



SOUTH WILLINGHAM NEWS

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How Long?

Well I'm afraid that unlike the heads of building companies and politicians I don't know the answer, but what I do know is that work on the church tower should be completed by around the end of the year, or we hope so anyway. But to keep you roughly in the picture with what has been done and what is left to be done I will try and explain, and will give you a complete account when the work is finished.

As has already been stated work started on the tower with the re-pointing, which in itself was quite a lengthy job. That is almost complete, with one or two more stones to be removed, turned around and replaced along with a couple of large holes where the stones have fallen out. The parapet stones on all four sides have been checked and re-bedded where required. The pinnacles were removed and found not to be suitable for repair, so another faculty had to be obtained for this, along with the sourcing of suitable stone for replacing them.



A view soon to disappear

These are now being made, and the fitting of one is imminent. The louvres in the bell tower windows have been replaced with lovely new ones made in English oak, but still require completing inside. During this operation a fairly major repair was noted over one of the windows, which is to be dealt with along with the fitting of the new pinnacles. Also, on the bell

tower windows the ferrous metal bars that caused the damage to the tracery mullions have been removed, and the mullions repaired. All of the lead on the roof has been marked with a coded identification, with all the lead being in really good order and condition.

So really all that is left to be done is the pinnacles to re-fit, some stonework to complete, and the work above one of the windows to do, remove the scaffolding, and then we can all see what has been done.

I hope this short account helps to explain. I know it seems a long job and it has been, but it really doesn't matter, the main thing is the standard of work that has been done is excellent.

Special points of interest:

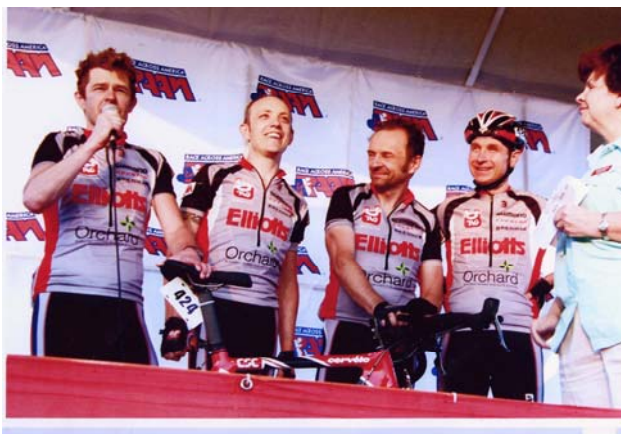
- Scaffolding gone soon
- Pictures of life long past
- Film and discussion start is brown and sweet
- Village 'offspring' do well at university and racing
- Christmas events coming up
- Co-operation with the Police

Neighbourhood Watch

At the Parish Council on 17th November CPO Keith Briggs spoke to the open meeting about Neighbourhood Watch. This is a new

scheme (replacing the old one) which is designed to give two-way information between village and police

(Continued on page 8)



Andrew, second from the left in each photo, first with his mum Celia after the graduation and then with his team celebrating victory. (see details in Snippets page 6)



Sonja Jones after her graduation from Leeds Metropolitan University (see Snippets on page 6)



A page from the Luttrell Psalter



An overview of the seat in the churchyard and (right) the meadow at the 'centre' of the village



More chat from the churchyard seat: Summer 2008

Blooming heck it's warm. What I'm doing is getting the churchyard nice for a wedding that's taking place here soon, and walking up and down with this mower is warm work, so I thought I would have a few minutes thinking time. It always amazes me what you can get done just thinking, but really just sitting here for a few minutes now and again is really great. It's the same place but a different seat this time. The seat that I'm sat on is one to the memory of a local lad whose life was tragically taken at a young age, and his mum and dad gave the seat in his memory. Pam and Ken Webb used to live here and still keep in touch with what's going in the village, which is nice. But really what I was actually thinking about was that as I walked here I came past the village hall, which now looks great with it's new windows, doors and all painted up.

Walking on I noticed Liz and Andrew's garden at Woodbine Cottage, which I think looks really lovely. I only hope the parish council has the backing of the village to keep the red phone box, I know that the parish council are doing all they can, so let's get behind them to save it, even if it's just as a feature.

Just then the quiet was broken by this mewing sound, rather like PEE-OO, I looked up and it was a pair of common buzzards surfing on a thermal above me,



Another View over the top of the seat

something that was just so rare when I was a lad. Then I remembered the five nest boxes that I put up in the churchyard earlier this year and thought I would mention that two of them have been occupied by blue tits, one by a coal tit, the others by a great tit and a robin, so I did not waste my time. One day while I was sitting here I heard this gentle purring sound, which was a turtle dove across Alan Bray's field somewhere. I have also a couple of bat boxes ready to put up later and hope that they soon get occupied.

The other week I was here cutting the grass along Church Lane side of the church, it was another nice day when I noticed a visitor down the other side of the Church. She was and is a true country lass, just bringing a few flowers for her mum's grave, who she had lost earlier this year. Anyway I kept on mowing,

keeping out of the way for a while, and then I had to stop the mower as she was just knelt by the grave of her mum, just having a few private words with her. For me it was a really touching few minutes, but really, really nice. It made me think, I can tell you.

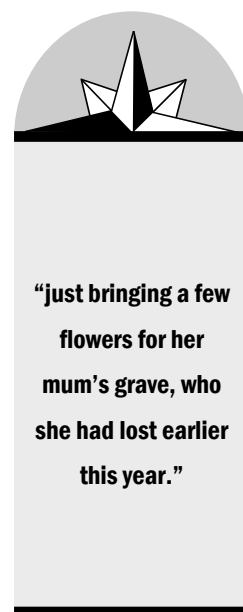
Last Monday I got this phone call from the stone mason, he was at Minting church and had just finished rebuilding the top twenty feet of the steeple that had been damaged by the recent earthquake, so Ann and I popped over to have a look at the completed work. It was fantastic, even more good news was that he was coming back to St Martin's in a couple of days, and after a couple of months or so away he and his son Dan are now back working on our church. The progress and what is being done I will tell later, but I have just been up the tower to have a word with them and looking down from up there gave me a great view of the new roof on Teresa and Keith's at The Thatch, which I have to say looks really great, Andrew has made a superb job of it, a lot of credit has to go to Keith and

Teresa for the new condition of one of our thatched cottages, it's a great pity that they are moving, but things move



Does he sit on the seat in this weather? on.

(Continued on page 5)



**"just bringing a few
flowers for her
mum's grave, who
she had lost earlier
this year."**

THE LUTTRELL PSALTER

This is one of the most famous English illuminated manuscripts of the Middle Ages and was commissioned by a Lincolnshire Knight who lived in Irnham in the south of the county.

It is a religious book, containing psalms and prayers, but many of the pages are decorated with pictures of every day life in the 14th century. The psalter was made for Sir Geoffrey Luttrell, a wealthy knight some time before 1340. He died in 1345 and is buried in St Andrews Church in Irnham.

He asked the artists who decorated the psalter to include himself and his family and also to show the everyday life and seasonal activities that took place on his estate.

The psalter took about two years to write and illuminate and in modern money it probably cost him £35,000. Sir Geoffrey used the book to

viewed there, however a copy has been given to The Collection in Lincoln and was on display recently during a Luttrell Psalter Exhibition.



The page from the psalter shows Sir Geoffrey mounted in full armour, with the words in latin 'Dns Galfridus louterell me fieri fecit'

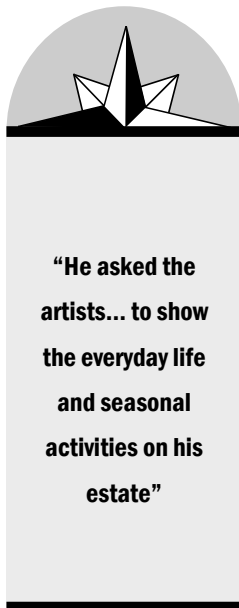
'The Lord Geoffrey Luttrell caused me to be made'

show how wealthy and important his family was.

These days any one who has taken 'O' level or GCSE History will have come across the illustrations in their text books on medieval life for the book is fundamental in our knowledge of that period.

The British Library hold the original and it can be

The farming year in Lincolnshire in the 14th century based on the psalter will continue in later newsletters.



"He asked the artists... to show the everyday life and seasonal activities on his estate"

Reel Issues

On 21st October a dozen or so people gathered in the Parish Hall to start a club which will meet monthly throughout the winter. It will show DVD films on the new projector on a Tuesday evening and then discuss the issues raised, artistic, social, ethical, whatever, on the following Thursday.

The Club members will choose the films to watch - for the next showing at first,

but in March will choose them for the next session (October to March). All are eligible to join the Club with a donation of £3 per showing to defray expenses of heating, tea and coffee etc.

The first showing (of the film

Chocolat) was on Tuesday 11th November with the discussion on Thursday 13th and future showings and discussions will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 & 11 December, 13 & 15 January, 10 & 12 February and 10 & 12 March, all starting at 7.00 p.m.



First Contacts, Handyvans and Poppy Calls

The Lincolnshire County Council have come up with a new initiative for people over sixty. It is called First Contact and is designed to help people remain living independently in their homes for as long as possible.

They have developed a partnership between themselves and the Police, Fire and Rescue Service, Primary Care Trust, the Pension Service, the District Councils and various voluntary services across Lincolnshire.

If over-sixties want any kind of help or advice e.g. smoke alarms fitted or care in getting about, then one phone call to First Contact (01522 782172) or their Field Co-ordinator Eve Roach (01507 464931 Mob: 07592 434115) will start the process.



Special van belonging to the British Legion

Eve has been talking to local groups but is willing to talk to anyone who may have missed her.

For those of any age who have served in the Forces for at least seven days or is a dependant of someone who has served, the British Legion is providing a free handy-person service to carry out small repairs and minor alterations. Under the title Poppy Calls it responds to requests in a van (so labelled) to do the jobs. Phone number is: 01480 478031.

More Chat from the Churchyard Seat: Summer 2008

(Continued from page 3)

Talking about mowing, just then I thought I saw the earth move in front of me, well it did, but it was one of the resident moles in the churchyard that I bless when the mower hits the heap of soil!

Anyway, I had better get back to the mower, the heat haze around it has died down and the trails across the churchyard look like first cut silage, but I thought I could not help but mention how nice it is for our lovely village to have the village

hall, the church and the two thatches looking so nice, you see I am a bit of a sentimental fool regarding our heritage.

Terry Ringrose

"First Contact is designed to help people stay in their homes independently as long as possible"

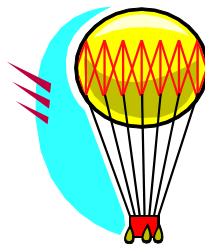
Hot Air Talk

A man is flying in a hot air balloon and realises he is lost. He reduces height and spots a man down below; he lowers the balloon further and shouts: "Excuse me, can you tell me where I am?" The man below says: "Yes, you're in a hot air balloon, hovering thirty feet above this field".

"You must work in Information Technology" says the balloonist.

"I do", replies the man, "How did you know?"

"Well" says the balloonist,



"Everything you have told

me is technically correct, but it's no use to anyone".

The man below says "You must work in business." "I do" replies the balloonist, "but how did you know that?"

"Well," says the man, "You don't know where you are, or where you're going, but expect me to help. You're in the same position you were before we met, but now it's my fault."

Snippets

A large group of family and friends gathered at Fieldfare to celebrate Gordon Stephenson's eightieth birthday at the end of August. Music, dancing and plenty of good food made an enjoyable evening. Instead of presents, donations were brought for Great Ormond St Hospital where Gordon and Eileen's daughter and partner work. Great Ormond Street Hospital Charity sent a letter of thanks acknowledging a splendid donation of £105.

Terry Ringrose was having a struggle with the St. Martin's lawnmower which would not cut properly. Now Andrew and Liz Noblet have given the Church a sit-on mower. All Terry wants now is an alarm clock to signal the end of a row.

Celia Payne posed with her son Andrew at the graduation ceremony when he was awarded his 1st class Honours BSc in Occupational Therapy from Southampton University (photo page 2).

That photo was taken not

long after Andrew and the other three members of his team had competed in the gruelling Race Across America. They won the race which starts on the west coast of America at a place



A table at the Harvest Supper

called Oceanside and finishes in Annapolis on the east coast. It took them six days two hours twelve minutes to complete the race.

The race is described as being the toughest in the world and they were sponsored by UTAG Yamaha.com. (Utag being an emergency tag which is worn around the neck and holds all relevant medical details which, in the case of an emergency, can

be plugged into a computer - in effect a memory stick) Their victory photo is also on page 2.

Maureen Jones' daughter Sonja also graduated, at Leeds Metropolitan University. She gained a 1st class Honours BSc in Bioscience and Health plus two other awards: National Student of the Year 2008 presented by Oxford University Press and from the Students Union for Outstanding Achievement. Sonja continues her studies, taking a Masters degree in Audiology at Manchester University.

Edward Bray celebrated his 21st birthday at the Heneage Arms on 11th October. Alan and Sally had invited a large group of friends and relations to help him celebrate with good food and drink and a cake. Edward made a good speech of thanks in spite of the inevitable bar-racking from his friends.

**"It took them six
days, two hours
twelve minutes to
complete the race"**

South Willingham Parish Hall

Christmas Fayre

Friday 12th December at 6 p.m.

Father Christmas will be there.

Admission Free

South Willingham Carol Singing

Friday 19th December
at 6 p.m.

Come and make a joyful noise
Everyone welcome

Practice session on Wednesday
10th December to learn new carols



Harvest Supper

Harvest is always a great time in the village with the Churches, Parish Hall and WI all celebrating with services or suppers. The Parish Hall had a very good supper provided by Glynis and Ann with Mike Perkins performing his usual marvellous trick of extorting money by blackmail or persuasion from the well-fed guests.

The WI had a service, supper and auction and the Churches had two



services, one at St Martin's and the other at St Francis de Sales on the Heneage estate with suppers to follow. All were

Full tables at the Parish Hall Harvest supper and Mike Perkins caught in full flow at the auction with Mel assisting.

South Willingham Parish Council and
Parish Hall

Management Committee

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Liz Noblet
Paul Fuller (Editor)

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Parish Hall

**SPANISH EVENING
AT 7 P.M. ON
FRIDAY 21ST
NOVEMBER**

**Coffee Mornings 1st
& 3rd Wednesdays**

Parish Councillors:	Marcus Edmundson	313623
	[Chairman]	
	Martin Doughty	313686
	[Vice-Chairman]	
	Lesley Adam	313464
	Rowland Crouch	313428
	Paul Cutts	313486
	Nikki Harris	313618
	Claire Harrison	313406

Parish Clerk:	John Burn	313410
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Parish Hall :	Mel Montgomery (Chairman)	313590
	Maureen Ferguson (Secretary)	313584
	Fran Kingsley (Treasurer)	313718

The Parish Council and the Parish Hall are jointly producing this paper and through the Management Committee are publishing it quarterly. As well as official news and information about the Hall, they would like stories from around the village. As they are also reporters, sub-editors, publishers and first copy printers, they hope village people will come forward with ideas and stories themselves. Their thanks to Courseware4Trainers Ltd for the printing. Thanks also to Rowland and Jan Crouch for the colour pages.

(Continued from page 1)

There will be three Wardens; Maureen Ferguson and Jan Crouch have volunteered and we need one other. It is not an onerous job. The main task will be

to receive messages from the police (e.g. a white van is in the area going door to door conning people – this is just an illustration!). But if any one sees something suspicious they contact the Police di-

rect on 01507 523332. Only ring 999 if there is an emergency e.g. robbery in progress.

If you would like to be the third Warden please ring Marcus Edmundson



Autumn leaves in the church approach

**South Willingham
Parish Hall**

Spanish Night

21st November at 7 p.m.

**Spanish Food
Salsa Demonstration**

Tickets £7.50 from Maureen Ferguson 313584