNINGTON PARISH RECORD 2024

Welcome to 2024

January

Weather

The weather has been wet and windy with power cuts, sometimes for prolonged periods. The fields are sitting in water and the roads often flooded from run-off from the fields.

Allotments

The committee met to appoint a new Chair, the present incumbent having moved out of the village.

The allotment society has been given 500 daffodil bulbs to plant round the site. Volunteers were requested and a date would be fixed when the weather improved. There is little we can do on the allotments because the ground is so wet.

House Sales

Sungold, The Street is for sale for £385,000 with 3 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms and one bathroom. Meadow View is still for sale at £450,000, having been reduced by £100,000 and Church Cottage is for sale at £750,000.

Parish Council

The Parish Council Precept will be increased by £13.00 per household and Tim Passmore, Police Crime Commissioner, has asked residents to participate in a survey to give their opinions on this increase. (dd1).

February

Weather

It has continued to be very wet with danger of roads being flooded, even February 29th saw rain initially.

Wild plum tree on Sports meadow taken Feb 2 Spring is coming!



Allotments

The 500 bulbs, given to the Allotment Association were planted in less than 2 hours around the site by members. The ground here is still too wet to cultivate.

Home

School Trip

Thomas Mills Year 8 went on a day trip to London. Harry Frost gave me this report:

Discover

“After a really early start, we went to the Westbury Centre and saw the Olympic Stadium. We had a boat trip down the Thames and went on the London Eye. Because it moved so slowly, it was hard to tell how high we were and at the top, we couldn’t see much because the mist had fallen. I was stunned that we were not able to buy sandwiches with cash, you had to have a card. On the whole, though, it was a good trip and I enjoyed it”.

For Sale & Free

House Sale

Cabildo, The Street, is for sale at £300,000.

Notifications

March

House Repair

Heping House is covered with scaffolding to enable the brickwork to be steam cleaned, pointed with lime based mortar and the holes in the roof to be repaired. The windows will have a wooded surround and a wooden window ledge. Originally, Heping House was constructed as a furniture showroom with the back sheds being used to manufacture the furniture.

Messages

House Sale

Meadow Cottage has now been sold.

Neighbours

Little Oaks Pre school and nursery

The pre school held a quiz night to raise money. A snack was also on offer. About £420 was raised before expenses to go towards development. The pre school also held a planting session to put in native trees and hedging.

Post

Hedging

Between 2-300 native species of hedging plants were put in along the fields near Maypole Green.

Drama for Dennington

The one man production of the play entitled “A Year and a Day” was performed in the village hall. This was originally intended to be produced last year, but was cancelled because of insufficient advanced bookings. This time, there was a “pay at the door” system and about 40 people attended. The play was possibly different from expectations, but was original and gave food for thought. It was good to experience a live production. (DN34)

Easter in Dennington 26th March

The village Sports and Social Club will host an Easter Egg hunt in the village hall for pre and primary school age groups. The aim is to hunt the letters to find the magic word. All proceeds from donations will go to renovating the village play park.

Weather

Mainly wet and cold with one or two exceptions.

April

Weather

Rain has continued throughout the month of April with gales; the temperature is still 6-9 degrees Celsius. People are getting depressed with the continuous wet and cold. There is a wide display of bluebells and cowslips but the ground is too cold to sow seeds.

Tree Planting

The footpath to Badingham has 15 saplings planted which, by mid April, are showing a healthy growth of leaves.

House Sales

18th century house, Capons Green, Badingham Road with 7 bedrooms and bathrooms, wild meadow and 2 acres etc. for sale at £1,200,000.

Pound Cottage, The Street, Dennington, is for sale for £795,000 with 1.13 acres, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. The house was built in 1980. In 2002, the house was up for sale at £340,000.

Church View reduced to £700,000.

Talk on mills

April 24th Dennington Village Hall also played host to a talk on "Tide, Water and Wind mills."

Wine Tasting in Dennington

On April 25th two local wine importers and distributors held a wine tasting session in the village hall. About 18 residents attended. A comprehensive description of the grape varieties, the soil and fermentation process was given with tips on the expected taste etc. Seven varieties of wine were demonstrated. The atmosphere was most convivial.

Local MP resignation

April 28th

It was announced on the news this morning that Dr Dan Poulter, the Conservative MP for Dennington has resigned from the Conservative party to join Labour. He will stand down as MP before the main election and work as an advisor on medical matters to the Labour party and continue to work as a hospital consultant in psychiatry. He is a regular contributor to the Dennington News.

May

Police Crime Commissioner Elections

On May 2nd the village voted for the Police Crime Commissioner, with candidates from the whole political spectrum.

Weather

There has been a warm/hot spell during the first half of May, but by mid May, there is heavy rain again.

House Sales

The Barn, The Street, a former storage place for willow in connection with the basket weaving trade, for sale at £335,000. There is now a garden at the back and the house has 3 bedrooms. It was restored considerably by the previous owners. The Corner Cottage is now to let. Cabildo, The Street, the middle of the terrace, is now sold. Church View is for sale for £700,000.

June

The weather

So far (June 11th) the weather has been cold, windy and very wet. After a brief spell of heat, when it was agreed that it was too hot to do much, the end of the month was cool and grey again.

Allotments

A summer get-together was held on the allotments with wine, nibbles and good company. About 16 members attended. The day was exceptionally nice weather-wise.

Dennington Walk featured in "About Suffolk" magazine

Dennington was featured in the magazine "About Suffolk" (DD spring 2024) with photos of the village including the church, allotments, the ducks and playing field. It made the village look most attractive, which it is, of course! (see magazine)

Article for The Dennington News

The Parish Recorder for the village submitted the following short article to the Dennington News, distributed at the beginning of July, to raise the profile of the role of the Parish Recorder.

"DENNINGTON PARISH RECORD



Some people may be unfamiliar with the role of the Parish Recorder. The Parish Recorder scheme is run under the auspices of Suffolk Local History Council. The Parish Recorder makes a summary of events taking place in the village over the year so that comparisons can be made between different years. In December, the record is submitted to the Suffolk Archive at the Hold in Ipswich.

The Record consists of any event taking place in the village, from fund raising discos to house alterations, sales, tree planting and school trips. Photos, brochures and newspaper cuttings are included. It is a record of personal experiences.

This record shows how the village is changing. It is about you and your village and very much relies on you to tell me about any matter of interest which you would like to go into the Record.

If you would like to let me know of events etc., please contact me at pene.welham@btinternet.com or phone 01728638756.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Pene Welham Dennington Parish Recorder" (DN 37)

July

Thomas Mills School Trip

On July 1st, nearly all of year 8 set off for 5 days to a camp in Thetford Forest, where pupils would stay in "pods" and take part in a wide variety of activities. Each pod slept 5-6 pupils with heating, light and proper beds. The shower block and Activity Centre were nearby.

Harry Frost told me about the trip

"There were 5 of us in the pod. We were woken between 7.15 and 7.30 to ensure we were ready for breakfast at 8.00. I got up at 6.30 to go for a run with my friends. Lights out was at 9.30, but we could talk for 10 minutes.. The food in the evenings was good, curry, burgers, etc., but lunch was not so good since the rolls were very dry.

We did all the activities, ranging from Zip Wire, assault course, a power fan ledge where the fan pushed you down as soon as you moved, a trapeze, canoeing, kayaking , constructing a raft out of wood and barrels to building a house in the wood. Our raft was considered the best! The one the girls made, sank!

My favourite activity was the mountain bikes with the gap in the tree to cycle through at high speed.

Altogether, it was a great time".

Village Fete

On July 13th, the village held the annual summer fete on the sports field and in the village hall. The sky was overcast and there was a cool breeze. Attendance was slow at first, but increased with a steady trickle of families. There was a Punch and Judy show, bric a brac stall, a stall for Dennington Primary school, a model steam engine which was large enough for rides and a model vardo (gypsy caravan). Refreshments were available and, despite the weather, it was a most pleasant event.



Villag fete

Horticultural Club Outing July 14th

The horticultural club visited Parham Hall for their annual summer visit. The grounds are spectacular with a walled kitchen garden, park area, Victorian green houses, outbuildings and the studio where Adam Paul makes and repairs stringed instruments. In the past, Adam supervised students from Otley College to work in the kitchen garden, but now, it is done by Adam and Sue Paul.

The following is a report by Mark Kendall who organised the trip.

“A group of allotmenters and Horticultural Society members came together to enjoy a tour, talk and tea at Parham Hall, led by the Hall’s owner, Mrs. Sue Paul. Sue took the gardening fraternity over the beautifully manicured lawns, through the wooded areas of specimen trees and into the vegetable garden with hothouses, enclosed as they are, by a fabulous crinkle crackle 18th century ‘snake wall’, of which there are around 100 in Suffolk, twice as many as in the rest of the country combined. Sue and husband, Adam, do almost all of the gardening these days, as well as helping to run the estate and associated properties. With time, love and green- fingered devotion, the company began to appreciate just what is possible with whole- hearted commitment over time to an outdoor project on the part of the owners”.

House Sales

Nubourne Cottage, The Street, is for sale at £365,000. Previously it was sold for £333,000 in 2011 and in 1981, for £89,000. It has 3 bedrooms, one being en suite and a living room, kitchen, dining room and conservatory.

Commented [Unknown A1]: The part of the owners

Weather

Apart from a few days at the beginning of the month, the weather has been cool and wet with very heavy downpours. It was fortuitous that the village fete was postponed from July 6th as it thundered and rained exceptionally hard. The end of the month saw the weather warm up with no rain.

August

Weather

The month has started very hot and we have had no rain for 2 plus weeks. The ground is getting very dry. The harvesting is going apace in the fine weather. Towards the end of the month, the weather was dry, not especially warm with the odd hot exception.

Neathouse Celebration

The Neathouse celebrated its 5 years since opening with a party for all. About 40 residents were present with many families. There was food for those who had ordered. People were invited to bring their own drinks and enjoyed meeting up with friends. Fortunately, the weather remained dry and it was a most pleasant occasion.

Summer Art Exhibition

From 23rd to 25th August, Dennington held the annual art exhibition in the Village Hall. Friday saw the preview when residents were invited to meet the artists. There was a wonderful selection of all types of media, including sculpture, oil on canvas, water colour and appliqué pictures. The exhibition was well attended with residents paying more than one visit. This year, the exhibition was open to artists in the wider area and not just restricted to members of the Dennington Art Club. (DD 3, DN 37pg16).

Garden Party

On August 25, a garden party was held at Old Spring Cottage to raise funds for the Church roof which leaks. Following a day when there was non-stop heavy rain, the weather cleared up and the day was sunny and reasonably warm. Entry cost £7.50 which included either afternoon tea or Pimms with a slice of cake. The tables and chairs were spread over the garden, nearest the house, with a gazebo for the raffle sellers and drinks table. With bunting up and a very good attendance, the scene was festive and memorable. About 40-50 people attended. After expenses, the hosts, David and Liz Parry, made about £750 for the church. (DD4)

House Sales

Wayside Cottage, on Saxstead Road, is for sale for £325,000. It is grade 11 listed and has 3 bedrooms and a courtyard garden. A cottage at Maypole Green, end of terrace, is for sale for £320,000, in 2021, it was sold for £275,000 and in 1996 for £70,000.

Local resident to take on new role at Framlingham College

“Alberto Henriques studied at Nova University Lisbon, completing a degree in Mathematics with a specialization in Pedagogy of Mathematics. In 2015, Alberto and his family moved to the UK. He later joined the College in 2016 as a Mathematics teacher. He became a tutor at Stradbroke House soon after his arrival and performed weekly duties in House. Due to his experience, he began coordinating the Basketball activity and was involved in the process of creating the Climbing activity, which is another one of his passions.

Alberto is married to Ana, a Business Intelligence Coordinator for a multinational company and together they have two daughters, both former students of Framlingham College. Beyond the

college, Alberto enjoys running, solving maths problems, working on Rubik's cubes, and playing board games. He also loves travelling, listening to music, and reading."

Information taken from Framlingham College website.

September

Dennington Ride and Stride

The annual Ride and Stride took place on Saturday, 14th September to raise funds for the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust. (DN no. 37 for poster). About 6 villagers registered to participate and, to date (24 sept), 3 have completed their forms. Avril Palmer, the organiser and a participant, visited 16 churches starting near Hacheston. Amongst others, she visited Woodbridge, Martlesham and Henley. She encountered no child cyclists during the trip, either, because the roads are too busy, or, children are no longer interested.

Cecil King

Cecil King, a long standing resident of Dennington died earlier this month. His funeral will be held in St Mary's Church on October 3rd.. His son is a well known figure in the village, working as a plumber and electrician.

Magnificent Machines in Dennington

21st September saw 2 flat bed trailers draw up in The Street, each on with a gleaming steam powered traction engine on the flat bed. They were on the way to Henham Steam Rally, but one of thm had a flat tyre. The engines were delayed for several hours. It was a privilege to see the polished machines. Photo by Laraine Hamilton



Playground Renovations

The play area on the Sports Field has seen the installation of new swings etc along with a zip wire which is bound to be popular. Work is due for completion at the end of October.

October

Weather

The month has started cold, wet and windy and, apart from a week of fine warm weather, it has remained damp.

House Sales

Dennington Roman Road, Barn Conversion £975,000. 6 Bedrooms, 4 bathrooms and 4 acres. The barn conversion was originally used to breed Suffolk Punch horses and the beams on the first floor bedroom record the dates of the foals born. December, reduced to 950,000.

To Rent-The Barns, The Street, for £1,200 per calendar month with 3 bedrooms, kitchen/diner and garden. Now rented in November.

Funeral 4th October: Cecil King

The funeral of Cecil King took place by the grave side. The weather was kind with sunshine below the lime trees. Cecil King was born in Badingham, at Brick Kiln Farm, where he worked on his father's farm, but pursued his interest in cars and machinery. He lived on the Laxfield Road in Dennington for 60 years. He died at over 90 years of age. There was a good crowd of local people as well as relatives.

Village Hall and Play Area Upgrades

At the end of the month, work continues on both sites.

The Village Hall is now water proof with a new roof and the scaffolding has been removed.

The play area shows an exciting collection of new swings etc., but is incomplete. The zip wire has now got the wire attached (October 30th), but the area is still shut off. (see DN38 for updates and for funding in article on Village Personality – Tim Mosse)

November

Village Hall and Play Area

The Village Hall is now in use, but has yet (Nov 14th) to have the barge boarding in place. The play area, which looks very fine, is still having work done to the zip wire and awaits reopening.

House Sales

Maypole Green end of terrace cottage with 2 bedrooms, kitchen and downstairs bathroom, large garden for sale at £320,000. Wayside, Saxstead Road, £320,000, with 3 bedrooms and courtyard garden.

Christmas Tree light up

The lights were turned on early because the 1st of December fell on a Sunday. About 100 people attended on the village green to see the lights turned on and have food and drinks.



Weather

To date, (14th), the weather has been cool, dull and misty with frequent drizzle. Towards the end of the month, we have had 2 storms.

December

Craft Session



Vashti Mouncer has arranged a Craft Session at the village hall

Christmas Party

On December 14th, the village arranged a Christmas Party in the Village Hall with disco, food etc. About 50 people attended.

Christmas Carols 22nd December

The carol service in the Church was followed by mince pies and mulled wine.

The Play Area

This is now fully open including the zip wire. The area includes a much greater selection of climbing frames etc. The timely reopening has been a bonus for children with the school holidays upon us.

Weather

The month ended with Storm Daraigh which prevented celebrations for the New Year and was followed by icy weather.

Pene Welham,

Dennington Recorder, December, 2024